

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

Office: 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3 Phone (506) 444-6021

Father Monte Peters 470-2235 Website: stkateri.ca

Office hours for business: Tuesday & Thursday 5-8 pm and Saturday's 9-noon.

Sunday, December 6th, 2020 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Message from Fr. Monte:

Part II: Pope Francis: A Crisis Reveals What Is in Our Hearts.

I remember especially two nurses from this time. One was the senior ward matron, a Dominican sister who had been a teacher in Athens before being sent to Buenos Aires. I learned later that following the first examination by the doctor, after he left she told the nurses to double the dose of medication he had prescribed – basically penicillin and streptomycin – because she knew from experience I was dying. Sister Cornelia Caraglio saved my life. Because of her regular contact with sick people, she understood better than the doctor what they needed, and she had the courage to act on her knowledge.

Another nurse, Micaela, did the same when I was in intense pain, secretly prescribing me extra doses of painkillers outside my due times. Cornelia and Micaela are in heaven now, but I'll always owe them so much. They fought for me to the end, until my eventual recovery. They taught me what it is to use science but also to know when to go beyond it to meet particular needs. And the serious illness I lived through taught me to depend on the goodness and wisdom of others.

This theme of helping others has stayed with me these past months. In lockdown I've often gone in prayer to those who sought all means to save the lives of others. So many of the nurses, doctors and caregivers paid that price of love, together with priests, and religious and ordinary people whose vocations were service. We return their love by grieving for them and honoring them.

Whether or not they were conscious of it, their choice testified to a belief: that it is better to live a shorter life serving others than a longer one resisting that call. That's why, in many countries, people stood at their windows or on their doorsteps to applaud them in gratitude and awe. They are the saints next door, who have awakened something important in our hearts, making credible once more what we desire to instill by our preaching.

Part III next week...

Christmas Masses for St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish:

Christmas Eve at 4:30 PM at Holy Family Church (live streamed).

Christmas Day at 9:30 AM at St Ann's Church at Kingsclear and at 11:00 AM at Holy Family Church.

Reservations are required for all Masses due to limited seating following Health Department guidelines in response to Covid 19. Holy Family Church can accommodate 50 people and St. Ann's can accommodate 25. The initial reservation will be limited to two individuals per family. After the spaces fill up, your name will be added to a wait list; you will be contacted if space becomes available close to Christmas. Names are taken on a first come first serve basis.

We encourage families to watch the Christmas Eve Mass at **4:30 pm live on YouTube**. Go to our website at stkateri.ca – click "**on-line services**" and then click "**live**". The Christmas Eve Mass will be saved on the website by Christmas morning and you can watch it at any time.

Reserve your seat by calling the Parish office 444-6021 and leave a message. Other numbers for reservations are Barb Perry at 457-1559 and Judy Kelly at 478-7274.

St. Ann's at Kingsclear contact Liz Solomon at 363-4493 or Father Monte at 470-2235.

Your 2021 Offertory Envelopes are available to pick up in the church. An Attendant will be available to hand them to you. If there is not a box with your name on it, please accept a new box and fill out your name, address and telephone number on your first envelope offered. And remember, Offertory through Pre-Authorized Debit is a convenient and safe way to give your weekly/monthly donations to the church. Forms available at the church entrance. Thank you!

Summary of your Support for OCTOBER

September INCOME

Regular/Envelope	\$ 7,326.30
Pre-Authorized Debit	\$ 6,197.00
TOTAL	\$13,523.30

October EXPENSES \$18,328.93

Your continued financial support of the parish during these difficult times is much appreciated.

OPTIONS FOR OFFERTORY DONATIONS

1. **Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD).** There are envelopes in the mail box at the main entrance of Holy Family church with PAD forms. Fill out and mail in the self-addressed, stamped envelope back to the parish along with a VOID cheque.
2. **Mail your envelopes** to the parish. St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3.
3. **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).** Through online banking, you may send your weekly donations holyfam@rogers.com
4. **Delivery to the Rectory.** Drop off in a sealed envelope at the Rectory Mail Box by the back door, ring the bell and Fr. Monte will collect them daily. If you choose this method, please put them in an envelope marked "OFFERTORY".

