

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

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

Father Bill Brennan, Parish Priest Website: stkateri.ca Email: office@stkateri.ca

Mass Schedule: St. Ann's Sunday @ 9:30 am/Holy Family Saturday @ 4:30 pm and Sunday @ 11:00 am

February 16th , 2025 – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

coldest
*night
OF THE YEAR

Coldest Night of the

Year Fundraiser:

On February 22nd, 2025, the Confirmation Class from Holy Family St. Kateri will be walking in the Coldest Night of the Year, a fun,

family-friendly walkathon to raise money to support the John Howard Society of Fredericton and their work with people in our community experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness.

Congratulations to the confirmation class who held a successful bake and craft sale last weekend to raise funds for the John Howard Society of Fredericton. The John Howard Society of Fredericton (JHSF) runs a variety of programs for youth and adults in our community to help them make better life decisions and lead happy and productive lives. JHSF owns five residential buildings, scattered across Fredericton, that provide supportive housing for 58 individuals who were previously experiencing homelessness, including five youth between 19 and 24 years of age. Residents all have a case manager who helps them with personal challenges in their lives. They also have access to peer support and a mental health and addictions worker. Other services provided include:

- support youth in crisis with housing and supports,
- provide inclement weather response during times of extreme heat or cold to people experiencing homelessness and living rough,
- provide snacks and beverages to people experiencing homelessness who are clients of our Ironwood Resource Centre,
- deliver family programs to help kids do better in school,
- provide a lunch snack program to kids in need/provide breakfast to our shelter clients,
- run our peer support group that is free to anyone in the community who needs support in the topic areas of mental health, addictions, homelessness, grief and loss,
- cover some of the construction costs of our new family housing units for families experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence
- and much more.

How to donate to the fundraiser: There is still time and opportunity to donate to the fundraiser. Click on the following link cnoy.org and type "Holy Family St Kateri" in the search bar, then clicking on their team's name.

In this year of Jubilee 2025, we are called to be *Pilgrims of Hope*. Please support our students who are helping bring dignity to those who have lost all hope.

Monthly Indigenous Rosary:

This monthly gathering meets virtually to pray the Rosary in 5 Indigenous languages spoken across Turtle Island. "The Holy Rosary is a prayer that is common to all Catholics in this land and has been prayed for generations in every Indigenous language. This gathering is an opportunity to pray as one with the intention that all who live in this land, Indigenous and non-Indigenous may experience healing and reconciliation on a renewed journey of justice and peace for our children." (Intention courtesy of Our Lady of Guadalupe Circle).



The next Rosary date is scheduled for **Saturday, February 22nd, 2025, at 1:30pm Atlantic time.** New participants can [click here to register](#) and receive the Zoom link. Registration is required only once. Zoom links will be sent the day before and the morning of the event. The upcoming Rosary events will take place on the 4th Saturday of the month through June 2025.

Religious Education Notice: There are NO CLASSES this Sunday, February 16th. Classes will resume Sunday, Feb 23rd.



An opportunity for Adult Faith Formation in our Parish:

The Parish Survey (the Disciple Maker Index) results indicated a strong desire of adults in the parish for opportunities to learn about their faith, discuss their faith and connect with others on the faith journey. In response, there will be six evening sessions for Adults scheduled between January 21st and into the Easter Season. These sessions will be 90 minutes in length and will each have a theme. You are welcome to attend any or all of these events. There will be input on a particular 'theme' or 'aspect' of our faith followed by an opportunity for small groups to have conversation. This is for those who are newly inquiring about the Catholic Faith or those who want to learn more and deepen their faith journey. The Next Sessions on Thursday, February 27th will focus on Prayer. The Theme will be: **"Praying With Our Life Experiences in Ways That Connects Us More Deeply to God and Others"**. Input and facilitation of the process for the session will be with Pam Breau and Fr. Bill Brennan. Future Date: On Wednesday March 12th – Time 7 pm our focus will be on 'Living the Gospel deeply through Action, Outreach and Right Relationship'. Our guest speaker will be Steve Patterson, Director of Community at 12-Neighbors 'Tiny Home' Community. Steve was formerly the Youth Pastor at Brunswick Street Baptist Church.

2025, a Jubilee Year - What is a Jubilee?



