



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)

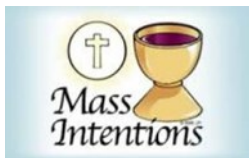
Sunday 7:00 pm
St. Catherine's Church

Livestream Mass:
Sunday, April 21, 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



Tuesday, April 23rd
Genevieve Richardson +
12:00 Noon St. Catherine's

Friday, April 26th
Marilyn Tapper +
9:00 am St. Stephen's

Saturday, April 27th
Vadie Thornhill +
9:00 am St. Catherine's

J.C. Martin & Matias Martin +
4:00 pm St. Stephen's

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—April 21, 2024

ARCHBISHOP DUNN'S VISIT TO SFSC THIS WEEKEND

Fr. Nathanael encourages all to greet Archbishop Dunn this weekend as he attends two Masses within the Parish to listen to the concerns of parishioners regarding the recommendations of closures as he enters his period of discernment.

Archbishop Dunn will celebrate the 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, April 20th, at St. Stephen's, and the 9:30 am Mass on Sunday, April 21st, at St. Patrick's. He will stay after Mass as long as needed to hear from all.

We continue to ask the Holy Spirit to guide and enliven the Parish to bring forth the kingdom of God on earth.

SFSC SPRING FAIR THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH!

Our Spring Fair is happening this Saturday, April 20th, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in St. Catherine's Church Hall. All proceeds will support the set-up of new tenant homes at Ozanam Place, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's 38-unit affordable housing project on Brunswick Street. There will be a 50/50 Draw, Basket Raffles, Baked Goods, Books, Children's Games, Face Painting, Jewelry, New-to-You, gently used Toys, Crafts, Canteen, PLUS our Silent Auction. Lunch will be served!

ST. FRANCIS AND ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH



How can you support the Spring Fair?

Spring Fair donations will be gratefully accepted for any of our tables on Friday, April 19th, from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm at St. Catherine's Church Hall. This is a great time to do some Spring cleaning and donate gently used items to the New-to-You table (no clothing)! Why not bake an item or two for our Baked Goods Table. (Please include your name and phone number with your baked goods. These are only for our records and will not appear on the goods for sale.)

Come for Lunch on Saturday – Homemade Chili (vegan available), fresh roll, homemade cookie, and coffee/juice/water available for \$10. Kid-friendly menu of hot dog, homemade cookie, and juice/water for \$5.

We hope to see you all at the Fair this SATURDAY, April 20th, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm as together we raise funds for this very important cause!!

FAITH

61ST WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

“Called to sow seeds of hope and to build peace.”

This weekend, the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and other to religious life or to live as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations and teaching young people to discern God's call is a serious duty, but also a joyful one. During this week, let us pray for our clergy, for those in religious life, and for all the faithful that they will joyfully live out their vocation.



(continued. . .)

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

Pope Francis' Message on the 61st World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Dear brothers and sisters!

Each year, the World Day of Prayer for Vocations invites us to reflect on the precious gift of the Lord's call to each of us, as members of his faithful pilgrim people, to participate in his loving plan and to embody the beauty of the Gospel in different states of life. Hearing that divine call, which is far from being an imposed duty – even in the name of a religious ideal – is the surest way for us to fulfil our deepest desire for happiness. Our life finds fulfilment when we discover who we are, what our gifts are, where we can make them bear fruit, and what path we can follow in order to become signs and instruments of love, generous acceptance, beauty and peace, wherever we find ourselves. To read his full message, visit: [Pope Francis' Message](#)



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA—A SPECIAL CELEBRATION!

On Sunday, April 28th, at St. Catherine's 11:00 am Mass, we will celebrate two special events in the life of the SFSC Parish family.



First, we will celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion for nine students enrolled in the program at St. Catherine's. We ask for your prayers for our candidates who have been preparing for this special day – Andrei, Colton, Harin, James, Joseph, Julie, Natalie, Rio, and Sophie.

As the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena is the next day, on April 29th, we will take this opportunity in gathering to celebrate her patroness of one of the churches within the Parish.

A reception will take place following this special Mass to honor our First Communicants, and to celebrate all the blessings that St. Catherine of Siena has poured upon us.



“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”
– St. Catherine of Siena

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH'S FAMILY!!



On Easter Sunday, we welcomed Remy Markus Gray, child of Makaela & Markus, into the community of faith.

Last Sunday, April 14th, we welcomed Ria Arockia Robert, child of Mary & Robert, into the community of faith.

May the Spirit they have received through the waters of Baptism guide them as they grow in greater understanding of their faith and holiness!

FUNERAL MASSES TO BE CELEBRATED THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Shawn Kelly—The funeral Mass for Shawn will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 24th, at 10:00 am in St. Catherine's Church.

Anna 'Maria' Toso—The funeral Mass for Maria will be celebrated on Thursday, April 25th, at 11:00 am in St. Catherine's Church.



Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

SUNDAY MASS NEWS —There will be no Mass **LIVESTREAMED on Sunday, April 28th & May 5th.**



No 7:00 pm Mass at St. Catherine's on May 5th – As all Priests of the Diocese will be leaving for their annual Retreat, there will be no 7:00 pm Mass on Sunday, May 5th.

“Silver Roses” Knight of Columbus Pilgrimage with eight roses that travel along different North American routes in Canada, United States and Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion to pray for respect for life, the spiritual renewal of each nation, and the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe with parishioners and community members. More info and details will be available this weekend on posters in all SFSC churches.



