

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 23RD, 2025 – 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**coldest
*night**
OF THE YEAR

This Saturday at 5pm the Confirmation Class will be participating in the **Coldest Night of the Year Walk**. The walkathon is to raise money to support the

John Howard Society of Fredericton and their work with people in our community experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness.

As Christians, social justice is an essential part of Catholic Social Teaching. If you google social justice, it is described in simple terms as 'emphasizes fairness in how society divides its social resources'. The seven principles of social justice include: respect for the human person, common good, promotion of the family, individual's right to own property, subsidiarity, the dignity of work and works and pursuit of peace and care for the poor.

Mother Teresa devoted her life to bring social justice to the poor, the outcast and the unloved. She wanted to live as Jesus would live treating everyone she met as equals, as they would want to be treated.

"The poor are thirsty for water but also for peace, truth and justice. The poor are naked and need clothing but also need human dignity and compassion for those who sin. The poor have no shelter and need shelters made of bricks, but also of a joyful heart, compassionate and full of love. They are sick and need medical attention, but also a helping hand and welcoming smile.

The outcasts, those who are rejected, the unloved, prisoners, alcoholics, the dying, those who are alone and abandoned, the marginalized, the untouchables and lepers..., those in doubt and confusion, those who have not been touched by the light of Christ, those starving for the word and peace of God, sad and afflicted souls..., those who are a burden to society, who have lost all hope and faith in life, who have

forgotten how to smile and no longer know what it means to receive a little human warmth, a gesture of love and friendship – all of them, they turn to us to receive a little bit of comfort. If we turn our backs on them, we turn our backs on Christ." –Mother Teresa

There is still time to donate: Click on the following link cnoy.org and type "Holy Family St. Kateri" in the search bar, then clicking on their team's name. Funds raised from Coldest Night of the Year help the John Howard Society of Fredericton provide services that otherwise would not be available. Please support our students who are helping bring dignity to those who have lost all hope.

Development and Peace: Participate in the National Launch Webinar

To learn all about Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's new Share Lent campaign, join the launch webinar on **March 1st at 1:30 p.m. ET**. The panel will comprise:

- Dean Dettloff, Advocacy Officer at Development and Peace — Caritas Canada, who will present the links between Jubilee, debt and the global **Turn Debt into Hope** campaign
- Javier Jahncke, a human rights lawyer with our Peruvian partner the Episcopal Commission for Social Action (CEAS), who will talk about ecological debt and his organization's work

Interpretation will be provided in French, English and Spanish. [Register now](#).



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.

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.**

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES – MARCH 5TH

10:30 am, Holy Family Church

3:00 pm, St. Ann’s Church

7:00 pm, Holy Family (this Mass will be live-streamed).

Schedule of Weekday Masses during Lent:

Tuesday, March 11th, 10:30am, Holy Family Church

Monday, March 17th, 7pm, Holy Family Church

Tuesday, March 18th, 10:30am, St. Ann’s Church

Monday, March 24th, 7pm, Holy Family Church

Tuesday, April 1st, 10:30am, St. Ann’s Church

Monday, April 7th, 7pm, Holy Family Church (Stations of the Cross)

The Parish Survey (the Disciple Maker Index) results indicated a strong desire by parishioners for additional opportunities for prayerful devotion. In response we are adding **‘Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament’** following each weekday Mass during Lent. The consecrated host will be displayed for one hour for those who wish to spend silent time in meditation and reflective prayer. All are welcome!

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 15 & 16

Regular/Loose	\$ 4,283.07
PAD (wkly. average)	2,164.62
St Patrick's Cemetery	35.00
Collection for Life	50.00
Indigenous Reconciliation Fund	10.00
Building Fund	90.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,632.69

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.

Cookie Sunday Weekend: This is Cookie Sunday weekend. In addition to cookies, the Food Bank needs pasta, pasta sauce and soups. Donations can be dropped off at Holy Family Church at the Saturday Mass or Sunday Mass at both St. Ann's Church and Holy Family Church. Any donation you can provide is most appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of our Outreach Ministry!

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

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 23rd

1st Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-25
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49
Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is merciful and gracious.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

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 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 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 22nd Anna Mae Snider / Joan Sowers
Feb 23rd James McGroarty / Clare and Genevieve Obi
Mar 1st Paula Ryan/Margie Snell/Beth Wright
Mar 2nd Chinyese Aloizie/Norma Downing/Debbie Landau

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Feb 22nd Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton
Feb 23rd Ewart Kenney / Patrick Burgoon
Mar 1st Joan Sowers / Harold DeCoursey
Mar 2nd Rhadia Ange / Rhadissa Ange

Our Sacred Stories
Be Merciful, Just As Your God Is Merciful
(Fr. John Jennings)

Jesus does not always seem to make sense, at least so it seems. In chapter 6 of Luke's Gospel, the story begins with Jesus preaching a series of blessing and woes as crowds gather around him. (Luke 6:17-26) This is Luke's version of what we hear in Matthew's Gospel as the Beatitudes. (Matt 5:1-12)

What follows is a series of statements on living these blessing (beatitudes). What is said seems so opposite to what normal human behavior might expect. "But I say to you that listen. Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you...." Does this seem to be what we normally do? Is this normal human behavior?

Perhaps not, perhaps the beatitudes, the blessings, are a challenge to us all, to move beyond what we have come to see as "normal" human behavior. Perhaps Jesus, in the beatitudes is calling us to a different space. He is planting the seed of a new reality, a reality that is God's dream, God's reign in our world.

When we were kids if someone hit us, we would normally hit back. This seemed so normal. Behaving in this way was a form of reaction, rather than a response to the event. It came so quickly, without any real thought. As we grow up we discover that such reaction is not always appropriate. How many relationships and friendships have been broken by reaction to what another has done or said? A response calls for more thought and more awareness of all the circumstances involved.

What is true of us as individuals is unfortunately true as well of communities, even of countries. An affront or a threat or an insult brings on a reaction. Throughout history many a war has broken out based on reacting to another's action. In many, if not most of such situations, not much thought is given to the ultimate effects of such reaction. The results are catastrophic for countries, communities, relationships and even individuals.

As Luke tells us, Jesus speaks on a higher plane. Aware of God's unconditional love for all, Jesus calls us to reflect such love in all our circumstances. These beatitudes have the practical result of bringing God's love into our everyday. In particular, they challenge us to listen and respond, rather than react and strike out when tensions build. Building and maintaining bridges in all our relationships, personal and global, is far more life-giving than building walls and reacting with violence.

Whether we are looking at our relationships and friendships or at international affairs, our world is better for the thoughtful, loving, compassionate responses we

make as true disciples of Jesus. Starting with ourselves, we are called to build God's dream of a world that reflects the unconditional love of God for all.

This is not an easy call. "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.... **Be merciful just as your God is merciful.**" Difficult, yes, but what a blessing, a beatitude for our world and each one of us!

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

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.

The Little Black Book – Lent 2025
Now available in the church lobby.
Suggested donation \$2. each which
can be dropped in the basket provided.
Thank you!