

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 18th, 2024 – 1st Sunday of Lent

During Lent there will be Mass every Friday beginning February 16th at 10:30 am at Holy Family

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680)

Patroness of Ecology & The Environment

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha was the first North American Indigenous woman to be canonized. She is often called the "Lily of the Mohawks". She is the patron saint of ecology, those who have lost their parents and World Youth Day.

Born in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon, on the south side of the Mohawk River in present-day New York State, she contracted smallpox in an epidemic; her family died and her face was scarred. She converted to Catholicism at age nineteen, when she was baptized and given the Christian name Kateri in honor of Catherine of Siena. Refusing to marry, she left her village and moved for the remaining five years of her life to the Jesuit mission village of Kahnawake, south of Montreal on the St. Lawrence River in New France, now Canada.

Upon her death at the age of 24, witnesses said that her scars vanished minutes later, and her face appeared radiant and beautiful. She is the fourth Indigenous person of this land to be venerated in the Catholic Church and the first to be canonized. Under the pontificate of Pope John Paul II, she was beatified in 1980 and canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at Saint Peter's Basilica on 21 October 2012. Various miracles and supernatural events are attributed to her intercession.

Prayer *Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, our elder sister in the Lord, discreetly, you watch over us. May your love for Jesus and Mary inspire in us words and deeds of friendship, of forgiveness and of reconciliation. Pray that God will give us the courage, the boldness, and the strength to build a world of justice and peace among ourselves and among all nations. Help us, as you did, to encounter the Creator God present in the very depths of nature, and so become witnesses of Life. With you, we praise the Father, the Son and the Spirit, Amen.*

Fasting To fast from our regular TV/book reading to read books or watch documentaries towards understanding colonialization, Residential Schools and become more aware/acquainted with the TRC's 94 Calls to Action.

Almsgiving Donate to the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. Monies collected will contribute towards the CCCB's five-year \$30-million National Campaign to support regional and local Indigenous healing and reconciliation initiatives. Special Collection envelopes are at the church entrances or you can donate on the Diocesan website (<https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/donations>).

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish is offering an opportunity to enter into Lenten reflection by support of the Truth and Reconciliation 94 Calls to Action. "Recognizing that all Canadians, as treaty peoples, share responsibility in establishing and maintaining respectful relationships", we will offer a learning and listening opportunity. There will be two evenings during Lent to watch a documentary, engage in discussion and learn about and experience Indigenous Spiritual Ceremony. Wednesday, February 21st @ 7 pm and Holy Family Church with the documentary, 'Telling Our Story'. Wednesday, February 28th @ 7pm at Holy Family Church with the documentary, 'My Name is Wolastoq'.

Series 1: "Telling Our Story" – Wednesday, Feb 21st at 7 pm at Holy Family Church.

Highlighting the histories, experiences, outlooks, and aspirations of 11 different First Peoples including Wolastoqey and Mi'kmaq, as told through the voices of their community members. This documentary illuminates the rich cultures, the celebrated stories, and the enduring resilience of Indigenous peoples whose homelands now host Canada.

It's cold out there! And on February 24, our team "**Holy Family St. Kateri**" - is going to do something about it. Together with thousands of Canadians across the country, we're walking and fundraising to support and serve



people and families experiencing hurt, hunger, and homelessness in our community. To support

them in their goal, parishioners can sponsor one of our youth at the link below. Or stop into the Monsignor Boyd Family Centre on Feb 24th and offer your support. Thank you!

<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1011027>

Divine Mercy: Divine Mercy is held every Friday at 3pm at St. Ann's Church. Please call Nelson Solomon at 363-4493 for further information. All are welcome.

New Holy Family Readers' Schedule - The schedule for Readers at Holy Family for the months of January to June 2024 is now available in the Church entryway. If you are a regular reader, please take a copy home with you. A version of this schedule is on the Parish Website under Ministries Lectors.

