



## THE SFSC MESSENGER

**St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish**

*We are a welcoming community of Jesus' disciples who journey together in right Faith, certain Hope, and live out His Love in Word and Deed*

### Weekend Mass Schedule

**Saturday 4:00 pm**  
St. Stephen's Church

**Sunday 9:30 am**  
St. Stephen's Church

**Sunday 9:30 am**  
St. Patrick's Church

**Sunday 11:00 am**  
St. Catherine's Church

**Sunday 1:00 pm**  
St. Catherine's Church  
(Polish - English Mass)

**Sunday 7:00 pm**  
St. Catherine's Church

### Livestream Mass:

**Sunday, March 10, 2024**  
9:30 am Mass  
St. Stephen's Church

### Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday—Friday, 7:00 am  
Tuesday—12:00 Noon  
Saturday—9:00 am  
St. Catherine's Church

Friday—9:00 am  
St. Stephen's Church

### *Mass Intentions*

#### *for the Week*

Tuesday, March 12th  
Anthony Wenham +  
12:00 Noon St. Catherine's

Friday, March 15th  
William Butler +  
9:00 am St. Stephen's

Saturday, March 16th  
Bob Godreau +  
9:00 am St. Catherine's

Robert Francis Kokrin +  
4:00 pm St. Stephen's

**March 10, 2024**

**FAITH**

## **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

During Advent, we celebrate Gaudete Sunday on the Third Sunday of Advent. In Lent, we celebrate Laetare Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Both days refer to happiness. In fact, both 'Gaudete' and 'Laetare' mean rejoice, and the connection is obvious as they are both days of joyful anticipation in the middle of liturgical seasons that might be seen as deeply solemn.

*Laetare Sunday*  
*A day of HOPE*  
*Easter is near*

This Sunday, on Laetare Sunday, Easter is exactly 21 days away. It is a day in which the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. Our hope and joy are in the Lord as through his Passion, Death and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and with one another. Let us rejoice!

## PARISH MISSION

### SFSC PARISH LENTEN MISSION

#### **'Finding the Treasure within the Cross'**

Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, to Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>,  
at 7:00 pm in St. Catherine of Siena Church

Fr. Dominic Sultana will lead our Lenten Mission. Fr. Dominic was ordained in 2005. He has a Doctorate in Theology from Rome and has qualifications in Spiritual Counselling. He is also a speaker and author.

'Finding the Treasure within the Cross' is more than a set of talks; it's a transformative journey towards a deeper personal encounter with Christ. Inspired by the words, "The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone", we will delve into uncovering the hidden treasures in our past adversities, transforming pain into profound spiritual insight.

**Day 1: Awareness of Current State and Blockages** as we learn to recognize and stay in God's presence.

**Day 2: Healing Service and Confession**

**Day 3: Embracing New Life in Christ** as we discover a new sense of life in Christ. (Reception in the Church Hall will follow.)

**EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

**(Please note: NO registration is required to attend.)**

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

First Wednesday of the Month  
7:00 pm - Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, Confession available.  
St. Stephen's Church

Wednesdays/Fridays  
Eucharistic Adoration  
8:00 am—4:00 pm  
St. Catherine's Church

Thursdays  
7:30 pm - Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, Confession available  
St. Catherine's Church

### **CONFESSION TIMES**

First Wednesday of the month 7:00 pm  
(includes a Holy Hour)  
St. Stephen's Church

Thursdays 7:30 pm  
(includes a Holy Hour)  
St. Catherine's Church

Saturdays, following the 9:00 am Mass  
St. Catherine's Church

Saturdays  
3:00-3:45 pm  
St. Stephen's Church

### **SSVP Food Assistance**

St Catherine's  
902-455-6525

St Patrick's  
902-405-3806

St Stephen's  
902-405-3686

St Theresa's  
902-414-4625

### **FEAST OF ST. PATRICK – SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH, 9:30 AM MASS**



On Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, all are welcome to come to St. Patrick's Church (2263 Brunswick St.) and celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick at their 9:30 am Mass.

St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There, he found some sailors who took him back to Britain where he was reunited with his family.

A vision prompted Patrick to study for the priesthood. Later, he was ordained a Bishop and was sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. He is credited with converting the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools throughout Ireland; he had performed many miracles and wrote of his love for God.

***Lá Fhéile Pádraig sona duit!*** (Happy St. Patrick's Day!)



Next Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, is **Solidarity Sunday**, when Development and Peace — Caritas Canada invites you to give generously and thanks you warmly for your generosity, which helps support over 73 projects in 36 countries around the world! This year's campaign, **'Reaping our Rights,'** calls you to stand with small-scale farmers and peasant communities who feed the world while caring for the Earth.

Next Sunday, bring your Development and Peace envelope (or a blank envelope labelled D&P) to place in the collection basket or donate online at [www.devp.org/give](http://www.devp.org/give).  
**Thank you for your solidarity!**

### **SOLEMNITY OF ST. JOSEPH – TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH – 7:00 PM MASS**



The highest feast in honour of St. Joseph is celebrated annually on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The Feast day becoming the official practice of the Church in the 1500s.

Of St. Joseph, Pope Francis has stated that: "Each of us can discover in Joseph -- the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence - an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble". "St. Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation."

Joseph is the Patron Saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers and working people, among others. He was chosen as the Patron Saint of Canada by the first Recollect Franciscan missionaries in 1624.

The Parish Mass celebrating the Solemnity of St. Joseph will take place in St. Stephen's Church at a special 7:00 pm Mass on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Following the mass, the Knights of Columbus Council 8666 will be hosting a reception in the Church Hall. (The 12:00 noon Mass at St. Catherine's Church is cancelled.)

