

# St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

Office: 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton NB E3C 1N3 Phone (506) 444-6021

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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

## Our Lenten Journey—Week Three

*"Summons to live anew: Sr. Joan Chittister, a Benedictine nun and author, describes Lent as a proactive season for spiritual renewal rather than passive endurance. "Lent is about becoming, doing without, letting go, forgiving, turning around, and going home."*

For the third week of Lent, we may want to consider engaging in some of the following focused prayer methods:

- **Stations of the Cross:** Meditate or participate on Jesus' journey to the Cross. Booklets on the Way of the Cross are available in the lobby of the Church.
- **Lectio Divina:** Read, meditate, pray and reflect on Scripture.
- **Adoration:** Spend time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament each week. (Adoration is available after each weekday Mass throughout Lent.)
- **Examen Prayer:** Reflection from Fr. Bill (July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Bulletin), "It is a prayer that facilitates our deeper awareness of God's activity in our life and it fosters gratitude and deepening in our closeness to God and others." If you are interested in trying this prayer method, you can find copies of this step-by-step instruction in the lobby of the church.
- **Psalm 46:10:** Fr. Bill uses this prayer at our Mass sometimes to lead us into silence and stillness. Available in our Bulletin or copies are available in the lobby of the church.



**Symbols in Anticipation of Easter – Week Three:** "Water". In the time of Jesus, many kinds of water purifications were practiced. A

ritual washing was required before eating. Christian baptism is more than a cleansing.

Baptism signifies a dying (i.e. drowning) to one way of living and rising to a new way of life.

### Weekday Masses:

Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am, St. Ann's Church

Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Holy Family Church

Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am, St. Ann's Church

**Note: Each Mass will be followed by one hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. If Fr. Bill is unable to celebrate a weekday Mass, a Stations of the Cross will be held.**

**'Show Me the Way' – Lent Sessions:** The third session for our group gathering is on **Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Holy Family Church.** We are using the book of Daily Lent Reflections by Henri Nouwen. Please speak to Judy Kelly if you have any questions (506) 478-7274.

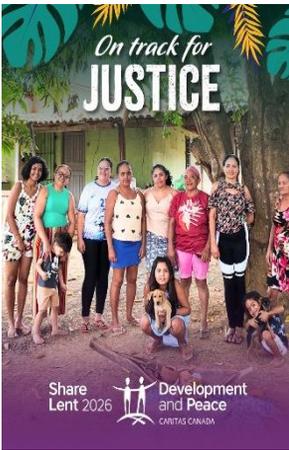
**CCCB Journey through Lent Resources.** This Lenten series includes reflections on the readings for each Sunday of Lent including Palm Sunday. This year's spiritual reflections are delivered by the Most Reverend Daniel Miehm, Bishop of Peterborough. You can access the link at [www.cccb.ca/lent](http://www.cccb.ca/lent)

### Note from Father Bill:

The following is the prayer from Psalm 46:10. I use it at Mass sometimes to lead us into silence and stillness.

- Be still and know that I am God ... (pause)
- Be still and know that I am ... (pause)
- Be still and know ... (pause)
- Be still ... (pause)
- Be ... (pause)

## Development and Peace — Caritas Canada Share Lent Campaign:



**Women protecting the Earth:** In Brazil, the lives of several rural communities are disrupted by industrial agriculture, mining and the Carajás railway. Women are at the heart of the fight to protect the land and the environment

from the air, water and soil pollution that they cause. This pollution damages their kitchen gardens and harms the health of their children, families and neighbours.

Courageously, these women resist to continue to exist on their land. To assert and protect their rights, they formed a women's association called *Seeds of the Earth* with the support of *Justiça nos Trilhos* (JnT), a partner of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada. Discover JnT's work in our Mini-magazine and learn more about the women by watching their testimonies at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

### Symbols of Solidarity

**3<sup>rd</sup> Symbol – An Empty Basket:** The empty basket illustrates the loss of crops and biodiversity in communities affected by climate change, land grabbing, and pollution. These communities give a lot and receive little in return.

In Brazil, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada's partner *Justiça nos Trilhos* (Justice on Rails) works with rural, peasant and Indigenous communities to develop alternatives to mining and industrial agriculture by strengthening family farming and agro ecological practices. They work to strengthen existing economies, defend traditional ways of life and enhance autonomy so that communities can remain on their territories and address the climate emergency.

