

# St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish

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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

## September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross



### Happening this weekend!!

**Biljik Annual PowWow – September 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, Biljik PowWow Grounds, along the Wolastoq, 729 Church Street, Biljik (Kingsclear) First Nation.**

#### Friday, September 12th:

- 12noon: Naming Ceremony
- 6pm: Night Social

#### Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>:

- 1pm: Grand Entry

#### Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>:

- 12noon: Grand Entry

Come and celebrate 11 years of Pow Wow in Biljik First Nation. In attendance will be vendors for food, art and clothing. Take part in this 3-day vibrant celebration of Wolastoqiyik culture along the bank of the Wolastoq. The event has free parking and admission. Everyone is welcome!

**Altar Servers:** Holy Family Church is looking for young girls and young boys to join this ministry. We are therefore calling on our young people, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and above to consider becoming altar servers. Altar servers are an essential part of the Mass and a special way to participate and serve the Parish Community.

If you are interested or would like more information, please email the Parish Office at [office@stkateri.ca](mailto:office@stkateri.ca) or call 506-444-6021 and leave the youth's and parent's name and a phone where you can be reached. Training will be provided.

**Parish BBQ Thank You.** WOW, the barbeque on Sunday was a great success even with a much-needed day of rain. We are so blessed to have a wonderful team who makes it all happen.

Also, registration for Catechism and Confirmation kept the catechists very busy. The food was delicious with hamburgers, hot dogs and popcorn being the big hit. A BIG thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with setup on Saturday afternoon and helped with food prep, activities for the kids and clean-up on Sunday. Your time and commitment to this event is much appreciated. Looking forward to seeing you all next year!

**How do we learn more about joining the Catholic Church?** Over the past few months several adults have asked about the possibility of joining the Catholic Church. To respond to this expressed desire, the Parish is offering an 'RCIA Process' beginning later in November. This is for anyone who is interested in inquiring about becoming a Catholic and entering a journey of discernment about this. If you are interested, please call Judy Kelly at 506-478-7274 with your name and phone number and she will be in touch with you to provide additional information on what the process entails and to assist you with any information you need.



## 2025 Season of

**Creation:** As a way to deepen our Season of Creation journey, this week our focus will be

on prayer. “We are called to live in peace, and work for a just and sustainable community that aligns with God’s eternal plans. The Holy Spirit can guide to an ecological conversion and a deeper understanding of our cosmic family. We must change our mindsets, embrace righteousness, and teach these values to future generations.” (2025 Celebration Guide)

Sr. Gemma Corbett (CAFOD) invites us into *Prayer with the Holy Spirit* as we seek *Peace with Creation*:

O Holy Spirit you hovered over the deep at the dawn of Creation. You fashioned time and space itself in the initial magnificent flaring forth. You breathed life into all beings and you continue to dwell and work in all creation to sustain that life.

Be with us now at this critical moment of our history.

Open our ears to the cry of the earth, suffering the effects of human exploitation and unbridled consumption. Open our ears to the cries of our sisters and brothers living in the midst of extreme poverty and hunger.

Give us a deeper awareness that we are part of all that you have made, that we are intimately connected to all that has been all that is and all that will be. Grant us a spirit of awe and wonder as we contemplate the marvels of your creation, recognising and giving thanks for your presence within and around us.

Give us a deep respect for all life and help us to renew our commitment to foster life wherever we are.

Give us the courage to denounce all that disfigures your creation and to commit fully to caring for our earthly home and for all the created beings we share it with.

May we live lives characterised by compassion and service and may we embody your love in our relationships with one another and with all Creation. Amen.

In addition, Pope Leo XIV invites us into prayer in relationship with all creation. Click on the following link to view the Pope’s message and prayer for the Season of Creation:

[Pope's Prayer for Creation](#)

### Summary of Support for September 6 & 7

<b>Regular/Loose</b>	<b>\$ 4,384.20</b>
<b>PAD (wkly. average)</b>	<b>2,314.62</b>
<b>St. Patrick’s Cemetery</b>	<b>110.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,808.80</b>

### **Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Family Church:**

A new schedule is available in the entrance of the church for the period September to December 2025. If you have any questions, please speak to Judy Kelly. Thank you for serving in this vital Ministry that supports our Liturgy.

