

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

May 31st, 2026 – Most Holy Trinity

Chrysalis House Fundraiser. A couple of weeks ago our Parish Council met with a student member of our congregation, Sydney Smith, who is working on her Masters of Social Work at St. Thomas University. As part of her studies, she is currently doing a field placement at Youth in Transition Fredericton in Chrysalis House. This is a non-profit organization that provides a safe environment for youth (16-19 years old) who are or at risk of experiencing homelessness to develop essential life skills. In order for that to happen, it is important that they have the means to do so.

Sydney's proposal to Parish Council was to hold a fundraiser in our Parish for the collection of much needed items during the month of June. As an active member in her community Sydney understands the importance of building and strengthening relationships in one's environment, "As I continue my journey through the Master's Program, I strive to achieve social justice for those experiencing systemic and societal inequalities." Parish Council voted unanimously to support this fundraiser, to help those in need and support non-profit organizations such as Chrysalis House.

Fundraiser: For the month of June, we will be asking parishioners to donate items that Sydney has flagged as high priority. These items can be dropped off at St. Ann's Church or Holy Family Church.

- Toilet paper
- Paper towel
- Non-perishable food items

In addition, special donation envelopes are available in the lobby of the church for those who may wish to make a monetary donation to Chrysalis House. As always, we thank you for your consideration of this fundraiser. Any contributions will make an impact!



Hail Mary, Full of Grace

Inspired by Mary, full of grace, we pray for the courage to seek God's grace working in our lives; the strength to be attentive to the radical truth of the Gospel; the persistence to put our faith, hope and love into action daily in the world. Holy Mary, Mother of God and full of grace, pray for us. (prayer by CAFOD)

Rosary - Rosary is prayed every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family. During Ordinary Time we will be reciting the Luminous Mysteries. All are welcome to attend.

Note from Fr. Bill: I will be away from May 20th till June 15th. I will also be at the Villa Madonna Retreat House on the weekend of June 20th and 21st.

I have been able to arrange for a priest to be here each weekend for Masses when I am away.

It is important to note that on the weekend of May 30th and 31st there will only be two Masses in the parish. Fr. John Jennings will be at Holy Family Church for the 4:30 Mass on Saturday, May 30th and Fr. Peter Osborne will be here for a Mass on Sunday, May 31st. Please note that this **Mass will be at 12:30 pm** and there will not be a 9:30 am Mass at St. Ann's Church in Biljik nor an 11:00 am Mass at Holy Family **on That Sunday ONLY**. This is an opportunity for parishioners to join in this ONE MASS for a joyful celebration on May 31st. **For all of the other weekends the Mass schedule will be the same as always.**

For assistance when I am away please contact Judy Kelly through the Parish Office @ 506-444-6021. Leave a message and she will be checking phone messages often.



Kevin Lee Memorial Greenhouse - Bilijk Community Garden Fundraiser: The Bilijk Community Garden is hosting a ticket sale for a chance to win a Loose Tea Steeper & Traditionally Harvested Bilijk Tea. Funds raised will go towards the purchase of a potato harvester for the Bilijk Community Garden.

Tickets are 1 for \$2.00 or

3 for \$5.00. If you are interested in supporting this fundraiser, you can contact Student Supervisor Ethan Webb at ethanwebb1959@gmail.com

Cookie Sunday Weekend: It's Cookie Sunday weekend **May 30th & 31st**. 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!

AASEA Retreats – Villa Madonna, Saint John: "Taste and See" June 2026 Retreats invite adults to step away from the busyness of life and deepen their relationship with God through Ignatian spirituality of finding God in all things. From **June 10th to 17th, 2026**, participants may choose either a 7-day retreat that begins with four days online and concludes with three days in silence at Villa Madonna or a fully in-person silent 3-day directed retreat at Villa Madonna (June 15-17). Both retreats include daily accompaniment by a spiritual director and opportunities for prayer, Scripture, nature and worship. For details and application, visit aaseasaintjohn.ca or contact Bob McDermott at 506-696-4772 or mcdermot@nbnet.nb.ca

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLECTION: The annual collection for the Cathedral Restoration will be taken up in the parishes on the weekend of the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), this year on June 6-7. You may use the envelopes in your box sets or loose envelopes marked "Cathedral Restoration" for this purpose in the pews or go to our website <https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/donations> to donate. Gifts of either a one-time donation, securities, bequests, or other planned gifts are a tremendous blessing and will aid significantly to the success of this restoration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our finance department at cchima-okere@dioceseofsaintjohn.org
Copies of the Bishop's letter available in the lobby.