READERS at HOLY FAMILY:

Dec 5 th	Mary Estabrooks
Dec 6 th	Chris Robbins
Dec 12 th	Paula Ryan
Dec 13 th	Norma Downing

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Dec 5 th	Gerald Leach
Dec 6 th	Carlotta Everett
Dec 12 th	Gerard Lavoie
Dec 13 th	DFM Holland and Chessie Families
Dec 19 th	Edna Saad
Dec 20 th	Inez Gaudet
Dec 24 th	Father Jack Dolan
Dec 25 th	For the People
Dec 26 th	Robert Wilkins
Dec 27 th	Margaret Hersey

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Dec 6 th	John C. Sabattis
Dec 13 th	Claudette Laurence Grexton
Dec 20 th	Sandy and Myrtle Goodine
Dec 25 th	For the People
Dec 27 th	Kasey M. Atwin

Readers for St. Ann's – Dec 6th

1 st	Mike Solomon
2 nd	Ann Feeney

Readers for St. Ann's – Dec 13th

1 st	Theresa Atwin
2 nd	Kathy Zoe

READINGS for December 6th

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Responsorial Psalm: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Live Streaming: Each Saturday you can watch the 4:30pm Mass from Holy Family live on the internet at our website stkateri.ca. The recording of the Saturday Mass will be posted on the website (stkateri.ca) the next day. Father Monte Peters is inviting you to participate in this part of our journey.

*The following is a link to **The New Freeman***
<http://www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org/News/TNF-05-22.aspx>

2020-2021 Sunday Missals are available in the Church lobby - \$4 each.

New Parish Email Address:

If you want to send an email to the Parish office, please use the following new email address. communications@stkateri.ca as the Roger's email account is no longer working. Add us to your contacts so you will continue to receive weekly bulletins and notices. If you did not receive your bulletin this week, check your "Junk Box".

Out-Reach Christmas Collection: In the past the Out-Reach Christmas Collection was done on the first two weekends of Advent. It was a loose change collection as parishioners exited the Church. This collection provided enough funds to provide Christmas Boxes for 10 to 13 families. Last year we did the loose change collections but told the families that we were not going to provide Christmas boxes and informed them to register at one of the Food Banks. The money collected went to providing food vouchers to either Super Store or Sobeys if someone found themselves in need.

This year Covid 19 has put another wrench in our plans, instead of a loose change collection, we request that you donate through the offertory envelope collection. There will be special addressed envelopes available at the entrance of the church, you can put your donation in and put it in the collection. Don't forget to put your envelope number or your name and address for tax receipts.

This collection will be open for the four weeks of Advent. The monies donated will be used to provide grocery gift cards and other emergency needs that are requested such as top up for rent or fuel to go to IWK.

Parish Updates on your Home Phone - The Parish is looking to provide updates via phone messaging to include upcoming events and special announcements for our Parish. If you would like to sign-up for this service, please include your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the Church Lobby or call the Parish Office (444-6021) and leave your name and number.

Masks Mandatory in Indoor Public Places:

Parishioners and visitors are advised that our Parish will follow the guidelines set out by the Provincial Government effective Thursday, October 8th at midnight stating that **masks will be mandatory** for all indoor public places including places of worship and organized indoor gatherings (e.g. weddings, funerals, etc.). Therefore parishioners will be required to wear their masks at all times, while in the Church.

Hours of Mass and other services at Holy Family and St. Ann's at Kingsclear:

1. **St Ann's Church. Mass** is offered on Sunday at 930 am. Contact Liz Solomon at 363-4493 or Father Monte at 470-2235 for information and seat availability.

Divine Mercy has resumed at St Ann's Church every Friday at 3pm on July 7th. For further information call Liz Solomon at 363-4493. All are welcome.

2. **Holy Family Church. Mass** is offered by reservation on Saturday at 430pm and on Sunday at 11am. To make a reservation call one of the following numbers: Barb Perry at 457-1559; Judy Kelly at 478-7274 or Holy Family Church Office at 444-6021 and leave a message with your phone number. **Note:** making a reservation is recommended.

Rosary takes place every Thursday at 1030 am at Holy Family Church. All are welcome. For further information call Judy Kelly at 478-7274 or the parish office at 444-6021.