Shelter & Foodbank Donations: Next Cookie Sunday Weekend is February 24th and 25th. Donations can be dropped off before each Mass at St. Ann's Church or Holy Family Church.

Foodbank: Throughout Lent we will be collecting the following items for the Foodbank: canned vegetables and tomato soup. Let's keep living in the light of Jesus as we continue our collection for those in need. Thank you for your support!

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Feb 18th Jonathan Feeney
Feb 25th Pauline Francis

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Feb 18th Lawrence Cameron
Feb 25th John Monkhouse

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Feb 17th Deceased Members of Murphy Family
Feb 18th Pat Blanchard
Feb 24th Special Intention
Feb 25th Jacques Ajaltouny and Family

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Feb 17th Mona LeBlanc / William Cormier
Feb 18th Anul & Ebuka Ezeokafor / Laura McCarron
Feb 24th Anna Mae Snider / Joan Sowers
Feb 25th Noreen Bonnell / Jane Buckley / Maurice Harquail

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Feb 17th Margie Snell / Judy Kelly
Feb 18th Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard
Feb 24th Lynn Laagland / Colleen Hamilton
Feb 25th Patrick Burgoon / Ewart Kenney

READINGS for February 18th

1st Reading: Genesis 9:8-15
2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Responsorial Psalm: Your paths, Lord, are love and faithfulness for those who keep your covenant.

Your 2023 Donation Receipts are available to pick up at the church entrances. If you are not able to pick up, please call the parish office (506-444-6021) and it will be mailed out to you. If you have a change of address please advise the office. Thank you for your generosity to our parish.

Offertory Envelopes available at the church entrance. Please take a new box if there is not one with your name. Remember to write your name & address on envelopes.

Summary of your Support for Feb 10th & 11th

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|--|--------------------|
| Regular/Loose | \$ 4,456.75 |
| PAD (wkly. average) | 1,827.69 |
| Indigenous Solidarity Fund | 30.00 |
| St. Patrick's Cemetery | 5.00 |
| Building Fund | 320.00 |
| Catholic Missions (Ash Wednesday) | 120.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 6,759.44 |

Thank you for your continued and generous support.

OPTIONS FOR OFFERTORY DONATIONS:

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

Assisting Asylum Seekers: There has been a call-out invitation to our parish seeking an interested volunteer or volunteers to participate in a newly formed city-wide outreach committee. This committee will focus on researching how church communities in Fredericton might play a role in assisting asylum seekers who land in the city. Asylum seekers currently face many hurdles when they declare asylum inland; accessing short term support when they arrive in Fredericton is very challenging. The committee, represented by parishioners from different churches in our city, will look at the existing gaps in support and how church communities might work to fill them. Pastor Scott Wood of Journey Church is the chair of this committee. If you are interested in sitting on this committee, please let Fr. Bill know at 506-444-6021.

**Development and Peace — Caritas Canada:
Reaping our Rights Lent Campaign**



Established in 1967, Development and Peace — Caritas Canada is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada. We address the root causes of poverty, oppression, and inequality by working with partners in the

Global South and by mobilizing Canadians in the common struggle for justice and dignity. We champion women and social movements as key agents of lasting change.

In Canada, your donations help develop:

- Education and action campaigns that raise awareness about the causes of impoverishment and inspire Canadians to advocate and act for change.
- A dynamic youth program that brings together and mobilizes: 15 youth representatives aged 18-35 from across the county; and 200 schools in our D & P Schools program (learn more and register at devp.org/schools and collect all 22 badges)

The fifth Sunday of Lent is **Solidarity Sunday which falls on the weekend of March 16th-17th** this year. On this weekend our Parish will hold a **special collection** to assist our sisters and brothers in the Global South including farmers in Nigeria, Indonesia and Bolivia.

