

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

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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

July 26th, 2026 – 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feast of Saint Anne



**Join the
Celebration on
Sunday, July 26th
at St. Ann's
Church, Bilijik
First Nation**

Join us on Sunday, July 26th at 3:00 p.m. for Mass honoring Saint Anne, who holds a special place in the hearts of the Indigenous community as the grandmother of Jesus. A BBQ will follow at 3:45 p.m., leading into free Bingo with cash prizes. Contributions of salads, chips, or sweets are welcome but not necessary. Please bring all food items to the kitchen in the Church Hall before Mass. **Note: There will be NO 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, July 26th at St. Ann's.** Everyone is welcome to join in with all or any of this celebration.

Pilgrimage to Saint Francis of Assisi Shrine Sunday at Skiff Lake (Saint John the Baptist Parish). Annual Shrine Sunday takes place on the second Sunday of August (August 9th) at Skiff Lake. This year marks the **800th Anniversary of Saint Francis of Assisi's death** and has been designated as a 'Jubilee Year of Saint Francis'.

Reflection: In declaring this special year of St. Francis of Assisi, Pope Leo XIV has said, "This Year of St. Francis spurs all of us, each according to our possibilities to imitate *the poor man of Assisi*, to form ourselves as far as possible on the model of Christ...may the hope that has seen us as pilgrims now be transformed into zeal and fervour of active charity."

SIGN-UP NOW! Arrangements have been made to provide bus transportation to the Shrine at no charge to participants. **The sign-up sheet in the lobby of Holy Family Church and St. Ann's Church** or contact Judy Kelly via email at office@stkateri.ca or call 506-444-6021.

Schedule for Sunday, August 9th:

8:15am: bus leaves from Holy Family Church parking lot*

9:00am: bus leaves Wulastukw Convenient Store parking lot*

3:15pm: Bus Departs after healing service

***Please note that all departure times will be as indicated in the schedule to allow for arrival time for morning Mass and the return trip home.**

We invite you to join us for a meaningful journey of prayer, song and healing. All are welcome.

There is no fee to enter the Shrine but there will be an offertory during Mass; a kiosk selling medals, etc. and there is an opportunity to light a tea light in the small chapel on site. There is a donation box there if you wish to contribute to the support of the upkeep of the Shrine.

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Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. This year's theme is "I will never forget you."

(Isaiah 49:15). In Pope Leo's messages for this day, he reminds us that, "The celebration of World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. "

On this special day make a personal commitment to visit an elder living alone or in a special care home in your family or community. Bring a small gift, a flower or a special sweet treat. Continued on next page

Pope Leo asks us to ensure the words of the prophet are shared for that "in an era that favors speed and fragmentation, the human person still yearns to receive care and recognition from attentive minds, kind words and hands capable of tenderness. The digital culture multiplies connections and offers new opportunities for interaction; yet, the human heart retains an irrevocable need for genuine closeness."

To read the Pope's entire message, click on the following link: [Message from Pope Leo XIV](#)

REFLECTION CORNER



"When you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart."

-St. Francis of Assisi



July 25th & 26th: Metepenagiag Pow Wow. The 42nd annual Pow Wow takes place on the Metepenagian Pow Wow Grounds, 2156 Micmac Road, Red Bank, NB.

Experience the heartbeat of our culture through song, dance, tradition, and community. All are welcome as we gather to celebrate our Mi'kmaq heritage, honor our ancestors, and create new memories together.

Activities include: Sunrise Ceremony at 7am on both day with Donna Augustine and Grand Entry at 1pm on both days. Everyone welcome!

Msit No'kmaq • All My Relations

Cookie Sunday Weekend: July 25th & 26th

In addition to cookies, the Food Bank is once again in need of 'anything tomato' i.e. tomato soup, tomato sauce or paste, canned pasta and pasta. 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!



Neqotkuk welcomes you to their 23rd Annual Wolastoqiyik Traditional Pow-Wow which takes place July 24th-26th at Matuwes Park, 13096 Rte 105 Tobique First Nation, behind the Shell Gas Station (follow signage).

Activities include: Grand Entry at 1pm on Saturday and Sunday; traditional drumming, dancing, arts, crafts and food.

Everyone is welcome!

It's Cookie Sunday Weekend: July 25th & 26th

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Summer Readers Schedule at Holy Family: Thank you to everyone who signed up for time slots for reading over the summer months. You will find a copy of the Summer Readers Schedule in the lobby of the Church.

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

July 26th John Monkhouse
 Aug 2nd Stacey Chessie
 Aug 9th Elaine Geldart
 Aug 16th Carolanne Doherty
 Aug 23rd Betty Colligan
 Aug 30th Mike Solomon

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

July 26th Gregory Francis
 Aug 2nd For the People
 Aug 9th Fred Sabattis
 Aug 16th Alden McLenaghan
 Aug 23rd For the People
 Aug 30th Shelley Cameron

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

July 25th Stephen MacSween / Gary Stewart
 Eugene McGinley
 July 26th Nora Marshall / Nicole Mary Bourcier
 Aug 1st Father Ken Weir
 Aug 2nd For the People
 Aug 8th Vaughn McManus
 Shirley, June, Pauline Cashen
 Mary Albuquerque
 Aug 9th For the People
 Aug 15th Bernie McCann
 Aug 16th For the People
 Aug 22nd Tyler Messer
 Graham & Walter Randall
 Aug 23rd Eugene and Theresa Brennan
 Roy Schadeck and Deceased Fam Members
 Aug 29th Patricia Okoye
 Aug 30th Fred and Bethany Burgoon

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

July 25th Joan Sowers / Margie Snell
 July 26th Doreen Cormier / Maureen Hawthorne
 Aug 1st Joan Sowers and Mona Leblanc
 Aug 2nd Victoria Olopade and Jane Buckley

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

July 25th Rita Maxwell / Harold DeCoursey
 July 26th JoAnne Linton / Laura McDonald
 Aug 1st Wanda Cairns and Margie Snell
 Aug 2nd Sharon Watts and Bettyanne McMackin

Offertory for last weekend will be available in next weekend's bulletin.

Our Sacred Stories
The Kingdom of God and our Quest in Life
(Fr. John Jennings)

Over the past several decades there has been a revival of an ancient Christian custom of the camino or pilgrimage. This is an undertaking of a journey. Such journeys normally have destination or goal, but the real aim is not so much to reach the goal or the destination. The aim is the journey itself. The camino is traveling (normally walking) some distance along a common route with others. The direction is some site that is regarded as sacred or special. The custom is not unique to Christians. It is also found in Islam and in Buddhism as well.

In the camino or pilgrimage, the elements of journey and communal encounter and discovery of identity, all are common. Common as well is the sense of seeking and searching, what we sometimes might regard as the process of **quest**.

This sense of being on a **quest** or of seeking or searching is part of our being human. Our growth over the years includes this process of growing and maturing to be the persons we are. Our Christian faith and life involve this same growth and maturing over time. What we refer to as faith involves this as well.

We do not gain our Christian faith from a course. Sure, we can read about Christian faith, we can take a course on Christian faith and these might help tweak our interest and deepen our understanding. But real Christian faith that is active and life-giving comes from other Christians and from the experiences and people of our life journey. In some sense, life, our whole life is a **quest** for us. Our faith is part of that searching journey. It is no surprise that our literature, our stories often express this experience of the **quest**.

Harry Potter, The da Vinci Code, Star Wars, the adventures of King Arthur and his knights of the round table, all have a common element in their stories. They are about a quest, a search for something significant to the lives of their characters. All of them as well can be seen as representative of human life, for we all face life as a quest. And although we may not always recognize it, our quest is always much the same. We search for how we can make sense out of life. For our Catholic faith, we find direction in the mission and message of Jesus. In the Gospels, this mission and message is about the Kingdom of God.

In *Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality* (New York, 1999), the spiritual writer, Fr. Ron Rolheiser treats this search as a longing or a quest that is part of our humanity.

As he puts it: *Whatever the expression, everyone is ultimately talking about the same thing – an unquenchable fire, a restlessness, a longing, a disquiet, a hunger, a loneliness... that lies at the center of human experience* (p.4).

Catholic Christianity and the spirituality that is at its center is our way of discovering how we respond to the longing, the loneliness and the incompleteness we sense in our human existence. It is our life-long *camino*, our **quest**.

Now that we are in the season of Ordinary Time, every Sunday responds to our quest, our search for the Kingdom of God. It is our effort to find meaning in our life that sets us on this quest. Rolheiser would describe this as our need for a spirituality. The mission of Jesus as we see in the Gospels is to reveal the Kingdom of God among us. It is this revelation in Jesus that will ultimately satisfy our life quest.

This Sunday we listen to Matthew as he recounts in his Gospel several stories or parables of the Kingdom (Matt.13:44-52). These parables focus on very ordinary images of life to express the great values of the Kingdom. Two questions help us to focus on these parables of the Kingdom:

- *What do I want or seek in Life?*
- *What do I set my heart upon?*

For Matthew, for the little Christian community in which he lived and for us, these are stories which express the mission and message of Jesus – the Kingdom of God is among us. It is to be lived each day in the life of each of us. To recognize the Kingdom in this way is to find the answer to the great questions to which our life quest is directed. Fr. Rolheiser would see this as developing a Christian spirituality. It is prayerful action, in the model of Jesus himself, bringing the world we touch, a spirit of openness, acceptance, compassion love and peace. Such a quest builds the Reign of God in our world.

4th Annual High School Youth Rally

All high school youth are invited to join us on Sunday, August 16, from 12:30–6:30 pm at the Villa Madonna Retreat House for our Diocesan Youth Rally. The day will include: inspiring talks, small group discussions, food, fun, and Mass with Bishop Christian.

Mark your calendars and plan to be part of this joyful gathering of faith, friendship, and community.