



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:
Sorry, not available
this Sunday.

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 30th

David Organ +
12:00 Noon St. Catherine's

Friday, May 3rd

Wanda Bonomo (Living)
9:00 am St. Stephen's

Saturday, May 4th

Jane Mersereau +
9:00 am St. Catherine's

Gary Doucette +
4:00 pm St. Stephen's

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER—April 28, 2024

FAITH

“Silver Roses” Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage

On Friday, April 26th, following the 7:00 am Mass at St. Catherine's, a Prayer Service will take place focusing on the Silver Rose pilgrimage, and the rose will be available for a short time during Adoration. The pilgrimage will continue at St. Stephen's where it will be on display after Friday's 9:00 am Mass. On Saturday, April 27th, it returns to St. Catherine's to be on display after the 9:00 am Mass. 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.



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA—A SPECIAL CELEBRATION!

This 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 eight 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, 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.



ST. STEPHEN'S — CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION!

On Sunday, May 12th, at St. Stephen's 9:30 am Mass, we will celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion with Arthur, Momore, Rafaella, Renata, and Sebastian. We would like to thank all of the parishioners for keeping these children in their prayers as they worked towards this very special day. We would like to ask all of our parishioners to join us in the hall after Mass on May 12th to meet the children and their families as we continue the celebration with a reception. Thank you all very much for your continued support and prayers for all of our children.



FUNERAL MASSES TO BE CELEBRATED THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Nancy Nicholson - The funeral Mass for Nancy will be celebrated on Friday, April 26th, at 1:00 pm in St. Stephen's Church.

Pamela Scott - The funeral Mass for Pamela will be celebrated on Saturday, April 27th, at 11:00 am in St. Stephen's Church.



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

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA'S FEAST DAY—APRIL 29TH

Catherine was born on March 25, 1347, in Siena, Italy, to a prosperous working class family. She was the 24th of 25 children. At the age of six, Catherine had a vision in which she felt she was called to a solitary and prayerful life. At the age of seven, Catherine made a private vow of virginity and when she was fifteen, she cut off her hair in defiance of her family to prevent a marriage arrangement. At the age of seventeen, Catherine joined a Dominican Tertiary, a third order of lay women, and made private promises of poverty, chastity and obedience.

Many holy women achieved great status at this time of history, but Catherine was the most outstanding, not only because of the extent of her activities in her short life but because of her written legacy. Her letters, her prayers (26 in total) were recorded as it was her habit to pray aloud in the presence of her followers. The "Dialogue" was just that, her dialogue between herself and God. God is the teacher in the dialogue between them. In this dialogue, God told Catherine about His plan for us: "This is why I have put you among your neighbours: so that you can do for them what you cannot do for me – that is, love them without any concern for thanks and without looking for any profit for yourself. And whatever you do for them I will consider it done for me."



DIOCESAN PRIESTS' RETREAT

The Priests of the Diocese will be on Retreat from May 5th – 10th. Let us pray that it is a time of rest and renewal for our Diocesan Clergy. Please note:

- The 7:00 pm Mass on Sunday, May 5th, is cancelled.
- Weekday masses, including Tuesday's 12:00 noon Mass at St. Catherine's, Friday's 9:00 am Mass at St. Stephen's, and the 7:00 am FoH Conventual Masses at St. Catherine's from Tuesday to Friday are cancelled for this week.
- Adoration/Confession on Wednesday evening at St. Stephen's and on Thursday evening at St. Catherine's are cancelled for this week.



Adoration on Wednesday and Friday, from 8:00 am -4:00 pm, at St Catherine's will still take place. The 9:00 am Saturday Mass on May 11th will be celebrated.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR COMMUNION MINISTRY



Bringing Holy Communion to those who are ill, shut-in or unable to attend Mass is a great gift to those who have served the church for many years, especially our elderly. St. Catherine's Church needs additional volunteers to make these visits. The commitment would be for one Sunday a month following the Sunday Mass. If you feel you may be called to this ministry, please contact the Parish Office at 902-454-8221 and leave your contact information.