Together, let's walk hand in hand with communities in the Global South who are working for justice, peace and dignity. How?

**By donating to a special collection on Solidarity Sunday Weekend, March 22<sup>nd</sup>,** the fifth Sunday of Lent. Your generosity helps support over 59 projects in 34 countries around the world! Envelopes available in the lobby of the Church.

**Get the Mini-magazine** and follow the **Solidarity Calendar** with your family. Copies available in the lobby of the church.

Catholic Social teaching (CST) is central to our faith and the work of Development and Peace. Each Monday, discover a CST and learn how it helps building the Kingdom of God. Use the link:

[Solidarity Calendar Activities](#)



**Shelter & Foodbank Donations.** A huge **THANK YOU** to parishioners from St. Ann's Church, Holy Family Church, and Residents from Shannex for your

generous donations at last weekend's Cookie Sunday. We collected 154 dozen cookies which represents 1,850 smiles!

**Food Bank "Everything Tomato & Pasta Campaign"** will continue throughout the forty days of Lent. Our tower is growing, let's keep going!! Your gifts are a blessing and your generosity is making a much-needed impact on those who need it most!

**2026 Men's Retreat** ~ We are pleased to invite you to the 2026 Men's Retreat at Villa Madonna Retreat House, taking place **March 20-22, 2026**. The theme for this year is: **On Fire with the Spirit. Sent with Purpose. Igniting Heroic Faith.** **Registration:** To register online (deadline is March 6, 2026), please visit, <https://events.insogan.org/CHAA>

For more information please contact: [menoffaith.nb@gmail.com](mailto:menoffaith.nb@gmail.com)

## 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](mailto:catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org)

### Summary of Support for February 28<sup>th</sup> & Mar 1<sup>st</sup>

<b>Regular/Loose</b>	<b>\$ 5,487.25</b>
<b>PAD (wkly. average)</b>	<b>2,298.46</b>
<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>50.00</b>
<b>St. Patrick's Cemetery</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>Oromocto Food Bank</b>	<b>65.00</b>
<b>Coldest Night</b>	<b>25.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,940.71</b>

#### 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](mailto:office@stkateri.ca)*

**Rosary** – Rosary is prayed every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. During Lent we will be praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. Everyone is welcome.

**May 13– 24, 2026: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Hector Caissie.** Cost of \$2795 (plus taxes) includes airfare from the Moncton/Halifax, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and experienced local guide. (Optional single room supplement, \$250/p.) **Payment by e-transfer, bank transfer or cheque gets a REBATE of \$250.00** INFO: Hector Caissie at [hectorcaissie@gmail.com](mailto:hectorcaissie@gmail.com) or 506-857-2295.

**SPEAKER SERIES – INFLUENCE THE INFLUENCERS SERIES – Mar 13<sup>th</sup> 6 – 8 pm at Knights of Columbus Hall, Regent St. Light supper provided, Free Admission. See Poster.**

## READINGS for March 8<sup>th</sup>

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7  
Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8  
Gospel: John 4:5-42

**Responsorial Psalm:** O that today you would listen to the voice of the Lord. Do not harden your hearts!

## Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Angus Cameron  
Mar 15<sup>th</sup> Iverson & Solomon Families  
Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> Helen McLenaghan  
Mar 29<sup>th</sup> For the People

## Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Mar 7<sup>th</sup> Mona Orem / Eddie Skidmore  
Mar 8<sup>th</sup> For the People  
Mar 14<sup>th</sup> Omer Doucet  
Mar 15<sup>th</sup> Arthurenne Basque  
Mar 21<sup>st</sup> Jerry Chessie Jr. / Eddie Skidmore  
Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> For the People  
Mar 28<sup>th</sup> Martin Clark  
Mar 29<sup>th</sup> Paul McGrattan

## READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Stacey Chessie  
Mar 15<sup>th</sup> Elaine Geldart  
Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> Carolann Doherty  
Mar 29<sup>th</sup> Betty Colligan

## READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Mar 7<sup>th</sup> Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley  
Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Anita & Ray Allain / Bonnie Deveau  
Victoria Olopade  
Mar 14<sup>th</sup> William Cormier / Mona LeBlanc  
Mar 15<sup>th</sup> James McGroarty/Clare or Sophia Obi  
Genevieve Obi / Oma Olopade