**Rosary** - Rosary is prayed every Thursday morning at 1030 at Holy Family. During Ordinary Time we will be reciting the Luminous Mysteries. All are welcome to attend.

### **READINGS for September 14<sup>th</sup>**

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: John 3:13-17

**Responsorial Psalm: Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

### Mass Intentions at St. Ann's

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Jean Murphy  
Sept 21<sup>st</sup> For the People  
Sept 28<sup>th</sup> The McKerral Family

### READERS AT ST. ANN'S

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Elaine Geldart  
Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Carolann Doherty  
Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Betty Colligan

### READERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Paula Ryan / Anna Mae Snider  
Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Noreen Bonnell / Ebuka Ezeakafor /  
Oluchi Ezeokafor / Maureen Hawthorne  
Sept 20<sup>th</sup> Mary Beth Gorey / Roly McSorley  
Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Jane Buckley/Doreen Cormier/Maurice  
Harquail/Chinasa Trinita

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT HOLY FAMILY

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> Wanda Cairns / Margie Snell  
Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Sharon Watts / Bettyanne McMackin  
Sept 20<sup>th</sup> Lynn Laagland / Judy Kelly  
Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Ewart Kenney / Patrick Burgoon

### Mass Intentions at Holy Family

Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Charlotte Southwell  
Sept 14<sup>th</sup> Anthony & Claudia Bourque and DFM  
Armand & Edna Dube and DFM  
Edmond Blanchard  
Sept 20<sup>th</sup> Martin Clark / Paul and Leah Devlin  
Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Namdi Ozor Family  
Sept 27<sup>th</sup> For the People  
Sept 28<sup>th</sup> Patricia Okoye

### New Readers' Schedule for Holy Family

People who have agreed in recent weeks to serve as Readers for the September 2025 to June 2026 period, please pick up a paper copy of the new schedule in the entryway. You will notice a change in the Sunday schedule: **Now there are 4 readers for each Sunday Mass. Each reader should just read 1 of the 4 readings: 1<sup>st</sup> Reading; Psalm; 2nd Reading; or Intentions after the Credo.** This was needed to accommodate the many people who want to be Readers. Thank you for your strong interest in this Ministry.

### Film Screening: Permission

You are invited to a special screening of the film *Permission: Fr. Bob Bedard's Vision for the Church*, on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 3pm (doors open at 2pm) at the Villa Madonna Retreat House. On this 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of their founding on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, come discover the heart of Fr. Bob Bedard the founder of the Companions of the Cross and a major figure of renewal in the Canadian church. See why so many in the church continue to find inspiration in his vision of a church explosively alive. See poster in the lobby of the church.

For more information, please contact:

[info@immaculateconception.ca](mailto:info@immaculateconception.ca).

<https://form.jotform.com/252294613131046>

### Development and Peace Fall

**Workshop:** The Saint John Diocesan Council for Development and Peace will hold its **Fall Campaign Workshop on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Holy Family Church**, 1500 Hanwell Road, Fredericton, and beginning at 10 am to 2 pm.

Adah Ogbe, our D&P Maritime Regional Animator, will present the workshop on the Fall Campaign, *Turn Debt into Hope*. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided.

If you cannot attend in person, you can join the meeting virtually, via Zoom. The link to REGISTER for the meeting is below. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail with the meeting link. Click link to register via Zoom:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/s\\_x8LisUTYSzn4NmCusIYA](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/s_x8LisUTYSzn4NmCusIYA)

I hope you will be able to join us, either in person or virtually. Everyone is invited to attend. We are looking for new members. If you have questions or are interested in the work of this Council, please speak to Judy Kelly.

