

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 Church

Sunday 9:30 am

St. Stephen Church

Sunday 11:00 am

St. Catherine Church

St. Faustina Polish Mission

Sunday 1:00 pm

St. Catherine Church

Sunday 7:00 pm

St. Catherine Church

Livestream:

Sept 13 2026

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday, 9:00 am

St. Stephen Church

Wednesday, 9:00 am

St. Stephen Church

Thursday, 9:00 am

St. Stephen Church

Friday, 7:30 am

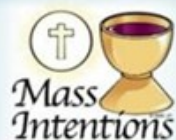
St. Catherine Church

Friday, 9:00 am

St. Stephen Church

Saturday, 9:00 am

St. Catherine Church
(Franciscan Mass)



Tuesday, Sept 15 9am

Aaron Kelly

Wednesday Sept 16 9am

Michael MacKenzie

Thursday Sept 17 9am

Marjorie Scott

Friday Sept 18 9am

Christina Ouderik

Saturday Sept 19 9am

Peggy McLean

Saturday Sept 19 4pm

Maria Vittoria

De Nicola &

Giovanni De Nicola

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH

Sept 13 2026

OPPORTUNITY FOR MINISTRY – ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH



The cleaning of Altar Linens involves washing and ironing the purificators and corporals that are used for wiping the sacred cup during communion, and the towels that are used on the Altar by the Presider and the Eucharistic Ministers. The cleaning of Altar Linens is a "behind the scenes" way to get involved in what is truly the *source and summit* of our faith, the Eucharist. If you are interested in volunteering for the cleaning of Altar Linens at St. Catherine's, please contact Cathy Harris, at 902-455-1617 or ceharris55@gmail.com.

Parish Scholarships and a Bursary Have Been Awarded

St. Catherine's Raymond & Eleanor (Helen) Hollett Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to Katie MacIntyre, who was this year's recipient of the Raymond & Eleanor (Helen) Hollett Memorial Scholarship.

St. Stephen's Monsignor Murphy Scholarship

Congratulations to Natalia Comeau, who was this year's recipient of the Monsignor Murphy Scholarship.

St. Stephen's Knights of Columbus Council 8666 Bursary

Congratulations to Zora Bibin, who was this year's recipient of the Knights of Columbus Council 8666 Bursary.

Our Parish community congratulates these young people and wishes them success in their future studies. Our prayers follow you on your continued journey of faith.

Parish Fashion Fair - Thank you!

In mid-August, close to 60 volunteers joyfully assisted with setup, sales, and support of the Parish Fashion Fair. Special thanks go to Eileen Ross, for your generous inventory merchandise donation from Leslie Jenkins' estate; Fr. Nathanael, for your beautiful gifts of flexibility and patience; St. Stephen's KoC, along with Cathy: your hamburgers & hotdogs were tasty; and the mystery man who dropped off Tim's coffee. We truly appreciated the many customers who gave generously. All proceeds support the mission of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish. Merchandise items and half of the 50/50 Draw raised over \$3K.

Congratulations to the Winners:

- 50/50: Georgina
- Customer Door Prize: Mitzi
- Volunteer "We Appreciate You" Draw Prizes: Irena and Savita

**Northwood -
Halifax Campus**

Mass is celebrated on the
2nd Wednesday of the
month at 10:15 am.

Berkeley Gladstone

Mass is celebrated on the
4th Wednesday of the
month at 10:00 am.

**Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament**

Wednesdays following the
9:00 am Mass to 4:00 pm.
Fridays 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.
St. Catherine of Siena Church

**Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
with Confession**

Thursdays 7:30 pm
Franciscan Holy Hour of
Eucharistic Adoration,
Confession available.
St. Catherine of Siena Church

Confession Times

Saturdays following the
9:00 am Mass
St. Catherine of Siena Church

Saturdays, 3:00-3:45 pm
St. Stephen Church

Pray the Rosary

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 pm
Monday 7:15 - 8:00 pm
St. Stephen Church

Sunday 6:20 - 6:45 pm
St. Catherine of Siena 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

Responsible Ministry Requirements

The Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth instituted the Responsible Ministry and Safe Environment Protocol in 2010 with some revisions since that date. The guiding principles of the protocol are in place to safeguard all those to whom we minister and all those who minister. The protocol is designed to enhance the well-being and safety of all who participate in the Church's programs and services.

While every parishioner has an obligation to create a safe environment, clergy, staff and volunteers are required to be in compliance with the protocol. In some cases, the protocol requires volunteers to sign a form while others are required to complete a criminal record check and sign the Covenant of Care documents. Volunteers under the age of 18 are required to complete a Youth Volunteer Permission Letter and a Personal Information Sheet. Volunteers who are in a role where a criminal record is not required, must still complete the Covenant of Care documents.

Roles where a criminal record check is required are as follows:

Clergy and Staff	Adult Faith Formation
Altar Server Lead	Sacristan
Children's Catechesis	Youth Ministry Leader
Collection Counter	Finance Council
Pastoral Council	Parish Leadership Team
Extraordinary Minister to the Sick/Homebound	Any person who is a holder of a key(s) to the church properties
Outreach/Emergency Shelters	Care and Companionship

Anyone in a role as listed above is also required to complete a Covenant of Care and Personal Information Sheet. The Criminal Record Check is valid for five (5) years.

Please contact the parish office if you require a new or updated criminal record check or wish to update your covenant of care documents.