Celebrated every 25 years in the Catholic Church, a Jubilee is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation in which people are invited to come back into right relationships with God, with one another and with all Creation. The tradition is inspired by the

biblical year of jubilee, a time when debts were cancelled, slaves were set free, and the land was allowed to rest (Lev. 25, Deut. 15). This year, under the theme **"Pilgrims of Hope,"** Pope Francis invites Catholics to renew their hope and adopt a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone." Find out how Development and Peace — Caritas Canada will be living the Jubilee at devp.org/lent. More information to come on the Lent Campaign, 'Turn Debt into Hope'.

Summary of your Support for February 8 & 9

Regular/Loose	\$ 2,409.25
PAD (wkly. average)	2,073.90
St Patrick's Cemetery	25.00
Indigenous Reconciliation Fund	10.00
Building Fund	125.00
Coldest Night - Poor & Needy	865.20
TOTAL	\$ 5,508.35

OPTIONS FOR OFFERTORY DONATIONS:

1. Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD). Forms are at the entrance of the churches. Return to parish office.
2. Mail: St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3.
3. Electronic Funds Transfer to office@stkateri.ca

Your 2024 Donation Receipts are now available to pick up at the church entrances. If you wish to have your receipt mailed, please call the parish office at 506-444-6021. Thank you for your continued and generous support of our parish.

Rosary: Please join us every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. Everyone is welcome!

Fabric and Yarn Sale, 2025: Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers will be selling fabric (mainly cottons) and balls of yarn. If you wish to donate fabric, please bring it to Wilmot Church, Tuesdays to Thursdays, and in the afternoon there is usually parking available in the church's Carleton Street parking. If you have friends in quilting groups or guilds, please let them know about the sale. **If you have any questions, please call Terri MacLean at 506-457-1851**

or tmac3938@gmail.com The proceeds will be divided evenly between The Stephen Lewis Foundation & Help Lesotho. Set up on Friday, February 21 - 1:00 to 4:00. Sale on Saturday, February 22 - 9:00 to 2:00

This Lent you will have an opportunity to join



Development and Peace as part of this global campaign. Pope Francis has declared 2025 the Year of the Jubilee, calling on us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope.' Echoing the Jubilee campaign of 2000, he asks us to

“forgive the debts of countries that will never be able to repay them (Spes non confundit, 16)”. We can respond to his call by joining the Caritas Internationalis campaign to stop the debt crisis by cancelling or remedying unjust debts, and by preventing debt crises from happening again by addressing their root causes. Watch for more information this coming Lent.

“In this reference from the Gospel of John, “Do you believe this?”, Jesus speaks of being the resurrection and the life. This hope that lies within us unites Christians everywhere. May the work of Caritas and the united Christian organizations be a source of the flame of hope described by Pope Francis. This week of prayer has been an invitation to us all to break the bonds of oppression and create a year of jubilee.

Can we truly be Pilgrims of Hope? Do you believe this?” (*Novalis Seeds of Faith, Jan. 18, 2025*)

Note Regarding Offertory Envelopes: PLEASE DO NOT use envelopes from previous years as the numbers may have been reassigned to another parishioner and you will not get credit for the donation.

Franciscan LEAD is for high-school aged youth who are passionate about their Catholic faith, active in their youth groups, and ready to step up to the next level of leadership through evangelization and discipleship training. <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/franciscan-lead/> **First round applications due April 1st, 2025. LEAD week is held prior to Steubenville Atlantic, (July 11-13, 2025) in Halifax, Before applying please contact Patricia at 506-627-6465 or by email: Catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org**

READINGS for February 16th

1st Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-8
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20
Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

Responsorial Psalm: Blessed the one who trusts in the Lord.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Feb 16th Jean Murphy
Feb 23rd Pauline Francis
Mar 2nd Angus Cameron
Mar 9th Jean Murphy
Mar 16th Claudette Grexton
Mar 23rd Corporal Ron Francis
Mar 30th For the People

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Feb 16th Mike Solomon
Feb 23rd Lawrence Cameron
Mar 2nd John Monkhouse
Mar 9th Stacey Chessie
Mar 23rd Carolann Doherty
Mar 30th Betty Colligan

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Feb 15th Henry Whalen
Feb 16th Jackie Daley
Feb 22nd Helen O'Connor / Charlie Doherty
Feb 23rd The Holland & Doucet Families
Mar 1st James Andrew McAllister
Mar 2nd Carl Smyth
Mar 8th Henry Whalen
Mar 9th Walter Randall
Mar 15th Joe Connors
Mar 16th Sylvain & Mariilyn Haché
Mar 22nd Peter Kennedy
Mar 23rd Mary Lynch