BILIK COMMUNITY BINGO

Thank you to all the volunteers and those who supported our Bingo night – it made the night a great success.

We only have two more Bingo fundraiser nights left before we break for the Summer.

COMING SOON! In the coming weeks watch for some exciting news on our last Bingo of the Summer which will feature a BBQ, special draws and prizes and special guests. 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 Bingo nights are:

**Monday, June 8th and
Monday, June 22nd**

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!!

A Summary of Support for May 23 & 24

<i>Regular/Loose</i>	\$4,665.80
<i>PAD (wkly. average)</i>	2,298.46
<i>St. Patrick's Cemetery</i>	25.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,989.26

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

READINGS for May 31st

First Reading: Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Gospel: John 3:16-18

Responsorial Psalm: Glory and praise for ever!

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

May 31st Alden McLenaghan
June 7th Fred Sabattis
June 14th Florence Cameron
June 21st Sandy Goodine / Gregory Francis
Claudette Buckley
June 28th Claudine Nowlan

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

May 31st Lawrence Cameron
June 7th John Monkhouse
June 14th Stacey Chessie

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

May 30th Rick Doyle / Fr. Martin Tobin
May 31st Tomasz Zdyb (STIB)
June 6th Charlie and Flo Doherty / David Hitchcock
June 7th Arthurenne Basque / Carter Haanstra
June 13th John Kelly
June 14th Leona Murphy
June 20th Henry Albuquerque
June 21st For the People
June 27th Romeo & Antoinette LeBlanc
June 28th For the People

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

May 30th Margie Snell / Joan Sowers
May 31st Jane Buckley / Doreen Cormier
Maurice Harquail / Chinasa Trinita
June 6th Paula Ryan / Anna Mae Snider
June 7th Patrick Burgoon / Carl Duivenvoorden
Marijke Hurkens

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

May 30th Rita Maxwell / Harold DeCoursey
May 31st Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard
June 6th Wanda Cairns / Margne Snell
June 7th Annie Zdyb-Rinne / Verna McCloskey

Our Sacred Stories

**Lord Stanley's Cup: The Roll of Spirit
(Pentecost Sunday)
Father John Jennings**

May and the Stanley Cup playoffs. Perhaps the cup which is awarded to the playoff winner deserves a bit of background. The Stanley Cup was donated in 1892 by Lord Stanley, who was Governor General of Canada from 1888 to 1893. The Cup was to be awarded to the champion hockey team in all Canada. It was first won by an amateur team from Montreal in 1893. For the past century, the Cup has been the prize for professional teams in the NHL. In that time, Montreal Canadiens have won the Cup most frequently, 23 times. (Sorry Toronto fans, you have only 13 Cups to your credit.)

Currently, the Stanley Cup playoffs have begun. Among those still competing is Montreal. (Sorry to say, Toronto did not make the playoffs this year.) Every year, when the playoffs begin there are favourites, expected to do well in the series. There are of course also long-shots who are expected to be eliminated as the playoffs unfold. Frequently, there are surprises in the early stages.

Some of the favourites are still around. Often in the playoffs, the "underdog" surprises everyone. Frequently, as well, the favourites fade and disappear early on. Why does this happen? These favourites have great talent. Through the regular season their performance has been excellent, much better than the "underdogs" who simply squeaked into the playoffs. Time and again it is these "underdogs" who end up taking the cup. How does this happen?

Perhaps talent is only half of the game. What is needed is "spirit", "heart", the drive to use the talents and gifts to their full. This spirit allows the talented to work as a team. It gives the team the drive to reach beyond what appear to be their capabilities. Our talents, our gifts will take us only so far. Without spirit or what we sometimes refer to as "heart", our talent, gifts and skills are lifeless. A team, a people, a community, a person can experience this. We can be dogged by a "defeated spirit."

(A little note for Toronto fans, sitting out the Stanley Cup playoffs. To their credit, the Blue Jays baseball team last year had great spirit. They played beyond any expectations.)

Those disciples who gathered after the crucifixion faced this reality. They had walked and talked with Jesus. They had heard his message. They had seen his actions. They had been his friends and followers. Now they lost heart. They were dogged by a "defeated spirit."

But the appearances of the risen Jesus, like the one we see in John's Gospel (John 20:19-23) on this Pentecost Sunday draws them back to the power and hope of the Spirit that gives them heart. It brings them peace and vision. With these comes their mission.

This Spirit, that was to remain with the disciples is the one that Paul refers to in his letter to the Christians in Corinth (1Cor.12:3-7) – *Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit*. Filled with this Spirit, they went forth and began to change the world with the message and the mission that they had received. The outpouring of the Spirit builds the disciples into a community of believers and missionaries, revealing the Risen Jesus in themselves. In a real sense they become a team. They become Church, focused on hearing the message anew and taking it out to the ends of the earth.

We are Church. With this Spirit, the variety of gifts that we possess can bring new heart to a world seeking hope and promises and a sense of new life. A joyous Pentecost to all!

Our Sacred Stories

Trinity – The Mystery of God's Hug (Most Holy Trinity)

Watch a Mother hug her child. See a Dad hug is daughter. Notice a loving couple holding each other in an embrace. Witness a husband and wife hold each other in a moment of shared joy or even of pain. A hug is a mysterious thing. It often presents more than our words could ever fully express. For all we might say about our love for another, the loving hug speaks most eloquently. It will bond, it will heal, it will bring life, it will offer comfort. Our hug will express love as no words can ever describe. A hug is truly a mystery for us.

But a mystery is more than just something we cannot explain. Rather a mystery is something the meaning of which is beyond us. Not just something we cannot explain, but rather something the meaning of which is so great that it can never be exhausted, there will always be more. The true love expressed in the hug is just such a mystery. It will ever be new, ever be able to bring us to a new place in our lives. Hugs and the love they express are just such mysteries.

A few years ago, I visited a couple who seemed to grasp something of this mystery for our Christian faith. They had a small clay statue that they had pick up somewhere. The statue presented three persons standing in a circle with their arms around one another's shoulder peering at one another.

The couple saw, as did others in the room, an image of the Trinity. It seemed evident, but the more we looked at it, simple as it was, the more it seemed to impact us.

As Christians, we describe our God as Trinity. This is one of the great "mysteries" of our faith. Not surprisingly, it sometimes baffles us, sometimes confuses us. Always it raises questions for us. But not in the way we are tempted to view a "mystery". This mystery is not aimed at baffling or sometimes confusing or discouraging us. Rather this mystery of the Trinity takes us on a journey of discovery that will never end. In fact, we encounter other such mysteries in our own lives.

Think of any of our loving relationships from marriage, parent, to close friend. The closer the friendship, the more the mystery. We never fully know our partner. We struggle to describe or capture fully the meaning of such love. It is always beyond us. So, often we express in sign and action. In love, it is often in the hug or the kiss that we do this. But our love remains a mystery, always more to discover.

Our God is Trinity – Father, Son, Spirit. This is one of the deepest and the earliest beliefs of the Christian Tradition. It is also most expressive of our image of God. To have faith in God who expresses love and harmony, compassion and care, healing and comfort, is to have faith in the Trinity, a God who hugs us constantly to God's own self, always and forever.

To see this divine presence is to see God as Mother or Father, a loving, life-giving parent to all creation and all humanity. It is to see our God as the creative one, giving life to all that is. This is our God who gives and sustains life in all the universe. More than this, this is the God, who like a parent loves life into existence and supports life with this same inexhaustible love.

So great is the love held in the heart of our God that it spills out in an overflowing flood as God takes on our humanity in the person of Jesus the Christ. God is ever with us, Emmanuel.

Such love cannot be just for a moment or a time. It is constant and forever. In the Spirit we are given the continuous hug of our God. We cannot win or lose it. God's hug is ever with us, in our joys and in our sorrows. The love of our God, expressed in the Trinity has a warmth and comfort that draws us together. We are held in the heart of God. What an overflowing mystery! Truly, God's hug.