“Ours is not like the relationship between donor and grantee but like that between friends, where one friend wants to do something and the other offers supports to achieve the goal”, says Karno Batiran, Executive Director, PAYOPAYO, a partner in Indonesia. Our transformative work is possible **thanks to the generosity and support of our members** and Canadians who stand by us. You may also donate online at devp.org/give. Your support will help transform lives! For more information see **“Reaping our Rights”** booklet in the lobby of the Church.

Our Sacred Stories
Our Desert Journey: Lent 2024
(Fr. John Jennings)

When I was young, Lent was about what I was going to give up – candy, movies. Later it took on something like the New Year’s resolution – what can I do to become better at something. Certainly, that is an improvement. But perhaps there is more.

Our observance of Lent has its origins in the early Christian church and is associated with the sacraments of Initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. These sacraments of welcome generally would take place at Easter. From the earliest of times, Christians developed a process for welcoming new member into the community. When the person was ready to ask for baptism at Easter, there was a final short, more intense period of prayer, fasting and good works. This was Lent – a time of transformation, of conversion.

A scriptural image of this period of intense prayer and fasting and discovery of mission is found in the Gospels. We see it in the desert experience of Jesus. Mark’s version of this is brief (1:12-15). After his baptism, Jesus ventured into the desert. There, he searched for where the Spirit was leading him. He struggled with temptations. In that desert, Jesus found his call as well as his mission. Filled with the Spirit, he came out of the desert proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom.

Lent every year is our desert experience, a time to rediscover our connection with our loving parent God. In the desert of Lent we step back and look at where we are in our journey, our personal Camino. We have been baptized into Christ. What does this really mean for us? How does being members of this community of faith affect us and direct our journey, personally and but also as a community? We do this every year. But this year may be especially significant.

This past October, 2023, our Church embarked on a Synod. Representatives from our global church, lay and clerical, women and men, gathered for three weeks in Rome. They engaged in a process of consultation regarding our faith journey as a global church in the midst our world today. This was the first assembly of the Synod. The second will take place in October of this year, 2024. We are now in the middle of our journey. Local churches, i.e. dioceses and their parishes around the world are asked to spend time in prayer, reflection and open conversation on how we can be a synodal church listening to one another and focused on the mission we have been given as a Christian community.

Perhaps, Lent 2024 is a call to each of us and all of us in our parish communities. We are now being called to

enter on a journey that recognizes the many voices, questions, issues and views that our faith must encounter in our time. This is the desert experience we have today. Like Jesus’s desert, we are challenged to see where we are called and what our mission is in the 21st century. Like Jesus we are called to take up this mission with prayerful respect, openness and discernment together.

Pope Francis set this course for our Church as he began his journey as bishop of Rome and Pope, in 2013. He issued what is called an Apostolic Exhortation titled: *Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel)*. In doing so, he expressed the fundamental message of the Good News for all – the message of Jesus the Christ.

The Synod in which we are now involved calls us with his words: *“I dream of a ‘missionary option’, that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation. The renewal of structures demanded by pastoral conversion can only be understood in this light: as part of an effort to make them more mission-oriented, to make ordinary pastoral activity on every level more inclusive and open, to inspire in pastoral workers a constant desire to go forth and in this way to elicit a positive response from all those whom Jesus summons to friendship with himself.* (EG 27) During this Lent, our desert calls us to reflect and discern our ways of becoming true disciples and missionaries of the Good News in 2024.

Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers (GHG) Bridge Luncheon; April 25, 2024. GHG will be hosting a Bridge Luncheon on Thursday, April 25th at St. Theresa’s Church Hall, 1 William St., Fredericton, from 12:00 to 3:00pm. \$60.00 per table. Proceeds to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation and Help Lesotho. Please call **Mary Waters** at **506-455-0574** to reserve a table. (please leave a message if no answer).

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024 - Friday, March 1st
Ecumenical Worship Service
2 pm at St. Theresa’s Church, William Street
7 pm at Brunswick Street Baptist Church - Theme:
“I Beg You Bear With One Another in Love”
Ephesians 4:103. Service written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Palestine, prepared and adapted for use in Canada by the Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada.