

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

March 29TH, 2026 – Palm Sunday



Symbols in Anticipation of Easter – Week Six:

“Palms”. Palms are sacramental, this is, signs which bear a resemblance to The Sacraments.

Each year on Palm Sunday, new palm branches are blessed and are carried home by the faithful as a symbol of Christ's presence in the place where they live.

‘Show Me the Way’ – Lent Sessions: The final session for our group gathering will be **Thursday, April 9th at 7pm at Holy Family Church.** Please speak to Judy Kelly if you have any questions (506) 478-7274.



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

**Holy Thursday (April 2nd)
Mass of the Lord's Supper
7pm, Holy Family Church**

**Good Friday (April 3rd)
Youth Stations of the Cross
12noon, Holy Family Church**

**Good Friday (April 3rd)
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
3pm, Holy Family Church**

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

**Easter Sunday (April 5th)
Resurrection of the Lord
9:30am, St. Ann's Church
11am, Holy Family Church**



Message from Fr. Bill,

This week we move into the celebration of Holy Week. This is considered the ‘Greatest Week’ of our liturgical year. It encompasses the end of Lent and the Easter Triduum. This week provides us with a graphic remembering of God's love for us in Jesus' total giving of himself in love through his dying and rising in glory. In our remembering, we are inspired by Jesus' presence in our world and personal lives. We are touched deeply by his unwavering commitment to be with us in the delights, ordinary moments and suffering experiences of our lives and bringing all of us into the glory of Easter with Him.

The Easter Triduum, which is the three days from Holy Thursday evening to Easter Sunday evening, is celebrated as one great feast. This is why we are strongly encouraged to participate in the three main celebrations: Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday evening, The Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday evening or Easter Sunday Mass.

I would invite you to see these three days as a retreat time for yourselves and your families by attending these liturgies and taking some reflective time between these celebrations to let them speak more deeply into your lives.

Special note about Holy Saturday and the ‘Sacred Fire’ connected to the Easter Vigil: The Easter Vigil always begins with lighting a new fire recognizing the gift of God's fire within the universe, the center of the earth, on the earth, within each of us and Christ as Light for the World. This year Wolastoqey Fire Keeper Mike Solomon will make and attend a ‘Sacred Fire’ in an area in front of Holy Family Church (parking area) for us to gather, be in a circle of community and prayer before the Vigil. The Fire will be there by 6 pm and the Easter Vigil begins at 8 pm with Fire being taken from this Sacred Fire to light our Pascal Candle. You are invited to spend a bit or an extended period at the Sacred Fire during this time. Even if you gather there for a moment or two as you arrive for the Vigil will be a gift.



Development and

Peace – Caritas

Canada: Thank you

for giving from the

heart to Share Lent

2026! Development

and Peace — Caritas

Canada thanks you for

supporting the **On**

Track for Justice

campaign with your

Share Lent donation.

Thanks to your

generosity, **our parish collected \$3527.00.** This sum will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East.

If you have not yet had a chance to give, you can still place your Share Lent envelope in the offertory or donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

Cookie Sunday Weekend: Next Cookie Sunday Weekend is March 28th & 29th. 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. Thank you for your continued generosity of donated items for those in need and in support of our Outreach Ministry.

Food Bank “Everything Tomato & Pasta Campaign” will continue throughout the forty days of Lent. Help us once again to build our tower of tomato and pasta food items!!

READINGS for March 29th.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Matthew 25:14 – 27:66

Responsorial Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Mass Intentions at St. Ann’s

Mar 29th For the People

Apr 5th Pauline Francis

Apr 12th Alden McLenaghan

Apr 19th For the People

Apr 26th Arthur Solomon

READERS AT ST. ANN’S

Mar 29th Betty Colligan

Apr 5th Mike Solomon

Apr 12th Lawrence Cameron

Apr 19th John Monkhouse

Apr 26th Stacey Chessie

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Mar 28th Martin Clark / Raymond Caissie

Mar 29th Paul McGrattan

Apr 4th For the People

Apr 5th Kay & Alfred Feeney

Earle & Annetta McGuire

Claude & Donna Roy

Apr 11th For the People

Apr 12th Dec. Members Murphy & Burgoyne

Esther Lawrence

Apr 18th Dr. Shiva Kumar Sishta

Apr 19th Mildred and Joe Connors

Apr 25th For the People

Apr 26th Ernest Stuart Dickeson

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday

Saturday: Ron Breau/Harold DeCoursey/Fr. Bill

Sunday: Ewart Kenney/Patrick Burgoon/Fr. Bill

Holy Thursday – Sharon Watts/Leslie Carr/Fr. Bill

Good Friday – Dorothy Blanchard/Colleen

Hamilton/Harold DeCoursey/Fr. Bill

Easter Vigil (Saturday) – Bettyanne McMackin/Ron

Breau/Margie Snell/Fr. Bill

Easter Sunday – Patrick Burgoon/Dorothy

Blanchard/Verna McCloskey/Fr. Bill

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Apr 11th Paula Ryan / Anna Mae Snider

Apr 12th Noreen Bonnell / Ebuka Ezeokafor

Oluchi Ezeokafor / Jane Buckley

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Apr 11th Wanda Cairns / Margie Snell

Apr 12th Rhadia Ange / Rhadissa Ange

Readers for Holy Week:

HOLY THURSDAY – April 2nd @ 7:00 pm

1st Reading & Psalm – Liz Solomon
 2nd Reading - Oma Okoye
 Washing of Feet Introduction – Oma Okoye
 Our Father – Nelson Solomon

GOOD FRIDAY – April 3rd (Mass at 3 pm)

1st Reading & Psalm – Paula Ryan
 2nd Reading & Psalm – Jane Buckley
 Passion Reading:
 Narrator (N) - Stacey Chessie
 Jesus (J) - Fr. Bill
 Other Speakers (S) - Church Congregation
 Solemn Intercessions – Barb Perry to assign

EASTER VIGIL – April 4th @ 8 pm

1st Reading – Ray & Anita Allain
 Psalm 104 - Choir
 Prayer - Fr. Bill
 2nd Reading & Psalm 15 – James McGroarty
 Prayer - Choir
 3rd Reading – Noreen Bonnell
 Psalm 12 - Choir
 Prayer – Fr. Bill
 Epistle: Romans 6:3-11 – Anuli Ezeokafor
 Prayers of the Faithful – Victoria Olopade

EASTER SUNDAY – April 5th @ 11:00 am

1st Reading & Psalm – Carl Duivenvoorden
 2nd Reading & Intentions – Oluchi Ezeokafor

Summary of Support for March 21 & 22

Regular/Loose	\$ 3,882.45
PAD (wkly. average)	2,298.46
D & P	3,032.00
St. Patrick's Cemetery	20.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,212.91

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*

Readers – Holy Family - Easter 2026			Reader
March 28, 4:30 pm	Palm Saturday	1st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading and Intentions <i>Passion Reading:</i> Narrator (N) Jesus (J) Other Speakers (S)	Mary Beth Gorey Roly McSorley Mona Leblanc Fr. Bill Church Congregation
March 29, 11 am	Palm Sunday	1st Reading & Psalm 2 nd Reading and Intentions <i>Passion Reading:</i> Narrator (N) Jesus (J) Other Speakers(S)	Doreen Cormier Patrick Burgoon Ebuka Ezeokafor Fr. Bill Church Congregation

THANK YOU

The Knights of Columbus would like to express their gratitude to everyone who participated in the St. Patrick's Community Breakfast on March 8th. \$2158.00 was raised in support of Seminarian Ryan Tapley. Thank you for your generosity!

Little White Books for Easter are available at the church entrances. Suggested donation \$2.00 can be dropped in the basket provided. Thank you!

CHRISM MASS: Bishop Riesbeck invites the faithful of the diocese to the Chrism Mass, which is being held on Tuesday, March 31, at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Come and celebrate with our priests as the oils are blessed and distributed throughout the diocese for the Sacraments in the upcoming year. Besides the Cathedral parking lot, there is additional parking available in the St. Joseph's Hospital Staff Parking. Reception to follow in the Cathedral rectory.

Our Sacred Stories
Holy Week: A Pilgrimage through Death to Life
(Fr. John Jennings)

This Sunday we begin what we call Holy Week, that sacred season from Passion Sunday to Easter. As we bless the palms and listen to the Passion story once more, we enter upon a pilgrimage, a journey of faith which calls us to reflect on the suffering and death of Jesus. Our trek will take us to Easter when we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

We take this pilgrimage personally, as we look inwardly at our own life. We also embark on this pilgrimage with the whole Christian community and with our world, as we look outwardly at the world of our experience. In both cases, we are called to reflection, prayer and a movement of heart, mind and action through the experience of evil and death, to new and transformed life.

We begin our journey at a high point, on a mountain of acclamation and celebration – as we hear the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem to the cheers and accolades of the crowd. (Matt.21:1-9) We will end our pilgrimage on another high point – as we acclaim and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus with Easter. From one mountain to another, this will be our pilgrimage through this sacred week.

As we journey from one high point to the next, however, we must descend into the valley, a valley of challenge, of struggle, of suffering, of pain. It is a valley where we journey with Jesus through his Passion and ultimately his death. It is a valley of evil and the reality of our human experience with evil. This experience of evil is something we all face. We encounter it in ourselves and in our world.

Where have we encountered evil in our world? We can find it in our own personal experiences – in ourselves and in those around us in our relationships, in what we do and what we do not do. We find evil in our personal lives, but also in our shared humanity. Somehow, God's dream in the loving act of creation seems to show evidence of falling short of the life-giving dream. It is marred by the presence of evil. Why?

This is a question that has challenged reason and religious faith down through the centuries. Despite all efforts to "explain" evil in our human experience, it defies rational explanation. No one has identified the ultimate cause of evil. The principal religious traditions of the world: Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, have all noted some reasons for evil, but no clear ultimate cause.

Although, these religious traditions can identify no ultimate cause, they do aid us with the challenge.

What helps us is how these traditions present the divine – i.e. the God of faith. In particular, Christianity, Judaism and Islam present us with an image of God who is above all else, compassionate. That is, we do not know why there is evil in our world, but our faith tradition does offer us a response to evil. It is the response of Jesus – to be compassionate as our God is compassionate. In other words, the challenge of evil is not addressed by discovering who or what caused it or why it is part of life. It is addressed by how we respond to the experience – by compassion and care, for one another and for our world.

This Holy Week is an opportunity to reflect on our encounters with evil in our own personal lives and in the world in which we live. As we walk through the stories of our faith in the next week, we discover the compassionate love of God expressed in the person of Jesus. His suffering, death and resurrection reveal this compassionate love. This pilgrimage helps us to see the response we can make in the face of evil in our world and in ourselves – compassionate love and with it, constant hope.

Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference & LEAD Registration is now open. This is a call to all high schoolers to come and explore how Jesus meets our deepest longing for meaning, joy, and love. Join hundreds of Catholic teens at **Steubenville Atlantic in Halifax, July 10–12, 2026**, and encounter the transforming love of Christ. Youth in grade 9 through grade 12 are welcome to attend. If you are interested as a youth or a chaperone, you can learn more at <https://www.steubenville.ca> or to register click on the following link: [Steubenville Registration](#). You may also speak to Sharon Watts, Fr. Bill, or Patricia Lee, Director of Catechesis, Diocese of Saint John: 506-627-6465 or email catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org Youth who are interested in registering for the conference should speak to Fr. Bill or Sharon Watts as the Parish will assist with financing.

PONTIFICAL COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND: The Good Friday Collection, on April 3, is requested by the Holy See to help maintain the Christian sites of the Holy Land and to support the Church in the pastoral, educational, and social works that contribute to a sustained Christian presence in the land where Jesus the Christ once walked. This Pontifical Collection will be taken in the parishes during the Good Friday celebration. Envelopes will be available at the entrances of the church. Thank you for your generous support of this important work.