

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

October 11th, 2026 – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



World Mission Sunday – Sunday, October 18th, 2026.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, “One in Christ, United in Mission”, celebrating 100 years of this worldwide collection for the Missionary Church. Your prayers and donations will assist churches, hospitals, schools, the training of priests and supporting all missionaries who are spreading the Word of God in developing countries. Please help our sister Churches to be self-sufficient and continue to flourish with your prayers and donations.



Mission

Malawi:
Malawi is situated in South-Eastern Africa, and is often referred to

as “Warm Heart of Africa”. Known as a nation rich in culture and community, families living there face the challenges of extreme heat often exceeding 48 degrees celcius and devastating floods at the banks of their rivers overflow. This makes it difficult for children to attend school as they often have to journey by foot several kilometres on dusty, sandy roads to reach school.

On the Plains of the Diocese of Chikwawa families are rebuilding the community after destruction caused by Cyclone Ana in 2022. Yamakani’s mother Ruth, says “My son has problems walking to and from his current school, especially in the hot sun.

I sometimes follow him so that I can carry him home on my back.” With little resources and food rebuilding is difficult. Ruth says, “Sometimes they stay home for a whole month. We do not send the children to school when they are weak with hunger.”

A new school is being constructed nearby so the children don’t have as far to travel in the heat and dust. Support is being received from the local church and other communities but more help is needed to restore hope for the future.

On World Mission Sunday, please pray for families like Ruth’s who face so many challenges. If you would like to donate to Mission Sunday, special donation envelopes are available in the lobby of the Church.

In the words of Pope Leo XIV, “If we are united, everything is possible.”

Warm Socks Drive for the Homeless. The **John Howard Society of Fredericton** urgently needs warm socks to support local unhoused individuals this winter. As the cold weather quickly approaches, the demand for winter supplies is rising rapidly. To help meet this need, donation containers will be available in the lobbies of both **St. Ann’s Church** and **Holy Family Church** for the next month.

The John Howard Society provides vital support to adults, youth, and families navigating challenges with housing, mental health, addiction, and social exclusion. Please consider dropping off a pair of warm socks to support our neighbors in need—any and all donations are greatly appreciated.



Giving Thanks

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INFORMATION

- Fr Bill will be blessing the book bags and all Catechists on the first day of classes, Sunday, October 18th.
- Religious Education Registrations are still being accepted. Forms can be picked up at the Parish office before Mass and someone will be available to accept registrations at the back of the church following Mass on Sunday Oct 11th.
- If you missed the very important parent meeting on Sept 27th, you will receive a summary of the important parts at the start of class Oct 18th.
- Contact Lesley Lawlor, Religious Education Coordinator at religiouseducationlawlor@gmail.com or office@stkateri.com if you have any questions.

Attention Students Grade 8-12



NET (National Evangelization Team) is a group of vibrant young adults who travel across Canada sharing the Gospel through engaging and interactive retreats.

St. Mary Magdalene Parish is hosting an event at St. Dunstan's Church worship site on Friday, October 15th beginning at 6pm.

This event is open to all high school youth Grades 8-12.

Come join us for a powerful night of faith, fun, and connection! More details coming soon. Please contact Lesley Lawlor religiouseducationlawlor@gmail.com

REFLECTION

"In all created things discern the providence and wisdom of God, and in all things give him thanks."

—St. Teresa of Jesus



For the expanding grandeur of creation,
worlds known and unknown, galaxies
beyond galaxies, filling us with awe and
challenging our imaginations:
We give thanks this day.
For this fragile planet earth, its times and
tides, its sunsets and seasons:
We give thanks this day.
For the joy of human life, its wonders and
surprises, its hopes and achievements:
We give thanks this day.
For our human community, our common
past and future hope, our oneness
transcending all separation, our capacity to
work for peace and justice in the midst of
hostility and oppression:
We give thanks this day.
For high hopes and noble causes, for faith
without fanaticism, for understanding of
views not shared:
We give thanks this day.
For all who have labored and suffered for a
fairer world, who have lived so that others
might live in dignity and freedom:
We give thanks this day.
For human liberty and sacred rites; for
opportunities to change and grow, to affirm
and choose:
We give thanks this day.
We pray that we may live not by our fears
but by our hopes, not by our words but by
our deeds.
We give thanks this day.
(Rev. O. Eugene Pickett)

'Bilijk' book. Earlier this year, historian, author and Professor Emeritus from St. Thomas University Andrea Bear Nicholas recently completed the book 'Bilijk' a documentary history of Kingsclear First Nation from 1783-1950 which includes Oral Traditions, archival documents, paintings, maps and photographs which documents the history of Bilijk, the first Welastekwey community to be established as a reserve. Click on the link that follows and listen to an audio clip of a CBC interview with Andrea Bear Nicholas as she speaks on her journey on the completion of her new book. Click

<https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/audio/9.7146872>

Grandmothers Helping Grandmothers is having a Jewelry Sale on Saturday, October 24, from 8am-3pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 170 Regent St. Proceeds are divided between the Stephen Lewis Foundation & Help Lesotho which support life-enhancing programs that aid African grandmothers & their communities. Cash or cheque accepted.

Knights of Columbus Community Breakfast:
Sunday, October 11th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$ 12.00, Children \$ 5.00 and Families \$ 35.00. Everyone welcome.