## WASHING OF THE FEET – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Parish will be celebrating Holy Thursday at St. Stephen's Church on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm Mass. We would appreciate the involvement of parishioners from throughout the Parish to assist us with the Washing of the Feet ceremony that takes place within the Mass. Would those parishioners willing to participate, please call the Parish Office (902-454-8221) or email [officestfsc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfsc@gmail.com). Please leave your name, phone number and email address. Thank you!



## Congratulations to the newest member of the Church's family!!

Last Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, we welcomed Finn Richard Rafuse, son of Bradley and Jessica Rafuse, into the community of faith. May the Spirit he has received, guide him as he grows in greater understanding of his faith and holiness!

## DONATIONS FOR EASTER FLOWERS



We are accepting donations for the purchase of Easter flowers at each Church location. If you wish to make a donation or a donation in memory of a loved one, please mark your name,

contact information and envelope number on a plain, white envelope and place it in the regular collection at any weekend Mass. We will be pleased to acknowledge these remembrances in the Easter Sunday Parish bulletin.

Thank you!

## PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

It is with sadness that we share news of the passing of two members of our Parish family:

Linda Mantin - The funeral Mass for Linda will take place on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am in St. Stephen's Church.

Vivian Moran (Sr. Teresa's mother) - The funeral Mass for Vivian will take place on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 am in St Catherine's Church.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

## HOPE



## Religious Education

### (GRADES PRIMARY TO SIX)

This Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, classes will take place for students enrolled in our Parish program.

St. Catherine's classes—10:00-10:45 am  
St. Stephen's classes— following 9:30 am Mass



Youth group meets Wednesday evenings from 7:00—8:30 pm in St. Stephen's Church Hall. Enter via the red doors on Robie Street.

For more information about Youth Group or to register, please contact Anna Irish ([annamichelleirish@gmail.com](mailto:annamichelleirish@gmail.com)).



Our **PARISH GAMES NIGHT** for elementary students on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, was a great success. We had 29 students in attendance. All enjoyed some fun time together. There were plenty of board games available, the ping pong tables were in great demand, and the students even made their own pretzels.

We look forward to our next time together!!!

## PARISH NEWS

### Parish

#### Leadership Team

Claudette Carroll  
Elizabeth Clark  
Jim Evans  
Charles Yochoff

#### FOLLOW US ON



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#### MEET OUR TEAM

Fr. Nathanael DesRoches  
Administrator

Fr. Robert Nicholas  
Associate Pastor

Rev. Mr Paul Carnell

Brent Hopkins  
Operations Manager

Sr. Rita Hanna, FoH

Sr. Teresa MacDonald  
Office Manager

Cheryl Delaney  
Administrative Assistant



### ST. PATRICK'S SOCIAL AND LUNCH



St. Patrick's Church is hosting a lunch and social in their hall on **Saturday, March 16th, from 11:30 - 1:30**. They will be serving Shepherd's Pie and there will be a vegetarian option of Vegetarian Chili, Coleslaw, Irish Soda Bread, Gingerbread with Whipped Cream, Tea, Coffee, Juice. Tickets: \$15.00 each and \$30.00 for a Family of up to 4 people. Tickets must be purchased or reserved for pickup by Wednesday, March 13th. If you wish to reserve tickets for pickup at the door, please phone the Parish Office (902 454-8221) and leave your name and telephone number and you will get a call back to take your order. All St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi parishioners are invited to bring a friend!

### FUN FOR SENIORS invites you to an

#### Irish Fling

St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi Parish



**Who?** All Seniors and their Friends are welcome!

**What?** A fun Party consisting of Afternoon Tea (Scones, Assorted Jams, Sweets, Hot & Cold Beverages), Games, Door Prize Draw, 50/50 Draw, Irish Sing-a-long. You are encouraged to wear green to this event.

**When?** **Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** – 1:00 pm

**Where?** St. Stephen's Church Hall (Please use the lower Robie Street door, under the ramp, that leads directly into the hall.)

**Cost?** It's FREE! (We will have a free-will donation basket for anyone who might wish to make a contribution to future events.)

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT:

Janet Mullock 902-455-3718  
Betty Browne 902-453-3644  
Linda Cody 902-453-4558

[janet.mullock@bellaliant.net](mailto:janet.mullock@bellaliant.net)  
[brownebetty@hotmail.com](mailto:brownebetty@hotmail.com)  
[lindacody49@gmail.com](mailto:lindacody49@gmail.com)

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### CELEBRATING ST. PATRICK

**March 9th at 2:00 pm**—The Charitable Irish Society of Halifax will be meeting at St. Patrick's Church for a talk and tour of this historic building.

**March 10th— St. Patrick's Day Parade**—Parade marchers must be in place by 12:45 pm for 1:00 pm start at Pier 20/21 near Garrison Brewery. Bring a bell to ring. Irish or be Irish for the Day. All are welcome.

**March 24th at 2:00 pm—Halifax Concert Band**— The Annual Celtic Concert will take place at St. Patrick's Church.

**Daylight Savings Time begins this Sunday, March 10th, at 2:00 am. A friendly reminder to spring forward your clocks by one hour before you go to bed on Saturday night!**

Anyone wishing to submit announcements for the bulletin is asked to send them to [officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com) by 9:00 am each Wednesday morning. Thanks!

PARISH OFFICE - WALK-IN HOURS: MON/WED/FRI 9:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON

Email [officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com)  
Parish Office: 902-454-8221  
Address: 6351 North Street, Halifax, B3L 1P7