**Our Lady of Peace Parish's monthly "Touched by Cancer" Mass for those whose lives have been affected in any way by cancer will take place at St. Anthony's Church on Friday, September 19th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!**



**Our Sacred Stories**  
**The Cross: God's Great Sign of Love**  
**(Fr. John Jennings)**

*God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,  
so that everyone who believes him may not perish but may  
have eternal life.*

This little piece from John's Gospel (Jn. 3:13-17), is part of a conversation that John describes between Jesus and a leading Pharisee named Nicodemus. In the conversation the Gospel writer presents something of the faith held by our earliest ancestors in our faith. Jesus is at the center of this faith, as he is central to our own. His presence in our faith and our lives is an expression of God's love for all. We celebrate this loving gift in two great moments of our faith - the Incarnation and the Paschal Mystery. The conversation of Jesus and Nicodemus presents this faith.

The Cross is very much the symbol and sign of our shared faith. We see presented in our churches, in our homes, as pins and neck ornaments. The cross is portrayed on clothing and uniforms. It is even found in gestures, as when we bless ourselves or one another. In however we use this Cross, it makes a statement of our shared faith in Jesus the Christ.

Like all signs and symbols, the Cross has many aspects and over time, these various aspects are emphasized differently. The Cross is fundamentally an expression of how God, through Jesus the Christ, took on our humanity to express love and sustain us with this gift of life, eternally.

Through the centuries, Christians have expressed their faith in the art of their time. As they did so, it revealed what was primary to their faith at that time. The earliest images of Jesus in the first several centuries were the images of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Central to this early faith was the warmth, care and compassion of the shepherd for the sheep and the lambs of his flock.

As time moved on other images began to be used in expressing the Christian faith. As Christianity spread and grew, the Cross certainly entered the picture as a sign or symbol of the faith. It is significant that the form of the Cross that was initially used and which continued to be dominant for almost a thousand years was a sign of the victory of the Cross over death. It represented the Paschal Mystery – Jesus the Christ and His life, death and resurrection.

Slowly from the 11<sup>th</sup> century onward, another form of the Cross came to be more common. This form of the crucifix continues today. Its focus is more on the suffering of the passion of Jesus. More often this is the Cross we find in the Roman Catholic Church today.

Since Vatican II, in the 1960's there has been some revival of the earlier Cross which better represents the full story of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

This Cross emphasizes the Easter event of Jesus's resurrection and helps us to recognize the meaning of the passion of Jesus leading to the promise of new and risen life that flows from God's love.

The letter of St. Paul to the Philippians includes what is probably a hymn used by early Christians in their liturgies. The words of this hymn express the Cross as victory over death:

*Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness, and being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore, God highly exalted him, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Phil.2:6-11).*

**Knights of Columbus Community Breakfasts will resume in September. The next breakfast will be on Sunday, September 14th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$10.00, Children \$5.00 and Families \$30.00. Proceeds will be used to support the Law Enforcement Run for Special Olympics. Everyone welcome.**

**Fall Yard, Book and Bake Sale , Saturday, Sept 20th from 8 AM - 1PM at St. Francis of Assisi Hall, 2130 Route 102, Lincoln. Everyone welcome!**

**Is God Calling You to Serve the Youth?** Do you feel a stirring in your heart to walk with the young people of your parish? **Now is the time to answer that call!** Join us for the **Youth Ministry Training Workshop, October 3–5, 2025** at the *Between the Hearts Retreat Centre, Amherst, NS*. This dynamic weekend will equip you with the tools, inspiration, and community you need to make a real impact in the lives of youth. **As all costs are covered, spots are limited to two participants from each area in our diocese:** Woodstock, Fredericton, St. Stephen, Sussex, Upper Miramichi, Miramichi and Saint John. **Apply by September 24, 2025.** Successful applicants will be notified by September 26, 2025. **To apply** <https://forms.office.com/r/5B4pa35sNP> For more information, contact: **Patricia Lee, Director of Catechesis** [catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org](mailto:catechesis@dioceseofsaintjohn.org) or by phone 506-627-6465.