

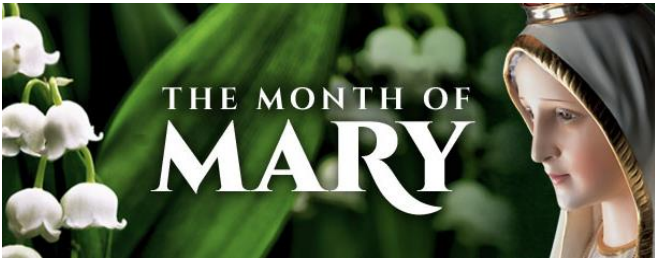
# St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

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

**May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – Ascension of the Lord**



**The Magnificat.** The Magnificat also known as 'Mary's Song of Praise' appears in the scriptures in Luke 1:46-55 and is spoken by Mary during her visitation to Elizabeth at the time when both women are with child, Mary with Jesus and Elizabeth with John the Baptist.

Based on Sister Joan Chittister's writings and talks, she emphasizes that "the Magnificat is a song of action, not just prayer. A commitment to social justice and a transformation of the world, rather than a passive, pious song." Many theologians see the Magnificat as Mary's fiat "consent" by a courageous woman making a deliberate choice in accepting God's plan.

Some of the virtues associated with the Magnificat include: profound humility, lively faith, continual prayer, ardent charity and divine wisdom.

Below are the words of the Magnificat and as Fr. Rolheiser points out they are "words which thank and praise God for having taken the side of the poor, the humble, the hungry, and the oppressed in this world, having lifted them up and given them victory."

The Month of Mary may be a good opportunity for us to pray the Magnificat daily, reflecting on Mary's profound and unwavering faith in God.

After the Lord's Prayer, Fr. Rolheiser considers it "one of the most precious Christian Prayer we have."

## *The Magnificat*

*My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.*

*Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.*

*His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.*

*He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.*

*He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. occasion where Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth and where Mary proclaimed her song of praise, the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55).*

**Rosary.** The Rosary is prayed every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. During the Easter Season we will be praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. Everyone is welcome to come and pray together.

**Prayer for Earth**  
*Gracious God, Creator of All, we raise our hearts in grateful praise for all the*



*beauty that surrounds us.*

*May we learn to respect all as a sacred gift and do what we can to repair the damage we have caused through our consumerism, greed, and carelessness. Grant us an ecological conversion so that we can leave our next generation with a future full of hope where there is enough for all. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.*



**WOW!!** This past Monday was the biggest turnout thus far for the Bingo Fundraiser. Thank you to all the volunteers and those who supported our Bingo night – it made the night a great success.

We only have three more Bingo fundraiser nights left before we break for the Summer. Don't miss out on your chance to support the fundraiser and be treated to a night of laughter, friendship and tasty snacks from the canteen! The next three Bingo nights are:

**Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>  
Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and  
Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**all held at St. Ann's Church in collaboration with St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish.**

**Game prizes will be \$80.00 per game!!  
10 Regular Games and 2 Specials  
(Jackpot and Winner Take All) Plus 50/50  
9 up – 10 games - \$15.00  
3 up – 10 games - \$5.00  
Specials - \$1.00 per card**

**(must be purchased at the door with regular cards). None will be sold on the floor.**

**There will be a canteen with light snacks and refreshments for purchase!! Doors will open at 5:00 pm and BINGO will start at 6:00 pm. CASH ONLY to purchase cards and Canteen!! All funds collected will be used to support Bilijk Elder Annual Ste. Anne de Beaupré Trip in June 2026. 18 Years and Older only and EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

**Hey Teens! Only 3 youth spots remain** on the second bus for Steubenville Atlantic! (after our spots are filled - youth will be put on a waiting list) Registration is closing soon, for the July 10–12 conference in Halifax. If you're entering Grade 9 through graduating Grade 12, this is your chance to experience an unforgettable weekend of faith, music, powerful speakers, and hundreds of teens from across the region. Register now so you won't be disappointed. **Talk to your parish RE Coordinator or priest before registering.** <https://www.steubenville.ca/register-now>

**Development and Peace: Become a Share Year-Round Donor.** A monthly donation allows Development and Peace – Caritas Canada to plan its long-term support for the people of the Global South and to reduce its administrative costs. Being a Share Year-Round donor simply means acting for social justice and human dignity all year long.