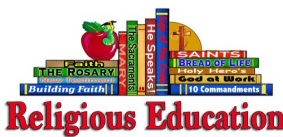
Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared before St. Juan Diego, who was an Aztec convert to Christianity, on December 9th and again on December 12th, 1531. During her first apparition, she requested that a shrine to her be built on the spot where she appeared (near Mexico City). The bishop demanded a sign before he would approve construction of a church. Mary then appeared a second time to Juan Diego and ordered him to collect roses. In a second audience with the bishop, Juan Diego opened his cloak, letting dozens of roses fall to the floor and revealing the image of Mary imprinted on the inside of the cloak—the image that is now venerated in the Basilica of Guadalupe.

HEALING MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED ON THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH, AT 7:00 PM AT ST. STEPHEN’S CHURCH

Join Fr. Mark Cherry of Sacred Heart Evangelization and Healing Ministry for the monthly Healing Mass on Thursday, April 25th, at 7:00 pm. The focus of the Mass will be the continued healing ministry of Jesus Christ through His Church. The homily will focus on receiving the Lord’s healing, and prayers for healing will be offered after Mass. All are welcome.



HOPE



GRADES PRIMARY TO SIX

This Sunday, April 21st, 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 the 9:30 am Mass



Youth group meets Wednesday evenings from 7:00–8:30 pm in St. Stephen’s Church Hall. For more information about Youth Group or to register, please contact Anna Irish.

annamichelleirish@gmail.com

LOVE IN ACTION

**COLLECTION FOR ANNUAL MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON
NORTH END PARENT RESOURCE CENTRE**



The North End Parent Resource Centre is planning for their annual Mother’s Day Luncheon for the mothers of the neighbourhood. The luncheon will take place on Saturday, May 11th. St. Patrick’s community supports this annual event through donations of funds to help with the luncheon and personal items for gift bags for the mothers. All members of the parish community are welcome to support this annual event.

Donations of money and personal items will be received until Sunday, May 5th.

Please place your money donation in an envelope marked Parent Resource Centre Mother’s Day Event and place in the collection basket. Please place personal items in the marked basket at the back of the church. Suggested donations for gift bags: hand lotion, soap, shampoo, body wash, lip balm, sweets.

Thank you for your continued support of this special event for the mothers of our neighbourhood. For further information, please see Michele O’Neill or Colleen Doucette.

PARISH NEWS



TAX TIME - The Canada Revenue Agency provides Canadians with a network of CVITP tax volunteers in communities throughout Canada. CVITP volunteers prepare income tax and benefit returns for eligible individuals with modest income, a simple tax situation, and who are not able to prepare and file their return themselves.

If you would like to have your taxes prepared, please call the St. Catherine’s Society of St. Vincent de Paul phone number (902-455-6525) and leave a message. You are asked to clearly state your name and phone number while indicating that this message is for this free tax service.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Parish

Leadership Team

Claudette Carroll
Elizabeth Clark
Jim Evans
Charles Yochoff

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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

Cheryl Delaney
Administrative Assistant
admstfsc@gmail.com

Sara Hutt
Administrative Assistant
officestfsc@gmail.com

SISTERS OF CHARITY CELEBRATE 175TH ANNIVERSARY

The Sisters of Charity Halifax will celebrate 175 years of service this May. On May 11, 1849, four Sisters from the New York Sisters of Charity arrived in Halifax and began their ministry at Saint Mary's School and Convent on Barrington Street. As they served the people of Halifax at the time, young women expressed interest in their ministry and wanted to join the religious community. This resulted in the group becoming an independent Congregation with their own Motherhouse and Novitiate in 1856, and the Sisters of Charity of Halifax came into being. As their ministry to teach and care for children grew, so did their impact and service to the larger community locally, nationally, and internationally.



To recognize the ministry and service of the Sisters of Charity, there will be a Liturgy of Thanksgiving on Saturday, May 11th, at 12:15 pm at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica. Archbishop Dunn presiding. A reception will follow. All are welcome!

STEWARDSHIP

Options for Giving to our Parish

1. Request weekly Sunday envelopes through our Parish Office.
2. E-Transfer to officestfsc@gmail.com (include your name and church).
3. Sign up for pre-authorized payments through our Parish Office.
4. Mail your donation to our Parish Office.

Please be assured that any donations received will be assigned to your account and income tax receipts will be issued. Thank you for your continued generosity!

What are pre-authorized payments?

The Parish has a Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) plan to assist you in your support of the work of our community. It allows you to give intentionally, proportionally, and faithfully to your community by having your offering automatically withdrawn from your bank account each month.

Why should YOU participate?

- Convenience. No more scrambling for the right change, writing a cheque, or forgetting your envelope at home.
- Continued support of your Church when you are away.
- Allows for regular, dependable flow of contributions to the Parish.
- If you wish to have something to place in the collection basket, you can still receive your box of numbered envelopes. They have been pre-printed to allow you to indicate that you give through PAD.

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



Anyone wishing to submit announcements for the bulletin is asked to send them to officestfsc@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 officestfsc@gmail.com

Parish Office: 902-454-8221

Address: 6351 North Street, Halifax, B3L 1P7

Website: <https://www.stfrancisandstclareparish.ca>