Website Update: Take some time this week to visit our new website, **stkateri.ca** where you will find reflections for Advent, the Christmas Mass schedule and some short videos on the First Week of Advent about Hope. Click on 'Advent

A reminder that the Christmas Mass on December 24th at 4:30pm will be live streamed and we encourage families and those not comfortable attending Mass at this time to take part in the Christmas Mass via live stream from home at stkateri.ca/Online Services/Live Mass or if watching at a later time at St. Kateri Parish YouTube Channel.

Development and Peace – Recovering Together Campaign: Thank you for your donations for Development and Peace - Recovering Together Campaign the weekend of November 14th & 15th. In total \$924 was raised! Your gift is transforming lives.

Our Sacred Stories

Jesus – Emmanuel & the Call for a Change of Heart (Fr. John Jennings)

Dr. Michael Higgins is a former President of St. Thomas University. He is now President of Corpus Christi-St. Marks at UBC. In his regular blog, he commented on a recent interview done by CBC and CTV with noted cellist, Rémy Bélanger de Beaufort, who was attacked and badly injured on Halloween night in Quebec City by a man with a sword. Two other persons died of their injuries.

Mr. Bélanger was interviewed in his hospital room. Bandaged and splinted, he was still in recovery. He bore the signs of the multiple fractures and wounds he suffered, including a near severed finger that had been reattached.

Recalling that night, Mr. Bélanger indicated that he held no anger or hatred towards his attacker. He stated, remarkably to the interviewer: "I was in the ambulance and I had already forgiven him. I told myself, 'why not try to say I love him', and I realized I did."

Dr. Higgins commented on Mr. Bélanger's statement with: "In other words, Christ-like, he moved beyond a facile forgiveness to a place of deep compassion and non-judgement. Astonishing." In this perhaps, we discover the full meaning of what we hear in Mark's Gospel as he introduces John the Baptist and his call for repentance. (Mark 1:1-8) More than this, Jesus as he begins his mission is described by Mark as proclaiming the same call: "Repent and believe the good news." (Mark 1:15)

Often, we direct this call for repentance to forgiveness of our personal sins and faults. Frequently, we find ourselves focused on what we perceive as breaches of God's law or rules and commandments. This might satisfy our desire for clear, straight forward answers, but repentance is much more than this. Repentance is really an ongoing, lifetime of transformation. Often, we refer to it as a conversion of life or a change of heart.

Living faith and the conversion it calls for is all about relationships – with God, with neighbour, with all humanity and creation itself. These relationships are like a network of friendships. In this context, a mature view of sin is the wounding of these relationships, revealed in the ways we fail to pay full attention to their care and their well-being. Sin then, is not about single acts or neglects, but rather about our whole attitude of life that distances us from others and from God. We wound other, creation and God with our neglect and self-centeredness.

Repentance is a whole change of heart, a redirecting of our lives to bring new life to our relationships.

Undertaking conversion or repentance then, is to begin a new life journey. We see this in the way Mark describes this coming of John the Baptist bearing this message. It is no small thing, that the Gospel writer opens his telling of the story with the words: "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, Son of God." (Mark 1:1) It is not the end, nor even the middle.

For John the Baptist, the call to repentance is only a first step, just as the call of Jesus to "repent and believe the good news" is only to be seen as the initial piece of a life-long discipleship. Transformations and conversions are life-long pilgrimages. They ultimately are processes of becoming. Rémy Bélanger de Beaufort has revealed something of the depths of such a call to turn our lives around with a transformation of our heart. It is life-giving beyond ourselves and has the power to create a whole new world – truly good news for all humanity.

Options for you to watch Mass online or on television.

1. St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish (Holy Family Church) Live Stream Mass through their website each Saturday at 4:30pm. Website: stkateri.ca - click "Online Services" and then Click "Live"
2. St. Mary Magdalene Parish (St. Dunstan's Church) Live Stream Mass through their website on Sunday at 10 am.
Live Stream Link to Website:
<https://stdun7.wixsite.com/stdunstansparish>
3. VISION TV Daily Mass
<https://saltandlighttv.org/mass> Weekdays at 9 am and 1 pm.
4. Mass with Bishop Riesbeck Sunday morning at 10 am. <http://dioceseofsaintjohn.org>

New for Families: As we begin the season of Advent, Saint John Diocese Faith Formation website sjdfaithformation.com has added a new button on the website called "**Bite-size Faith Formation for Families**".

Each week a new advent resource will be added that families can easily access and share with their children.