**Double your impact.** Become a Share Year-Round monthly donor or increase your monthly contributions during Lent, i.e., between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost (May 24), to have your total annual donation (or increase), **matched dollar for dollar!** To register to become a Share Year-Round Donor, call 1-800-494-1401 or click on the following link: <https://devp.org/en/monthly-donations/>

Your support forges bonds of solidarity across borders, **for the price of...a few coffees (\$15/month)...an evening at the movies (\$30/month)...or a restaurant meal (\$50/month).** Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

**A Summary of Support for May 10 & 11**

<b>Regular/Loose</b>	<b>\$3,519.80</b>
<b>PAD (wkly. average)</b>	<b>2,298.46</b>
<b>St. Patrick's Cemetery</b>	<b>25.00</b>
<b>Papal Works</b>	<b>390.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,233.26</b>

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

## UPDATE on 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.

#### What you should know:

- Transportation is provided by the Diocese, and pick-up is from Saint John (2 locations) and Fredericton (1 location).
- Rooms are the dorms at the University, and it is usually one youth per room.
- Chaperones are vetted through Patricia Lee's office (Director of Catechesis, Diocese of Saint John) and require a valid police criminal record check.
- It is one chaperone per five youth of the same gender.
- Meals are all served at the cafeteria at the University and lots of food choices are available, plus items for those with special dietary needs (the University feeds thousands each year throughout the academic year).
- The cost per youth is \$250.00 with \$50 being non-refundable.
- Each Parish is responsible for their own fundraising.
- Youth who are interested in registering for the conference should speak to Fr. Bill or Sharon Watts as the Parish will assist with financing.
- The Parish is billed following the conference.

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 Patricia Lee, Director of Catechesis, Diocese of Saint John: 506-627-6465 or email [catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org](mailto:catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org)

**Cookie Sunday Weekend:** Next Cookie Sunday weekend is **May 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>**. In addition to cookies the Food Bank is in need of **canned meat** to assist them with school lunches to the end of June.

We want to thank you all for your continued generosity to help support those in need. 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!

#### READINGS for May 17<sup>th</sup>

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

**Responsorial Psalm:** God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

#### Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

May 17<sup>th</sup> Raymond Francis

May 24<sup>th</sup> Joyce Buckley

May 31<sup>st</sup> Alden McLenaghan

#### READERS AT ST. ANN'S

May 17<sup>th</sup> Betty Colligan

May 24<sup>th</sup> Mike Solomon

May 31<sup>st</sup> Lawrence Cameron

#### Mass Intentions at Holy Family

May 16<sup>th</sup> Gertrude Maynard

May 17<sup>th</sup> Eileen Ryan

May 23<sup>rd</sup> Tyler Messer

May 24<sup>th</sup> Theresa Egeland / Richard Murphy

May 30<sup>th</sup> Rick Doyle / Fr. Martin Tobin

May 31<sup>st</sup> Tomasz Zdyb (STIB)

#### READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

May 16<sup>th</sup> Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley

May 17<sup>th</sup> Chinyere Alozie / Norma Downing  
Anuli Ezeokafor / Debbie Landau

May 23<sup>rd</sup> William Cormier / Mona LeBlanc

May 24<sup>th</sup> Noreen Bonnell / Ebuka Ezeokafor  
Oluchi Ezeokafor / Maureen Hawthorne