HOPE

GRADES PRIMARY TO SIX



This Sunday, April 28th, First Communion will be celebrated at St. Catherine's, and a Children's Liturgy will be celebrated at the 9:30 am Mass at St. Stephen's .



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).

Gratias Tibi Valde

One of our parishioners had an idea inspired by a homily of Brother Nathanael. A few parishioners of our communities reviewed the idea and gave support and encouragement.

Below is the proposal Brother Nathanael so kindly accepted.

"To hold a Parish Fair like-venue while generating funds for the proposed Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Housing Project. In addition to raising money, a secondary goal would be to support community by bringing together fun people of all ages of the parish for a united worthy project."

St. Catherine's Hall was offered as the Spring Fair site where our new parish would raise money for Ozanam Place, a 38-unit housing project.

To date, the fair has raised over \$12,000 (\$6700 in Fair Sales, \$5500 in Donations) supported by all communities of St Theresa's, St Patrick's, St Stephen's and St Catherine's – plus more.



Rendering of Ozanam Place on Brunswick St. next to Hope Cottage

This undertaking does not go without heartfelt appreciation and gratitude.

SPECIAL THANKS:

- Brother Nathanael for accepting the proposal.
- Society of Saint Vincent de Paul - Halifax Particular Council for starting this project in our parish boundaries and the Knights of Columbus for offering two raffle prizes and selling all the raffle tickets.
- Standing ovation to the 70 volunteers – making up the "FUN TEAM" membership, from behind the scene preparations to a Fair Day presence. We are aged from 9 to mid-90s, with strong support of youth both in and out of our Youth group. 20 Bakers shared their sweet talents while 5 cooks lovingly made their best Chili.
- Praise to each of you, our great attendees and all who donated items.
- Appreciation to all Silent Auction vendors, donors and yes, bidders too.

For those not able to be with us on April 20th you too, can still can take part. Place an addressed envelope with "Ozanam Place" in the Sunday's collection. Cheque payable to: "St Francis and St Clare of Assisi" Memo line: "Ozanam Place".

REMEMBER, TREASURE THE VALUE WHEN WE ALL COME TOGETHER - WE CAN MAKE REALLY COOL THINGS HAPPEN!

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE, THE FAIR COMMITTEE



CONGRATULATIONS!

- 50/50 Ticket Winner - Annette McDonald
- Grocery Hamper - Savita Rosenow
- Mother's Day Basket - Helen Collier
- Christmas Basket – Helen Collier
(Lucky day for Helen. Yes, she won twice!)
- KoC Picture – Monica MacKinnon
- KoC Statue – Ian Morrison



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 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. **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. Personal items (hand lotion, soap, shampoo, body wash, lip balm, sweets) can be placed in the marked basket at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued support.

PARISH NEWS

Parish

Leadership Team

Claudette Carroll
Elizabeth Clark
Jim Evans
Charles Yochoff

The **St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata CWL** will be holding its next meeting on Sunday, May 5th, at 2:30 pm in the Marian Room. All women of the parish are invited to attend. Please use the entrance off Robie Street. Also, this will be the last weekend for selling tickets on the afghan. If you have not purchased your lucky ticket, they will be available before and after Masses.



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FUN FOR SENIORS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & BINGO!



Who? All Seniors and their Friends are welcome!

What? A fun party consisting of LUNCH—Delicious Sandwich Plate, Birthday Cake, Beverages; 10 Games of BINGO with fun prizes; Door Prize Draw; 50/50 Draw; Birthday Gifts!

When? **Thursday, May 16th** – 12:00 pm

Where? St. Stephen's Church Hall, Corner of Robie Street and Normandy Drive. Please use the lower Robie Street door that leads directly into the hall. (Under the ramp.)

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

YOU MUST REGISTER BY SUNDAY, MAY 12TH. PLEASE CONTACT:

Janet Mullock	902-455-3718	janet.mullock@bellaliant.net
Catherine Costello	902-422-9347	cathhalifax@yahoo.ca
Barb Bourgeois	902-429-2647	barbjbourgeois@gmail.com
Fran Cody	902-292-7700	franniecody1950@gmail.com
Linda Cody	902-453-4558	lindacody49@gmail.com

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

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, designation for your gift, 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! 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>

