

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

November 30th, 2025 – 1st Sunday of Advent

Advent Week 1 – Purple Candle of Hope.

The Prophet's Candle reminds us of the prophets who foretold the birth of Christ. *"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace".* (Isaiah 9:6).

The Hymns of Advent. Advent, the season of hope, of expectation and of waiting is also a season filled with music and song. This Advent we will journey with some timeless hymns and reflect on their importance in helping us connect to the Gospel stories of Advent and Christmas

Advent Weekday Masses: During the Advent Season weekday Masses followed by one hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on the following dates: December 4th, 11th and 18th at 7pm at Holy Family Church.

Advent Healing Mass – An Advent Healing Mass and Sacrament of Anointing for St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish will be held at St. Ann's Church, Bilikj First Nation (Kingsclear) on **Friday, December 12th at 2pm.**

This is the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe now known as National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples and has special significance for Indigenous People. We hope you can join us - all are welcome!

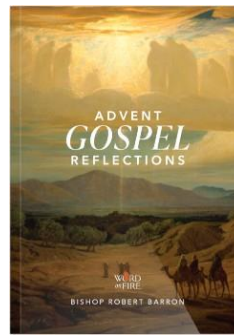


Advent Song Week One – 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'

'Emmanuel': One of the oldest hymns and most popular hymns of Advent it has been in existence as far back as the 9th century in the form of a monastic chant and an 8th century poem. Originally it was written in Latin 'Veni, Veni, Emmanuel'. Connecting the Old Testament to the New Testament, this hymn

with its deep spiritual meaning not only expresses the longing for Christ's first coming but also the hope of his second coming. In the New Testament the hymn is based on the scripture of Matthew 1:22-23, *"...look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel (God with us)."* This scripture passage reveals the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy, of a long-foretold divine plan.

Like the prophets, we also wait in hope for the birth of the Messiah. As we prepare ourselves spiritually in this Season of Advent, this week might be a good time to read and reflect on the Gospel of Luke 2, 25:38, which describes the prophets' patient waiting and longing. In our waiting and expectation, the opening words of this timeless hymn, 'O come, O come' become our repeated chant of longing.



Journey Through Advent. The second session will be on **Monday, December 1st at 7pm at Holy Family Church.**

These sessions are being offered throughout Advent using the "Advent Gospel Reflections" journal by Bishop Robert Barron. This is a wonderful opportunity to slow down, connect with God and one another and to

open our hearts to the grace God is waiting to give us in this season of waiting. Two more sessions will follow on Monday, December 8th and 15th. The facilitator for these sessions is Judy Kelly. We hope you will be able to join us – everyone is welcome! For more information or if you have questions, please speak to Barb or Judy.

African Mass of Thanksgiving. The African Catholic Community are joining us for a special Mass of Thanksgiving on **Sunday, December 21st at 11am at Holy Family Church** and taking part in various ministries. There will be a Parish Pot-Luck gathering after Mass @ 12noon in the Parish Hall. Please let Agnes know how if you wish to contribute to the potluck, via email

wgns70@hotmail.com

There will be many African dishes and other international dishes you might bring. All are welcome!

REGIONAL ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 2025 AT 3 PM AT ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH. THIS IS TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL OF THE PARISHES OF FREDERICTON REGION TO CELEBRATE THIS SACRAMENT IN A COMMUNAL SETTING WITH PRIESTS OF THE REGION AVAILABLE TO WELCOME YOU FOR CONFESSION.

It's Cookie Sunday Weekend: November 29th & 30th, this will be our last Cookie Sunday weekend until January 2026. Thank you for your generosity.

Food Bank Christmas Hamper Donations: We continue to collect items for the Food Bank Christmas Hampers up **to the weekend of December 6th-7th**. Donations for the food hampers can include: gravy, canned vegetables, canned cranberry, stuffing, pie mixes, pancake mix and syrup. Or if you prefer you may make a monetary donation to the Food Bank for the purchase of turkeys. Special envelopes are available in the lobby of the church.

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!

Summary of Support for November 22 & 23

Regular/Loose	\$ 6,587.40
PAD (wkly. average)	2,314.62
St. Patrick's Cemetery	15.00
Christ the King	705.00
Oromocto Food Bank	1,020.00
Missals/Little Books	60.00
TOTAL	\$10,702.02

Little Blue Books for Advent & Christmas are now available at the church entrance. Suggested donation \$2.00 which can be dropped in the basket. Thank you!

Please check out extra reading materials for Advent in the lobby of the church.



Thank you for helping to **Turn Debt into Hope!**

Thanks to your support of Development and Peace — Caritas Canada Fall Campaign 'Turn Debt Into Hope'.

Many impoverished countries in the Global South are struggling with conflict, humanitarian crises and climate change.

Cancelling their unjust debts would free up scarce revenues, allowing them to better meet the needs of their citizens. Citizens like little Melati and her mother, Ade, in Ethiopia, who only aspire to live in dignity.

Each signature amplifies the message of debt justice to creditors and political leaders. You can still sign-the petition online by clicking on the following link: **sign the petition**

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.

Are you passionate about walking with young people in their journey of faith? Do you feel called to help build vibrant parish youth groups and support diocesan youth events? We invite you to join us for an **online introduction to youth ministry on Monday, December 9, from 6:00–7:30 PM**. This session is designed to help you discern whether youth ministry might be your calling and to explore how you can be part of a growing movement to empower youth across our diocese. The session will be led by: **James Pereira**, Program Coordinator and **Margaret Raymond**, Campus Ministry Coordinator, Holy Cross Chaplaincy (Halifax). Whether you're a seasoned catechist, a young adult looking to serve, or simply curious about how to get involved, this is a great first step. We hope you'll join us and consider being part of this exciting mission. Please email Patricia Lee at catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org or call 506-627-6465.

Note to Parishioners: Please be mindful of those who are sensitive to scented products and refrain from wearing perfumes/colognes when attending Mass. Thank you!



Dec. 12, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Dunstan's
 Bishop Christian Riesbeck will preside at a special Mass on Friday, December 12th at 6:30 pm in St. Dunstan's Church, in celebration of the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, and the National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. Graydon Nicholas will give a short talk on the miraculous appearance of Our Blessed Mother to St. Juan Diego in Mexico City on December 9, 10 & 12 of 1531. There will be an Indigenous presence with drumming and chanting and a special collection in support of Gignoo Transition House. A reception will follow in the gym of the Monsignor Boyd Family Centre. Everyone is invited to attend.

Advent and Christmas Events & Music

2025 Advent Series of Music and Message

*Finding the Light of Christmas in the Darkness of December
 (each Wednesday @ 12:05 pm)*

with Bishop Hockin at Christ Church (Parish) Church

December 3rd – Messenger Rev. Grant Geldart

December 10th – Messenger: Canon Albert Snelgrove

December 17th - Messenger: Bishop Bill Hockin

*245 WESTMORLAND ST. Free Will Offering will be accepted
 for the Greener Village Food Bank.*

ALL WELCOME!

Continued ... Advent and Christmas Events & Music

~ ~ ~

33rd Advent Carol Festival

Wednesday December 3rd @ 7:30 pm at

Grace Memorial Baptist Church, 536 Northumberland St.

Featuring Local Church and Community Choirs with

Congregational Singing. Free will offering for the

*"Make the Season Kind Campaign" in support of local food
 banks. ALL WELCOME!*

~ ~ ~

Fredericton Ladies Choir Annual Christmas Concert

Tuesday, December 9th @ 7 pm at St. Dunstan's Church

Special Guest: Elm City String Quartet

Tickets: \$20/Adult - \$10 Under 18

*(Available at Westminster Bookmark, from choir members,
 and at the door)*

READINGS for November 30TH

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

Responsorial Psalm: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Nov 30th James Andrew McAllister

Dec 7th Lynn Dunbar

Dec 14th Randy Murphy

Dec 21st William Buckley / Sandy & Myrtle Goodine

Dec 25th Peter & Chris LaForest

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Nov 29th Paul Devlin / Mabel Caissie

Nov 30th Maureen Marcotte / Dennis Agnesi

Dec 6th Joseph Doiron

Dec 7th Carlotta Everett / Laura Gaul

Dec 13th For the People

Dec 14th Olga Richards

Dec 20th For the People

Dec 21st Howard Richards

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Nov 30th John Monkhouse

Dec 7th Stacey Chessie

Dec 14th Elaine Geldart

Dec 21st Carolann Doherty

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Nov 29th Margie Snell / Anna Mae Snider

Nov 30th Cinyere Alozie / Norma Downing
 Anuli Ezeokafor / Debbie Landau

Dec 6th Paula Ryan / Joan Sowers

Dec 7th Noreen Bonnell / Ebuka Ezeokafor
 Oluchi Ezeokafor / Maureen Hawthorne

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Nov 29th Rita Maxwell / Harold DeCoursey

Nov 30th Ewart Kenney / Patrick Burgoon

Dec 6th Wanda Cairns / Margie Snell

Dec 7th Rhadia Ange / Rhadissa Ange

Christmas Mass Schedule St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

December 24th: 4pm and 6pm, Holy Family Church,
 Christmas Eve Masses. (Masses will be livestreamed
 and will be the traditional Family Bell Mass with the
 children.)

December 25th: 9:30am, St. Ann's Church

December 25th: 11am, Holy Family Church

January 1st, Mary, Holy Mother of God

Mass at 11am at Holy Family Church

Our Sacred Stories
Living in the Midst of Three Advents
(Fr. John Jennings)

Here we are at the beginning of the Advent-Christmas season again. In fact, this is where we are always. **Advent** literally means *a coming*. In our case, it refers to the *coming* of the Lord. It speaks of the promised reign of God present among us. Where and how do we find this *coming*, this **Advent**? Do we look up into the sky or do we look out into the world around us? Do we look back to the biblical past of Jesus' first coming or forward towards an unknown future of Jesus return?

How we answer these questions is important for how we play a part in God's dream for all humanity. It is also how we discover a spirituality that touches our ordinary human life and experience. God's dream is to share life and love with all creation. It is at the root of the story of salvation.

In our Christian faith, we are ever in the midst of three Advents, three comings. This places us on a journey, a continuum that looks back remembering an advent that has happened, while looking forward to an advent yet to be. In between, in our present world, we are in another advent, a continual journey or coming as we seek to see the Incarnation growing in our midst.

The first Advent has us looking back to the birth of Jesus the Christ as one of us. It is *Incarnation*, God *coming* to share our flesh and life. It is God walking with our humanity in the challenges and accomplishments, the joys and sorrows that we and our world experience.

In the Advent-Christmas season we remember and celebrate this first Advent of God among us.

The last Advent is yet to be. It is the *coming* of Christ in Glory. With this we have the fullness of redemption. The reign of God proclaimed by Jesus will come to its fulfillment. God's dream, God's plan for creation reaches its completion. It is a dream of freedom and liberation, of holiness and goodness for all humanity. With it we become the creation we are meant to be. This is, as yet unfulfilled.

We live between these two Advents where we encounter our life-giving God of love in every person, every experience.

This is to live in a way that honours and respects every person and all creation. It is to build a world marked by harmony, peace, freedom and justice.

Such awareness requires that we "stay awake" and "be ready" for each such encounter in our day. Between the first and the last Advent, we are in fact living in a constant and present Advent now, every moment of our lives.

Our reality is that this middle Advent is really the only one that we can affect. It is in our experience of life and in building an awareness that God lives and acts among us that we generate and nurture a spirituality for life. Here, we become aware of our gratitude for God's blessings revealed in the persons, even strangers, whom we encounter. As well we realize the experiences we share and the gifts of insight and discovery that daily bless us in our life journeys. Our spirituality leads us to gratitude for all.

In Matthew's Gospel we are told "stay awake" and "be ready" (Matt 24:37-44). Our present Advent is all about the awareness which comes in our spirituality. Our Advent, the "middle" one, is lived in our openness to recognizing God in our midst as we meet one another and in every experience of our lives. We are, in fact, the advent of Jesus to one another and to all of Creation. Our spirituality lies in our gratitude.

**Q/ What is the Advent of Jesus that I meet today in
the persons and experiences where I am?
For what am I thankful on this day?**

**2026 Pilgrimage to Ste. Anne de Beaupre:
June 13 – 16, 2026. For more info Please call
Rick Bourgeois at 506-327-6777.**

BILIK 3RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MARKET

Saturday, November 29th 10 am – 3:30 pm.

CRAFTS/HOME MADE SWEETS/& MORE

**Wulastukw Wolokehkitimok 712 Church Street,
Kingsclear**

**We will be collecting non-perishable food items at
the door to support our Community Food Pantry.
Everyone welcome.**