May 30<sup>th</sup> Margie Snell / Joan Sowers

May 31<sup>st</sup> Jane Buckley / Doreen Cormier  
Maurice Harquail / Chinasa Trinitta

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

May 16<sup>th</sup> Ron Breau / Judy Kelly

May 17<sup>th</sup> Ewart Kenney / Patrick Burgoon

May 23<sup>rd</sup> Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton

May 24<sup>th</sup> Rhadia Ange / Rhadissa Ange

May 30<sup>th</sup> Rita Maxwell / Harold DeCoursey

May 31<sup>st</sup> Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard

## Our Sacred Stories

### Ascension: A Story of Leaving Yet Remaining (Fr. John Jennings)

One of the constants of our lives is... change. We all struggle with it, but we all need it. Moving a child to a new school, undergoing a change in jobs, taking on new responsibilities is challenging. Even retiring and moving out of where we have long lived to a new living arrangement can be difficult. Letting go of where we are used to and entering new circumstances are hard. Sometimes the change takes us to new and even exciting places and experiences. But other changes in our lives, can bring a sense of loss and pain. The death of a partner or friend or a move that takes us away from the persons or places that we consider home can be a struggle. Such changes, such departures are part of our lives and saying farewell is always painful.

The death of a loved one is particularly painful for us. In some ways, it leaves a "hole in our heart" and we find ourselves facing a very confusing time. Often, we do not know how to respond to what we are experiencing. What has been our normal life and contentment has been disrupted. There is a sense that somehow, we are in what some have called a kind of "liminal space" in our lives, a borderland of life. The loss or the change that we are experiencing places us in a life that is both unfamiliar and uncomfortable. It is also a place we do not want to be.

One of the remarkable things is that a departure is not always total. It does not end the friendship. We are left with a host of memories and mutual experiences. Both our shared experiences and the impact of the persons around us have made us who we are even now. Over the years there is a presence that continues. We continue to be with one another in our friendships, but in another way. There is a sense of being apart and together, of "leaving yet remaining" with one another.

This is the classic image of the ascension of Jesus that is captured in the story that we find in the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-11). The writer of the Acts tells the story of the earliest Christian communities after the resurrection of Jesus. Acts begins the story with the account of Jesus leaving the disciples and ascending to heaven or put another way with the return of Jesus to the Father. He is "leaving yet remaining".

After telling of the appearances of the risen one to the disciples and of the way in which Jesus promised them the gift of the Holy Spirit, the disciples are called upon to be the *witnesses* to all they have heard and seen, that is, to the message and the mission of Jesus. Filled with the promised Spirit, they are to take what they have experienced to the whole world, to the ends of the earth.

The disciples have been given two important pieces of their call as followers of Jesus. They have been promised the gift and power Holy Spirit, and they have been told that they are to be *witnesses* to all that Jesus has proclaimed. In some way, the ascension is the end of the appearances of the risen Jesus. He leaves them yet remains among them through the continuing power of the *Spirit* that they will receive. Thus, they are to be the ongoing presence of the risen Jesus for our world.

In every Eucharist we hear the words ***Do this in memory of me.*** Gathered as a community of faith around the Table of the Eucharist we recall in living fashion Jesus's whole life, death and resurrection, what we call the Paschal Mystery. When we leave the Table, we take forth into our world, the living memory of the Risen Jesus and all that this means for us. Each time we celebrate together, we will remember and enact this "leaving yet remaining" story as disciples of this **Risen Jesus**.



## THANK YOU!!

A heartfelt thank you Maxine Solomon for all her hard work in preparing a delicious spaghetti dinner fundraiser this past week at St.

Ann's Church Hall. The fundraiser was an amazing success with plates selling out in one hour. A special thank-you to the dedicated volunteers who so generously gave of their time. Lastly, a thank you to everyone who turned out for the meal and supporting the event to raise funds for the Elders trip to Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré. Your generosity makes all the difference!

Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, May 27th at 7:00PM at Holy Family Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.