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Mar 7<sup>th</sup> Wanda Cairns / Margie Snell  
Mar 8<sup>th</sup> JoAnne Linton / Verna McCloskey  
Mar 14<sup>th</sup> Ron Breau/Judy Kelly  
Mar 15<sup>th</sup> JoAnne Linton / Sadie Cameron

## Our Sacred Stories

### A Trek through Darkness to Light: Lent to Easter (Fr. John Jennings)

We do not always know where we are going. In the Jewish scriptures the Old Testament offers us many instances where the need for trust and hope is revealed. One of these moments is found in the person of Abram who, moved by God, leaves his family and his homeland in response to God's call (Gen. 12:1-4). Trust, faith and hope moved Abram to set out for a land he did not know, with a promise he did not fully understand, relying on a divine presence he had only begun to acknowledge. Such trust and its accompanying hope is a leap into the unknown and full of risks. We might be surprised at how often they are part of our lives.

Life is full of many experiences, many personalities, many challenges and many blessings. Some of these are very attractive, others, we would rather not have. They affect who we are and what we do in life. To have a full life, however, we need them all. Life for each of us has both challenges and blessings. Life-affecting experiences are what we mean when we speak about *grace*. *Grace* is the free gift of God's spirit and love touching our lives. This gift is with us always, but often unnoticed. From time to time though, we will become especially aware of such *grace*.

This *grace* is what Paul refers to in his Letter to Timothy (2 Timothy 1:8-10). Jesus the Christ has opened our minds and hearts to the continuous love and care of the God of our faith. As Paul would put it this grace is a light for us in the darkness that can often dominate our lives. The Gospel, that is the Good News of Jesus the Christ, is ultimately the proclamation of God's presence among us. Like all good news, it is not simply our own, but rather something to be shared and that is where we come into the story.

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent, our Gospel comes from Matthew (Matt.17:1-9). We hear the story of Jesus taking some of his disciples up a high mountain and there they experience the fullness of God in their presence. Jesus is transfigured before them and appears with two of the great Old Testament figures, Moses and Elijah. For that brief moment, the disciples have a glimpse of who Jesus is. It moves and affects them deeply. They wanted to remain there in this time of *grace*.

There are times when all of us are these disciples. We seek or search for this personal spiritual experience. We even long for a setting of personal prayer in quiet and peace. We need these moments to compose and discover who we are as disciples of Jesus the Christ. These are our mountain experiences, discovering who we are and where we have been graced. But there is more.

The disciples could not remain on the mountain. It was not possible. Nor was it the point. The moment passes and they must return down the mountain to continue their journey with all its demands, both negative and positive. But they are affected deeply and the *grace* of the experience, the spirit it offered will change them. From disciples they will become witnesses and will themselves be bearers of the Good News they have encountered in their journey with Jesus. Such moments are life-affecting.

We cannot live always in the light at the top of the mountain. Often, we find ourselves in the darkness of the valleys. In such darkness, our healing rests in hope, the possibility of light. Matthew describes the transfiguration of Jesus to his disciples as a moment of light. They recalled it when enveloped in the darkness of Jesus's crucifixion. Their light was founded on his resurrection.

Those same disciples who went up on the mountain with Jesus, and who wanted to remain there, would ultimately go to the mountain of Calvary. From that darkness of the crucifixion, they would experience Easter and the Resurrection. These disciples would become apostles, announcing the Good News – Jesus the Christ is Risen and brings light and life into our world, Good News to be shared by all humanity. Lent must always become Easter, and disciples must always become apostles, bearers of Good News for all humanity.

### **Ste. Anne de Beaupre – June 2026.**

**For anyone that had expressed interest in the Annual trip to Ste. Anne de Beaupre with Rick Bourgeois, please give Rick a call to secure your seat and deposit. Phone 506-327-6777.**

#### **Year of St. Francis of Assisi**

A Jubilee Year of Saint Francis from January 10, 2026 to January 10, 2027. Please see a copy of Bishop's Riesbeck Pastoral Letter in the lobby of the Church.

### **Knights of Columbus Saint Patrick's Breakfast**

Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$ 12.00, Children \$ 5.00 and Families \$ 35.00. Traditionally, proceeds from our March breakfast are used to support a Seminarian. This year, we will be supporting Ryan Tapley of St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish.