

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 5th, 2024 – 6th Sunday of Easter



Good News from Development and Peace: Stand for the Land Campaign Concludes with Honduran Ambassador to Canada receiving over 52,000 Signatures!

[Development and Peace — Caritas Canada](#) concluded its 2023 mobilization campaign, *Stand for the Land*, on Wednesday, April 24, by handing over to Her Excellency Beatriz Valle, Ambassador of Honduras to Canada, a [letter signed by 52,629 Canadians](#) that draws the attention of the Government of Honduras to the struggles of people in Guapinol and the San Pedro sector. Since 2015, these communities have been protesting an open-pit iron mine that was irregularly set up in Carlos Escaleras National Park.

Her Excellency said she was “touched by the solidarity expressed by the Canadian population towards the community of Guapinol, which is so far away.” She promised to pass on the message to her Minister of Foreign Affairs and to ask people in Congress to take up the Guapinol case with her government.

The initial goal of the campaign was to collect 32,000 signatures (1,000 for each of the 32 unjustly imprisoned Guapinol defenders), but Canadians responded with such exceptional solidarity that this goal was well surpassed. The handover of the letter was done by a five-person delegation that was supported by several members of the organization.

During the meeting, Carl Héту, executive director of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada, highlighted that on March 22, Her Excellency Elizabeth Williams,

Ambassador of Canada to Honduras, had visited the Guapinol community, accompanied by our campaign partner, ERIC-Radio Progreso, to express solidarity with the victims of the conflict and their families. Héту said he hoped that the campaign would support the Honduran government in implementing concrete action to help the Guapinol and San Pedro communities.

Gabrielle Dupuis, vice-president of the national council, left the meeting proud “to have been able to bring the voices of more than 52,000 Canadians to the table,” and hoping these voices would encourage the Honduran government to continue implementing reforms that favour vulnerable communities.

Elvin Hernández, a human rights investigator with ERIC-Radio Progreso, said, “I hope this information will be passed on to the President of Honduras, Xiomara Castro, and that from there, the three fundamental demands you have so confidently made [in the letter] can be addressed or expedited.”

For the communities of Guapinol and San Pedro, this meeting is a major step toward the recognition of their rights. It sends a strong message to the Honduran government, telling it that over 52,600 people in Canada *Stand for the Land* and support the communities’ struggle to obtain protection for Carlos Escaleras National Park; an end to persecution of environmentalists; and just compensation for the Guapinol Eight, who remained unfairly incarcerated for over two years.

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada would like to thank our members and the Canadian public for their important role in the success of this campaign.

First Communion will be celebrated this Sunday, May 5th during the 11am Mass at Holy Family Church. We are pleased to be celebrating this special Sacrament with our Parishioners present again. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers. (First Communion that it will be live-streamed via our website at stkateri.ca)

Congratulations to:
Henry McGuire ~ Lillian Noble
Michael Obi ~ Caleb Amos
Ethan McCallum ~ Mia Wheaton
Quinn Palmer ~ Sadie Dyker



Development and Peace Caritas Canada, Share Year Round Monthly Donations.

Your donation transforms the lives of some of our most vulnerable sisters and

brothers across the world. Monthly donations reduce our administrative costs and strengthen our ability to respond quickly to emergency situations. During the Lenten Season and until Pentecost Sunday, May 19, new monthly donors will have their donations matched dollar for dollar through a fund supported by Religious Communities. You can enroll in the monthly donation program on our website, devp.org/shareyearround. Being a Share Year-Round donor simply means acting for social justice and human dignity all year long. Thank you for your support!

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.

Rosary: Every Thursday morning at 10:30am at Holy Family Church. During the Easter Season we will be reciting the Glorious Mysteries. Everyone is welcome!

Summary of your Support for April 27th & 28th

Regular/Loose	\$ 2,939.30
PAD (wkly. average)	1,827.69
St. Patrick's Cemetery	25.00
TOTAL	\$ 4,791.99

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

New Envelope User #195 please call the office 506-444-6021 and leave your name and address.

Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Family Church: A new schedule is available in the entrance of the church for the period May 18th to September 29th, 2024. Eucharistic Ministers are required to wear a mask when serving communion. If you have any questions, please speak to Judy Kelly. Thank you for serving in this vital Ministry that supports our Liturgy.

Knights of Columbus Community Breakfast: Sunday, May 12th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$ 10.00, Children \$ 5.00 and Families \$ 30.00. Everyone welcome.

Renewing Ourselves in Christ ~ join us on Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 pm at St. Theresa's Church (1 William St.) for an intimate evening of song, teaching and reflection on the Word of God. We are excited to welcome Jim Anderson, Director of Missionary Discipleship Formation for the Diocese of Saint John as our retreat facilitator. Everyone is welcome! Come and bring a friend.

The Rosary. Praise him for his mighty deeds! (Psalm 150.2)

Some people consider the Rosary a peripheral devotion that detracts from the basics of the faith. Just the reverse is true. The Rosary is a user-friendly prayer; its simplicity plunges us into the heart of scripture and the Christian mystery. While not an essential part of the Church's public prayer, the Rosary focuses on the essentials of our faith. "An epitome of the whole gospel," Pope Paul VI called it.

The Rosary's main prayer concerns the central event of salvation history, the incarnation. "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you...blessed are you among women!" With the angel Gabriel we acknowledge Mary as Mother of the Redeemer; with Elizabeth, we congratulate her for wholeheartedly saying "yes" to God.

The rhythm of Hail Marys draws us to mediate on realities that transform us as we ponder them. In the presence of Mary, who treasured God's word in her heart, we reflect on the events of Jesus' life. The Joyful Mysteries point us to his coming, the Sorrowful Mysteries to his suffering and dying and the Glorious Mysteries to his triumph over death.

Like the Psalms, which call us to remember and proclaim God's works, the Rosary is a repeated recalling and declaring of what God has done to save us. Essentially, it helps us to mediate on the life of Jesus.

(Reflection from the Catholic Women's Devotional Bible)

AASEA RETREATS –Silent Directed Retreats are being offered with directors from the Saint John Local AASEA at the Villa Madonna Retreat House in June. A 5 – Day Silent Directed Retreat takes place from Mon. June 10, 2024, to Fri. June 14, 2024, with a registration cost of \$130.00 and \$570.00 due upon arrival. A 4– Day option is also available from Tue. June 11, 2024 to Fri. June 14, 2024 with a registration cost of \$130.00 and \$400.00 due upon arrival. Pre-retreat installment payment may be arranged. Please contact Bob McDermott mcdermot@nbnet.nb.ca

Holocaust Memorial Observance, Sunday May 5th @ 3 pm. Capital Community Church, 71 Downing Street, Fredericton. It is our pleasure to extend an invitation to you to attend the annual Holocaust Remembrance. This year's keynote speaker is Japan's Ambassador to Canada, Kanji Yamanouchi. Ambassador Yamanouchi will be speaking about the heroic actions of Japanese diplomat Chiunue Siguhara which saved thousands of displaced Jews by issuing transit visas to Japan during the Holocaust. Following the service, a reception will be held in the social hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

READINGS for May 4th

1st Reading: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

2nd Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: 1 John 15:9-17

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord has revealed his victory in the sigh of the nations.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

May 5th Keith Jones / Fr. Monte Peters

May 12th Myrtle Goodine

May 19th Joan Polchies

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

May 5th Carolann Doherty

May 12th Betty Colligan

May 19th Mike Solomon

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

May 4th Mike McIntosh / Fr. Monte Peters

May 5th Laura Gaul

May 11th Raymond Goodine

May 12th Melada Saad and Family

May 18th Tyler Messer

May 19th Nafla and Vicky Anderson

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

May 4th Leslie Carr / Judy Kelly

May 5th Joanne Linton / Verna McCloskey

May 11th Margie Snell / Lynn Laagland

May 12th Bettyanne McMackin / Sharon Watts

May 18th Joan Sowers / Harold DeCoursey

May 19th Sadie Cameron / Dorothy Blanchard

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

May 11th Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley

May 12th James McGroarty/Clare & Genevieve Obi

May 18th Paula Ryan/Margie Snell/Beth Wright

May 19th Norma Downing/Linda Hubbard/Debbie Landau

FOCUS ON LIFE – Thursday, May 23rd – at Brunswick St. Baptist Church. Prayer Service beginning at 9:45 am. Followed by Mass at 10 am at St. Dunstan's Church with Bishop Christian Riesbeck. 11 am Groups are welcome to Legislature building to gather for prayer.

Our Sacred Stories
God's Plan of Love for All Humanity

(Fr. John Jennings)

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you: abide in my love.... This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Have you ever tossed a rock into the center of a pond? One thing we might notice is the splash as the rock hits the water. More interesting is what happens to the whole pond. As the rock breaks the surface at the center, ripples spread outward from this center and ultimately reach even to the far shoreline.

This Sunday (6th Sunday of Easter) the Gospel shows Jesus leading us to see the loving relationship that is created between God as our loving parent and ourselves. This love of God, in fact brings a whole series of loving relationships into our world. As complex as Christian faith can seem to be, it is in fact founded on a simple revelation: God loves us, all of us.

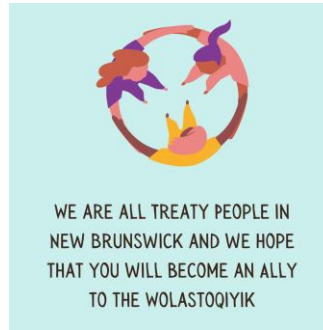
Our scriptures reveal this relationship again and again. It is expressed in the story of creation (Genesis), where God brings the gift of life out of chaos. We encounter it in the saving, liberating action of God as Israel is drawn from slavery in Egypt and led to become a People of God in the new land (Exodus). The prophet Jeremiah saw this love as a covenant of love written on the hearts of all peoples (Jer.31:31-34).

In the Incarnation, Jesus' birth is a signal of God's expansive love. God reveals this love in Jesus himself (John 3:16-17) and from Jesus this revelation is to reach out through us. Like the rock thrown into the center of the pond, Jesus breaks through the surface creating ripples of God's love that reach to the far and distant shores of our world.

This is the chain of loving relationships that appears in our reading on this Sunday. (1 John 4:7-10 & John 15:9-17). Jesus received and accepted the Father's love. He loved his disciples with this same love. As disciples we are to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

God's plan for all humanity is a plan of love. The love of God is expressed in the gift of Jesus, God's Son, to us. Jesus expresses this love in word and action and so touches the humanity we share. From this touch comes our call to do what Jesus has done and what God has revealed. We are to love one another. This is the plan of God that comes into our humanity and that is expressed when we, when humanity, loves as Jesus has shown.

What is one practical way in which my life reveals God's love today?



Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick (WNNB) Ally Toolkit. As noted on the Truth and Reconciliation website: "for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples to coexist peacefully, a relationship must be built on understanding and respect.

That understanding can be a first step to better relations on a range of issues including environmental, spiritual, societal, and justice matters." The link below provided by the WNNB is a great resource on what it means to become an ally and how we can best accomplish this as individuals and within our Parish. Woliwon- Thank you.

<https://wnnb.wolastoqey.ca/toolkit/>

Open Space, Jesuit Forum for Social Faith and Justice.

The Jesuit Forum brings small groups together to reflect, share, and speak openly to help discern pathways to a more socially just and spiritually fulfilling world. The April 2024 issue, entitled "*Discerning...The Confession of Genocide for Truth and Reconciliation*", is being provided as another opportunity to learn and educate us on our journey to becoming better allies. The link is always available on our website.

<https://jesuitforum.ca/resources/open-space/>

Steubenville Atlantic 2024 Youth Conference

Youth aged 14-18 are invited to participate in this event held at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, NS from July 5-7. If you are between 18 and 21, you can attend as a peer leader. Before registering please talk to your parish priest or RE coordinator about registration. Conference information can be found on the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth website under Steubenville Atlantic. Transportation to NS is included in the registration fee of \$300.00. Pick up locations will be from Fredericton, Saint John, and Moncton. For more information please contact Patricia at 506-627-6465 or email catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org.

The Parish will assist with financing.