

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

January 26th, 2025 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

DOING IT BIG! -

Household items for Yorsalim and Dawit

Last weekend you were asked to sign-up on a list for lightly used or new items for the home of newlyweds Yorsalim and Dawit, newcomers to Fredericton.



If we needed any proof of what kind of Parish this is, the speed with which the sign-up list was filled says it all. Out of 73 items, only 12 remain to be spoken for. Here are those remaining items:

Entry / Living Room

- 1 smart TV & stand
- 1 or 2 living room chairs
- 1 coffee table
- Larger area carpet
- Dehumidifier

Dining Room

- Under table carpet

Bedroom 1

- 1 desk

Bedroom 2

- 2 bedside Lamps
- 2 bedside tables
- 1 desk

Yes, some of these are bigger ticket items, but we are only asking whether there are people at St. Kateri who are decluttering and might have one, or some, of these items.

If you have any of these things to give, please sign up on the sheets on the flip chart in the entryway. Larger items will be picked up from your address and stored here at the church.

If you weren't able to read the more detailed story in last week's Bulletin, here is the short version:

Dawit Maherai was sponsored by St. Kateri in 2021. He had fled from Eritrea over 10 years ago.

Here in Fredericton, Dawit has worked in food service and in food delivery. This March he is booked to begin an apprenticeship in Carpentry.

Last year Dawit travelled to Ethiopia, where he could safely meet up with his family for the first time since fleeing Eritrea, AND marry Yorsalim, whom he has been courting online in recent years. An application to bring Yorsalim to Canada is well-advanced, just waiting for Immigration Canada to finalize it. She could be here in a few months.

Yorsalim and Dawit want to rent an apartment, of course, and need all the usual stuff to set up house.

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 Two Sessions on Tuesday, February 4th and 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 Dates: Tuesday, February 4th, Thursday, February 27th and Wednesday March 12th.

Ecumenical Service and Prayer for the Week of Christian Unity January 18th to 25th. There will be a service at St. Dunstan's Church (120 Regent Street) on **Thursday, January 23rd at 1:15pm (please use the entrance located on King Street in behind the Tim Hortons).**

Following the service there will be a small reception in the Centre. Everyone is welcome!



Jubilee 2025 – Prayer Cards: In his recent letter to the Parishes,

Bishop Riesbeck asked that throughout this Jubilee Year we join him in praying our Diocesan Jubilee Prayer. Copies of the prayer cards are now available at the entrance of our churches.

Homeless – Shelter Donations: We will continue to collect donations of gloves and mittens for the Shelters for the next



two weekends. The donation box will remain in the entrance of the church until that time.

“We must grow in love and to do this we must go on loving and loving and giving and giving until it hurts – the way Jesus did. Do ordinary things with extraordinary love: little things like caring for the sick and the homeless, the lonely and the unwanted. –Mother Teresa

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

Cookie Sunday Weekend: As begin the New Year we will once again collect food donations for the Shelters and Food Bank. Cookie Sunday weekend this month is **January 25th & 26th.** 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!

Summary of your Support for January 18 & 19

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Regular/Loose | \$ 3,722.65 |
| PAD (wkly. average) | 1,986.92 |
| New Year's | 20.00 |
| St Patrick's Cemetery | 15.00 |
| Indigenous Reconciliation Fund | 110.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ 5,854.57 |

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*
Thank you for your continued and generous support of our parish.

INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION FUND COLLECTION

This weekend of January 25 & 26, the Diocese will be taking up a special collection for the Indigenous Reconciliation Fund. The fund was established to accept donations from 73 Catholic Dioceses across Canada, fulfilling the \$30 million financial commitment made by Canada's Bishops in September 2021. As of January 1, 2025, the Board has approved 216 projects from across Canada, including nine from our Diocese.

Special Collection envelopes are included in your parish boxed sets and at the church entrances. You may also contribute on the Diocesan website (<https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/donations>).

Please consult the diocesan website for additional resources
<https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/indigenous-relations>.

READINGS for January 26th

1st Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4, 5-6, 8-10

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Responsorial Psalm: Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Jan 26th James Andrew McAllister

Feb 2nd Claudette Grexton

Feb 9th Don Cameron

Feb 16th Jean Murphy

Feb 23rd Pauline Francis

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Jan 26th Elaine Geldart

Feb 2nd Carolann Doherty

Feb 9th Betty Colligan

Feb 16th Mike Solomon

Feb 23rd Lawrence Cameron

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Jan 25th Charlie Doherty

Jan 26th Jerry Leach / Anthony David

Feb 1st Gary Stewart

Feb 2nd Father Jack Dolan

Feb 8th Gerald Hoogendyk

Feb 9th Ann Hawkins / Ralph O. Christie

Feb 15th Henry Whalen

Feb 16th Jackie Daley

Feb 22nd Helen O'Connor

Feb 23rd The Holland & Doucet Families

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Jan 25th Anna Mae Snider / Joan Sowers

Jan 26th Noreen Bonnell / Ebuka Ezeokafor /
Maureen Hawthorne

Feb 1st Paula Ryan / Margie Snell / Beth Wright

Feb 2nd Jane Buckley / Maurice Harquail / Chinasa
Trinitta

Feb 8th Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley

Feb 9th Patrick Burgoon / Carl Duivenvoorden /
Flora Ederaro

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Jan 25th Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton

Jan 26th Rhadia Ange / Rhadissa Ange

Feb 1st Joan Sowers / Harold DeCoursey

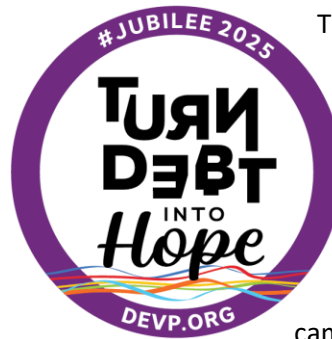
Feb 2nd Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard

Week of Prayer for Christian

Unity (January 18th-25th). As the week of prayer for Christian Unity comes to an end, I hope you had an opportunity to reflect and take part in the Ecumenical Mass at St. Dunstan's Church this past Thursday. It was a special time to gather in prayer and community.

The work for unity, however, does not end here as there is much more to be done towards eliminating all that divides us. The Jubilee Year's theme, 'Pilgrims of Hope' offers us an opportunity to assist Christian organizations striving to remove social and economic injustices. Such organizations include Development and Peace (Caritas), Kairos Canada and the Canadian Council of Churches.

Along with Development and Peace, Caritas Internationalis and the Global Ecumenical Jubilee Committee have launched their "Turn Debt into Hope" campaign." This is a worldwide ecumenical movement advocating for systemic change to address global economic inequality and the burden of unjust debt.



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)



Our Sacred Stories
Recognizing the Prophets Among Us
(Fr. John Jennings)

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up.... Truly, I tell you, no Prophet is accepted in his hometown. (Luke 4:14ff)

How often we miss the prophets that are right in our midst – they are so obvious and so common that we take them for granted. The little piece of Scripture above is drawn from the Gospel of Luke. Following Jesus' baptism in the Jordan by John, Jesus went into the desert. After a time of being of being tempted there, he began his mission.

The mission of Jesus was to bring the hopes of God's People to fulfillment – to proclaim the coming of God's Reign. This is what we call the Good News, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Luke describes how as he began to proclaim this Good News, Jesus immediately faced challenges. Not the least of these challenges was that he was too common. People knew him, they knew his family. Beginning in Nazareth, he was in the midst of his hometown people. Luke notes: *No prophet is accepted in his hometown.*

The role of a prophet, contrary to what many hold is not to predict the future. Rather, it is to announce to our world word and action how God is present among us. The prophet reveals the presence of God to a particular time and place. This prophetic role for Jesus begins at the time of his baptism in the Jordan by John. But in Luke's Gospel, there is an earlier reference to it as Luke relates the story of Mary and Joseph presenting the infant child in the Temple (Luke 2:22-40). This tradition was common among Jews of the time.

As the Jesus is presented in the Temple, there is an encounter with two persons.

First there is Simeon, a man of strong faith who came into the Temple and saw Jesus's presentation and announced the significance of the child. Then there was a female prophet, Anna. She saw and recognized in him the fulfillment of the promises made to Israel through the prophets of Israel's past.

The difficulty of recognizing the prophets that surround us in life, is that often they are too much like us, or too commonly available. Jesus faced this challenge and so do we. It is hard to see the ordinary as exercising a prophetic role for us.

There is an old saying: "An expert is someone from away." How often we fall into this way of seeing those around us, those who share our life and our community. The prophetic people who walk with us do not stand out. Nor do we. In fact, we share in the prophetic role of Jesus the Christ.

There is an acknowledgement of this prophetic role at our baptism. Following the immersion or the pouring of water on the person being baptized, there is an anointing with the oil of chrism. This is the same oil used at the coronation of monarchs and for the ordination of priests. The words that are spoken with this anointing express the meaning and significance of the anointing in the context of a baptism. *As Christ was anointed priest, prophet and king, so may you live always as a member of his body....*

Are we ever aware that we are a priestly people of God? Do we acknowledge that we are called to be individually and communally a prophetic people? As prophets, can we accept that in word and action each and all of us are prophets to our world? As such prophets we are called to make a difference in our world, building God's Kingdom of justice and peace, compassion and love for all humanity.