

# St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

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Father Bill Brennan, Parish Priest Website: [stkateri.ca](http://stkateri.ca) Email: [office@stkateri.ca](mailto:office@stkateri.ca)

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

**March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**During Lent there will be Mass every Friday beginning February 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am at Holy Family**

## Solidarity Sunday Special Collection Weekend is

March 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. This Lent, please give generously. Development and Peace — Caritas Canada's **Reaping our Rights** campaign invites you to give generously and thanks you warmly for your generosity. Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers across the world including farmers in Nigeria, Indonesia, and Bolivia. **Special donation envelopes are available in the entrance of the church.** Please give what you can. Your support will transform lives!!

## **Bolivia: Supporting Indigenous and Farming Communities.**



To enhance rural Indigenous families' living conditions, our partner Fundación Nuna Bolivia (NUNA) support agroecology projects that improve food sovereignty and

environmental conservation. NUNA also supports food processing ventures, like cheese, yogurt, and ice cream manufacturing, that increase and diversify family incomes.

"NUNA helped us to terrace the land; to sow a wide variety of vegetables and fruit; and to create greenhouses for growing. We learned how to make frozen sorbets, and ice cream. I am very grateful and want to keep learning so much!" –Lucy Huacoto, farmer and entrepreneur, Yocarhuaya community

"We encourage local development, because in the communities where we work, there is the problem of men—youths and adults—migrating permanently from the countryside to the city, because there are no local opportunities for work and income generation." –Eva Colque, Executive Director, NUNA

To learn more about NUNA and the struggles of Indigenous and farming communities in Bolivia, read our [Mini-magazine](#) (available in the lobby of the church) and watch the video at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

## **Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897) Doctor of the church; Patroness of priests & missionaries**

Marie Françoise-Thérèse Martin was born in Normandy, France on January 2, 1873 to a very pious family. She was the youngest of nine children. Her mother died when she was four years old and her father moved the family to Lisieux where she was raised by her father, her sisters and an aunt. Three of her sisters became Carmelite nuns. She herself had wished to become a Carmelite at a very young age.

After her mother died, Thérèse became prone to having fits and tantrums to the point of becoming physically ill. On May 13, 1883, after having a debilitating episode, she received a "manifestation of grace". There was a statue of Mary next to her bed, which had been there for years, but on this day, "*All of a sudden, the Blessed Mother appeared so beautiful that I had never seen anything like it before; her face radiated ineffable goodness and tenderness, but it was her ravishing smile that penetrated my soul to its very depth.*"

After overcoming many obstacles, Thérèse finally received permission from the Bishop of Bayeux to enter the Carmelite convent as a postulant on April 9, 1888, at the age of fifteen. She embraced religious life and lived it with fervor and devotion, and made her final vows on September 24, 1890. Sister Thérèse lived the hidden and holy life of a Carmelite nun, never leaving the convent until her death.

She lived holiness by love and childlike trust and performed little sacrifices. She couldn't make big sacrifices and do huge acts and deeds like many others could but she could make many little sacrifices. That is when she began her "Little Way" when she came to realize that *"Our Lord does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them"*

When she was twenty-one years old, under obedience to her sister Pauline who had recently been elected as Mother Superior, Mother Agnes of Jesus, Sister Thérèse began to write her autobiography. This autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, speaks of her family life, offers insights into her vocation as a Carmelite nun, and reveals how devoted she was to Jesus, wanting to be with Him forever in Heaven, even from the earliest moments of her childhood. She died three years later, as result of contracting tuberculosis at the age of twenty-three which had caused her great suffering. At one point when she felt her condition worsening, she said, *"I feel that my mission is about to begin, my mission of making others love God as I love Him, my mission of teaching my little way to souls. If God answers my requests, my heaven will be spent on earth up until the end of the world. Yes, I want to spend my heaven in doing good on earth."*

Sister Thérèse died on September 30, 1897, at the age of 24 surrounded by all of her religious sisters in the Carmelite convent of Lisieux. Her final words were, *"Oh! I love Him! My God, I love Thee!"*

**Prayer** *Saint Thérèse, as a child you fell in love with God while living within the school of love that was your family. Your love grew so intense that God took you to Himself at a young age, to be with Him forever. Please pray for me, that I will discover the same intensity of love that you did, so that I will also share in the glory in which you now share. Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.*

**Fasting** Fast from hurrying. Saint Thérèse, also known as "The Little Flower" lived the old saying: "Stop and smell the roses." So, stop what you are doing for a few minutes to listen to, look at and take in the essence of the world around you, what God has created.

**Almsgiving** Do some "little thing" to help out. Pay for a stranger's drink at the coffee shop, shovel your elderly neighbour's doorstep, give someone a lift to the store and back so they don't have to pay for a taxi, pick up garbage on your next walk around the block. Gestures don't need to be big to make a big difference.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish  
Easter Triduum Mass  
All Masses will be livestreamed

**Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper**  
7pm, Holy Family Church

**Good Friday, Celebration of the Passion of the Lord**  
3pm, Holy Family Church

**Saturday, Easter Vigil, Resurrection of the Lord**  
8pm, Holy Family Church (NO 4:30 Mass on Holy Saturday)

**Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord**  
9:30am, St. Ann's Church  
11am, Holy Family Church

**There will be a Lenten Regional Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 3pm on Sunday, March 10th at St. Dunstan's Church. This is a communal gathering with the priests of the region available to celebrate Reconciliation with you.**

**Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Week at Holy Family Church:** For existing Eucharistic Ministers, please see the sign-up sheet in the lobby of the church for Masses during Holy Week. Please sign up if you are interested or able to be a Eucharistic Minister for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil on Saturday, and Easter Sunday.

## Interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister?

Over the next several weeks, I will be preparing a new schedule for Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister at Holy Family Church, please contact July Kelly (459-2781) by **April 14<sup>th</sup>** so you can be added to the new schedule.

A reminder to all our Eucharistic Ministers that masks are still required when distributing communion. A box of masks has been placed on the small table just off the altar. Thank you for serving in this vital Ministry that supports our Liturgy.

**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.

## Summary of your Support for March 2 & 3

<b>Regular/Loose</b>	<b>\$ 3,269.05</b>
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>
<b>PAD (wkly. average)</b>	<b>1,827.69</b>
<b>St. Patrick's Cemetery</b>	<b>60.00</b>
<b>Development &amp; Peace</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>40.00</b>
<b>Food Bank</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 5,246.84</b>

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](mailto:office@stkateri.ca)

## READINGS for March 10<sup>th</sup>

1st Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:14-17a, 19-23

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

**Responsorial Psalm: Let my tongue cling to my mouth if I do not remember you!**

## Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> Wayne McCarthy

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Augustine Ede

Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Yvonne and Gordon Buggie

## READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> Elaine Geldart

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Carolann Doherty

Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Betty Culligan

## Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Mar 9<sup>th</sup> Leo and Roxie Burgoyne and DFM

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> The Khoury Family

Mar 16<sup>th</sup> Edgar Legere

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Jackie Daley

Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> Alton Chessie

Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Chinonye Igwebike

## READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Mar 9<sup>th</sup> Paula Ryan/Margie Snell/Beth Wright

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> Anita & Ray Allain / Bonnie Deveau

Mar 16<sup>th</sup> Mona LeBlanc / William Cormier

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> James McGroarty/ Clare & Genevieve Obi

## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Mar 9<sup>th</sup> Leslie Carr / Judy Kelly

Mar 10<sup>th</sup> Bettyanne McMackin / Sharon Watts

Mar 16<sup>th</sup> Margie Snell / Lynn Laagland

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard

Mar 23<sup>rd</sup> Colleen Hamilton / Joan Sowers

Mar 24<sup>th</sup> Patrick Burgoon / Ewart Kenney

**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.

**Knights of Columbus Community Breakfast Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am to 1 pm at the Knicol Hall. Adults \$10, Children \$5., Families \$30. Please notice the price increase due to the cost of groceries. Proceeds going to Family Faith Formation's students' trip to Steubenville Atlantic in Halifax!**

**New Brunswick Rite to Life: The Knights of Columbus Council 1942 is holding Acadian Night at 6:00pm on Saturday, March 16 at the Knight's Hall, 170 Regent Street, Fredericton. Everyone is encouraged to attend and all proceeds from this terrific event will support the work of the Women's Care Center.**

***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).

**Update on Development & Peace Fall Campaign, Stand for the Land.** As of March 5<sup>th</sup>, we have collected **46,315 signatures** for our campaign! This far exceeds our campaign goal of 32,000 signatures **by 14,315!** A huge thank-you to all members who worked so hard to collect these signatures.

The campaign deadline of February 25<sup>th</sup> has now passed, but we will continue to receive signatures right up until the meeting with the Honduran Ambassador to Canada when we will deliver them.



This week we will send the letter to the Honduran Ambassador requesting a meeting for the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>, (**April 17th is the International Day of Peasant Struggles**). Be sure to [read the last article](#) written by Mary on campaign.

On February 15, Mary, Mayalène, Elvin and lawyers from the Eric Foundation took part in a meeting with the *Canadian* Ambassador to Honduras, Elizabeth Williams. The purpose of the meeting was to inform her of the situation in Guapinol. She mentioned that Canada has supported the Human Rights Office in Honduras for several years. The ambassador was very receptive to what our partner had to say. She will be going to Guapinol on March 21. Her attaché will be following up with us.

So, our campaign is engaging all the ambassadors! Thank you for your support of our sisters and brothers in the Global South!

## Our Sacred Stories

### Christian Faith: A Human & Divine Encounter (Fr. John Jennings)

*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world (John 9:5)*

How does Christian faith and an awareness of God enter our lives? There is no single, simple response to this question. But in most cases, it involves others, family, friends, even sometimes, persons we just happen to meet in a community in which we find ourselves. Even when we enter a community of faith as small children, it will be a life-long process of growth as we meet others who present us with a living faith that engages us.

Pope Francis, as he began his papacy in 2013 issued an encyclical letter entitled "The Joy of the Gospel" (*Evangelii Gaudium*). It emphasized the mission that has been bestowed on every Christian from their very baptism. As he put it: *I dream of a 'missionary option', that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's 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 (EV 27).*

This vision of a Christian community of disciples as sharers of the Good News is one of the motivating elements of the current gatherings underway in the Catholic community. *The Synod on Synodality*, unusual or unfamiliar as the phrase may sound, is really about opening the vision of Church in which all members are active sharers of the faith for the sake of others. Our faith is always a communal faith. We hold Christian faith so that it might be given away to others and that all might gain new life through this Good News.

On this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent there are two options for the Gospel reading. One of them is directed to those just entering our community as newly baptized, but it also speaks to all of us who may have been baptized years ago.

It is the story of a person who has an initial encounter with faith and Jesus (John 9:1-41). It relates the gradual and progressive way in which a blind man slowly arrives at sight and light and faith through the encounter.

This is an evangelization story. In many ways it expresses how the faith of any one of us has been planted and nurtured through encounters with others and their faith.

As John relates, Jesus encounters a man who has been blind from birth. He reaches out to the man and heals his blindness, restoring his sight. This is a wondrous act, a miracle. Suddenly, a person who could not see regains sight. But there is a bigger wonder, a greater miracle that is found in this story. The blind man gained his physical sight, but then gradually he came to a new kind of sight as well. He came to see with spiritual vision.

The spiritual sight gained by the blind man in John's Gospel was very gradual and involved many others, including his neighbours, some Pharisees, as well as another encounter with Jesus, in which the man expresses his faith that Jesus is the *Son of Man*, the active presence of God among us. It had been a difficult process and one that involved energy, time and a willingness to trust for the man. Spiritual sight was an awareness of God with him in the person of Jesus and a world that had changed with that presence.

A disciple's faith is like this. It involves a search or quest for understanding. It also involves the examples and engagement with others and a sharing of the faith lived. And, it involves the wonder of grace, God's life that is ever with us all.

**St. Anthony's monthly "Touched by Cancer"  
Mass for those whose lives have been  
affected in any way by cancer will take place  
Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.  
All are welcome!**

**National Indigenous Rosary is Saturday,  
March 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm (Atlantic Time). Free  
Virtual Event, No registration required.  
Join Zoom Meeting at the following link:  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86098923975?pwd=\\_RFc5frV24dmTU1bKia6r4zt0nFy3PM.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86098923975?pwd=_RFc5frV24dmTU1bKia6r4zt0nFy3PM.1)**

## ***Meet the Merghanis***

Last Fall, Linda Hubbard was approached by a family, originally from Sudan, who came to Fredericton in the 1980s. They asked if the Saint Kateri Parish could do anything to help bring to Canada 4 young Sudani adults who grew up in Saudi Arabia. They are nephews and a niece of the Fredericton family.

In Saudi Arabia, foreigners have to be sponsored by a Saudi Arabian employer in order to work there. Both their mother and the father were sponsored and were working. By 2016, 3 of the children were studying abroad in fields like Information Tech and Nursing. Then, in 2018 they had to return to Saudi Arabia because the father became ill and the money to support their studies abroad was no longer available. In 2020 their father died and, in 2021, so did their mother. Without the sponsorships for their parents, none of the children could study or work in Saudi Arabia.

The family here in Canada put up all of the monetary support needed and will be housing them in their basement apartment, located across the street from UNB. The applications for Mohamed, Ahmed, Khlowd, and Abdelrahman Merghani were submitted to Immigration Canada in late February. Like all these applications, it will be 2 or so years before they might be able to come to Fredericton.



Mohamed



Ahmed



Khlowd



Abdelrahman

When we get closer to their arrival, we will need 3 or 4 people to help the Fredericton family settle the newcomers in Fredericton. This will involve things like getting the newcomers to appointments, and established with Medicare and Social Insurance. The lion's share of settlement work will be done by the family itself.

Interested in helping at some point in the future? Please tell Chris Robbins at [chris.robbins@bellaliant.net](mailto:chris.robbins@bellaliant.net)