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Feb 15th William Cormier / Mona LeBlanc
Feb 16th Anita & Ray Allain / Bonnie Deveau
Feb 22nd Anna Mae Snider / Joan Sowers
Feb 23rd James McGroarty / Clare and Genevieve Obi

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Feb 15th Lynn Laagland / Judy Kelly
Feb 16th Sharon Watts / Bettyanne McMackin
Feb 22nd Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton
Feb 23rd Ewart Kenney / Patrick Burgoon

Our Sacred Stories
Blessed Are You: Who Are We
(Fr. John Jennings)

Life is full of challenges. Just listen to the news on any given day. It seems that our world so often encounters “bad news”. We frequently seem to face threats of disruptions to the social and economic order, tariffs and unsettling trade disruptions, areas of the world broken by war and violence, a breakdown of law and order in so many areas of life. Where do we find the peace for which we long?

At the very beginning of our scriptures, in the first chapter of the Book of Genesis (1:1-31), there is a clear assertion of God’s vision of us and our world. The writer tells the story of creation. After each step in the process, the story relates: “And God saw that it was good.” As God completed the creation work, the author remarked: “God saw everything that was made, and indeed, it was very good.”

In the words of spiritual writer, Ron Rolheiser: “This tells us how God feels about us and our world, and it contains the implication that we should feel the same way about ourselves and the rest of the world: ‘good, very good!’” (Rolheiser. Against an Infinite Horizon 31)

God delights in us and all creation. So too, should we. This is the message we see in Luke’s Gospel this Sunday. Luke tells the story of what is sometimes referred to as the “Sermon on the Plain” (Luke 6:17, 20-26). Matthew relates a similar account as the “Sermon on the Mount” (Matthew 5:1-12). Both these stories begin with what we have come to call beatitudes, blessings, although Luke contrasts these blessings with woes when they are lacking.

Blessings are acknowledgements that we take delight in someone. In parts of Canada, there is a New Year’s tradition of parents blessing their children as the year begins. As they enter the New Year, their parents explicitly tell them of their delight in them. What a wonderful way to begin a year.

To bless someone is an expression of our love for them. We need such affirmations, and our world needs this vision of promise. It is no small thing that our faith offers us a vision that God sees us all as good. Beatitudes are at the core of who we are as disciples of Jesus.

We are not about commandments, judgements and rules to follow. We are about recognizing the blessing each and every person is in our world and before God. Seeing and acknowledging such blessings are the foundation of every good relationship, whether with one another or with our God. They are the basis for a life-giving and loving faith.

As disciples, this is who we are, bearers of blessings to our world. If we really want to know what it means to be and to live as disciples of Jesus, we can begin with what we see in these blessings and how we can recognize them in ourselves, in one another and in all creation.

A few years ago, theologian Richard Gaillardetz commented that Pope Francis has a vision of the Church. The Church is a “field hospital” and that it must meet people where they are. This means, Gaillardetz points out: *When considering those whose relational commitment falls outside the Church norms, he (Pope Francis) offers what might be a preferential option for mercy and inclusion. Pastors must discern which of the forms of exclusion currently practised in the liturgical, pastoral, educational and institutional framework, can be surmounted. [Pope Francis] is convinced it seems, that in at least some of these irregular situations (e.g. divorced and remarried) a return to the Eucharistic Table may be pastorally justified.*

As disciples, how might we bring compassion to our often-broken world? To do so, is to express the Good News of Jesus the Christ and reveal that our God is indeed a life-giving God of love for all. This is a revelation sorely needed when considering the many moral, ethical, social, political and economic issues we face in the 21st century.

Our Lady of Peace Parish's monthly "Touched by Cancer" Mass for those whose lives have been affected in any way by cancer will take place at St. Anthony's Church on Friday, February 21st at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

Our Lady of Peace Parish (St. Theresa’s Church)

St. Theresa’s CWL are hosting a Bridge Luncheon at the Church Hall on Royal Road. Date February 20th, Time 12-3 pm. To register please call Elizabeth MacNeil at 506 260-4680.

May 16– 26, 2025: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Hector Caissie and 2 accompanying priests, Fr. Carlos & Fr. Legendre. Cost of \$3770 includes all airport taxes, security, fuel surcharges, airfare from the Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/p.) **INFO:** Hector Caissie at hectorcaissie@gmail.com or 506-857-2295.