Summary of Support for Oct 3 & 4

Regular/Loose	\$ 3,412.65
PAD (wkly. average)	2,298.46
Building Fund	545.00
Needs of the Canadian Church	20.00
St. Patrick's Cemetery	57.00
Oromocto Food Bank	20.00
TOTAL	\$ 6,353.11

New Schedules available for Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Family Church: New schedules are available in the entrance of the church for the period October 2026 to January 3, 2027. If you have any questions, please speak to Jane Buckley for Readers Schedule and Judy Kelly for the Eucharistic Ministers Schedule. Thank you for serving in these vital Ministries that supports our Liturgy.



BILIK COMMUNITY BINGO

We hope to see you at the next Bingo night which is scheduled for:

Monday, October 19th

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

Toonie Ball total to date is \$342.00

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 2027. 18 Years and Older only and **EVERYONE WELCOME!!**

The Annual Parish Pastoral Report and Parish Financial Report are available at the church entrances.

Readings for October 11th

1st: Isaiah 25:6-10a

2nd: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Psalm: I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Oct 11th Betty Colligan
Oct 18th Mike Solomon
Oct 25th Lawrence Cameron

Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Oct 11th For the People
Oct 18th The Grexton Family
Oct 25th Helen MacDonald

Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Oct 10th Lorna MacNeil
Oct 11th Laura, Carla, Lorna & Yvonne
Oct 17th Zéron & Rose Chapados
Oct 18th Gerald Hoogendyk / Bernice & Vince Ramsay
Oct 24th Ann Hawkins / Geraldine Hayes
Oct 25th Larry & Arlene Gallant
Oct 31st DFM Meagher and Whitty

READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Oct 10th Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley
Oct 11th Noren Bonnell / Maureen Hawthorne
Ana Galarza
Oct 17th William Cormier / Mona LeBlanc
Oct 18th Anita & Ray Allain / Victoria Olopade

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Oct 10th Leslie Carr / Colleen Hamilton
Oct 11th Annie Zdyb-Rinne / Verna McCloskey
Oct 17th Rita Maxwell / Harold DeCoursey
Oct 18th JoAnne Linton / Laura McDonald

Our Sacred Stories

Thanksgiving & Eucharist: Sharing Gratitude for Each Other

Thanksgiving – An opportunity to be thankful for one another. In an earlier, more agriculture-centred age, this was the time to offer thanks to God for all the gifts of the earth. We may not be so centred now, but perhaps it remains an occasion to be thankful for all those who assist us in life, in any way. Often, we take them for granted. Today, we acknowledge that we do not, cannot exist alone. We need each other. As we gather in a Eucharistic community, our time at the Table brings us together in shared faith and love.

The Old Testament prophet, Isaiah uses the image of a rich and abundant banquet to describe the fullness of God's goodness poured out for all the peoples of the earth (Is.25:6-10). Looking to the Age of the Messiah, the prophet sees it as a blessing for all peoples, not just some or a few. The great banquet welcomes all peoples around the table. How to respond to such an invitation? Most appropriate will be the gratitude we express not only to God who invites us, but also to all those around this Eucharistic table with us, as well as those at like tables around the world. God's reign is among us. We share a common journey and respond with shared gratitude for God's love for all creation.

Matthew's Gospel uses the same image for the same reign of God, with a twist. He shares one of Jesus' stories, a parable of the Kingdom about a wedding feast, another banquet (Matt.22:1-10). The parable focuses on the invitation.

The key here is that when the first invited guests refused the invitation, the servants took the invitation more broadly – "into the streets and gathered all whom they found." Both Isaiah and Matthew proclaim the fullness of God's goodness for all creation. The Table is full and the Table is large.

We proclaim the same message every time we gather around our Table for Eucharist. Theologian Eugene LaVerdiere focuses on the Eucharist as it is presented in the Gospel of Luke. The title of his book is *Dining in the Kingdom of God*. It seems far-fetched for us to speak like this. But that is in fact what we do when we gather around our Eucharistic table. We dine in the Kingdom of God, and all are invited. Matthew's account of Jesus's parable of the wedding banquet to which all are invited expresses the openness of the Kingdom to all.

This universal view and open invitation to all is what characterizes the Church envisioned in the Second Vatican Council (1962-65). The Council was an invitation to all to recognize that we are full and active members of the Christian community. To be in the community of Christians means much more than merely being present, as consumers and receivers. We are Church. We are what Vatican II expresses – the People of God, living in our world.

Using the words of Scripture, Vatican II directed this People of God to reveal who we are through active holiness. The Council put it this way: *Love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your understanding, with all your strength. Love one another as Christ loves you. These commands in Scripture are really an invitation to be holy. By our holy love, we nurture in the world a way of life that is more gentle, more beautiful, more human* (Vatican II. "Constitution on the Church" 39).

Recently, as Church in the Synod on Synodality, we revisited what Vatican II expressed. Preparations began around the globe in local dioceses, with the first meeting in Rome taking place in 2021 followed by a second session in 2024. The two sessions had representation from clergy and laity. Local church communities around the world helped provide input guiding the sessions.

The hope for the Synod has been that we might grow a dynamic openness in the entire church, willing to listen as the People of God that we are called to be. Early in the process, the guidelines for this open and listening Church were laid out in a preparatory document: *At the root of this process is the acceptance, both personal and communal, of something that is both a gift and a challenge: to be a Church of sisters and brothers in Christ who listen to one another and who, in doing so, are gradually transformed by the Spirit (Instrumentum laboris. 18).*

The foundation of what we might call a "synodal church" is our common shared baptism. It has made us equally sisters and brothers of Jesus the Christ, all children of God filled with the one Spirit and called to the same mission of Good News in our world (cf. 1 Cor. 12:13). Are we able to embark on this call to be a "Listening Church" in which everyone - laity and clergy, women and men actively embark on this mission in the world that we share?