If you are in possession of a key allowing you access to any of the church properties and are no longer in a role where a key is required, please return your key to the Parish Office.

We thank you for your continued service to the parish, to the parishioners and the community.

Pilgrimage of Grace to Medjugorje - Oct 25-Nov 5, 2026

Early registration is encouraged. One day and night in Dubrovnik.

Cost: \$3,699.00 - Includes flights, accommodation, 2 meals per day, and a local guide.

Spiritual Director: Fr. Rob Elford, Diocese of Grand Falls, Newfoundland

Group Leader: Rhonda-Lynn Cormier of Touched by Grace Canada

Contact Joanne Thibeau, Stella Maris Parish for more information or to register: 902-580-5350. Seats are limited.

Healing Masses with Fr. Mark Cherry

Join Fr. Mark Cherry of Sacred Heart Evangelization and Healing Ministry for a series of healing Masses at St. Stephen Church. All will be held 6:30-10:30pm:

Thursday, September 17

Thursday, October 22

Thursday, November 19

St. Catherine's Religious Education Program for Elementary Students



The ELEMENTARY PROGRAM (grades primary to six) at St. Catherine of Siena Church will gather for class, generally, on every second Sunday; on those Sundays when classes do not take place, Children's Liturgies will be celebrated during Mass; preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion (grade 2) will be provided; and Children's bulletins will be provided each Sunday to take the gospel message home. There will also be opportunities provided for all students to come together at some special gatherings!

Program Information & Registration Forms are now available at the entrance of the Church for students from grade primary to six to enroll in our Church program. You can simply place the form in the collection basket at any weekend Mass, or scan and return to officestfsc@gmail.com, or deliver them to the Parish Office at 6032 Normandy Drive, Halifax, NS B3K 2S9. This program is offered FREE to parishioners as sharing the faith is priceless!

The program begins this Sunday, September 13th, with our first Children's Liturgy during the 11:00 am Mass. Classes do not begin until October 4th, so you have plenty of time to register.

What is a Children's Liturgy?

As a Parish Family, we gather to celebrate Mass every Sunday. A Children's Liturgy is designed for children as young as three or four and is celebrated to assist younger members of the community to more fully understand the gospel message of the day. After the Introductory Rites of the Mass, students will leave Mass to hear the readings of the day from the Children's Lectionary, do an activity on the gospel message, and discuss the lesson of the day with Catechists. Students and Catechists will rejoin the Mass during the collection. We hope to see you on Sunday!

St. Stephen's Family Faith Formation/Registration



Hello, my name is Maria McDonald and I am so thrilled to be part of the St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish family. I will be coordinating the P-Gr. 6 Faith Formation Program at St. Stephen's Church, and working with the youth of the parish (Gr. 7-12).

I have been working in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth for 20 years in similar roles, and I am looking forward to getting to know you and your families.

Information on Faith Formation Programs will be forthcoming, but if you'd like to contact me with any questions about the programs, getting involved, or just to say hello, please feel free to do so at: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com. I look forward to meeting you!

Catechists/Teachers Needed!

Are you a Catechist at heart? Do you enjoy and feel elevated when you share and witness to who Jesus Christ is and the teachings of the Church?

The last instruction that Jesus gave to his disciples was: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." (Mark 16:15). By volunteering to be a catechist, you are doing one of the most important tasks that Jesus asks us to do. Besides helping the children/youth and families of our parish to grow in their understanding of our faith, you will find that you also will grow in your relationship with God.

Please contact Maria McDonald for more information: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com.

**Parish
Leadership Team**

Claudette Carroll
Jim Evans
Jaison Joseph

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[@sfscparish](#)

MEET OUR TEAM

Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, FoH
Administrator

Fr. Peter Hanna, FoH
Associate Pastor

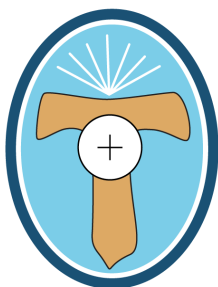
Deacon Paul Carnell
Deacon Gordon MacKinnon
Deacon Bernie Coffin (Ret'd)
Deacon Gérald LeBlanc (Ret'd)
Deacon Br. Grant McLean,
FoH
br.grant.sfsc@gmail.com

Sr. Rita Hanna, FoH

Anne James
Operations Coordinator

Maria McDonald
Faith Formation Coordinator
faithformationsfsc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Clark
Administrative Assistant
officestfsc@gmail.com



LOVE IN ACTION

St. Catherine's St. Vincent de Paul Conference



Each week, our Vincentians deliver food items and grocery vouchers to those in need within our community. In this time of rising inflation, the most vulnerable among us need our support more than ever.

After a summer of great need, we must turn to you again, as presently, the cupboards of the Society are getting bare and need to be replenished. Food items are gratefully accepted each Sunday at Mass to fill our Food Bank. Essentials in the Food Bank include peanut butter, cereal, Kraft dinner, pasta and sauce, soups, cans of meat, cookies, and juice. We have also expanded this list to include some basic toiletries, such as soap, toothpaste, deodorant, Kleenex, and toilet paper. Your ongoing support does not go unnoticed. On behalf of those we serve, THANK YOU!

St. Stephen's St. Vincent de Paul Conference

SSVP St. Stephen's Conference will hold their monthly collection on Sept 12 after the 4pm Mass and on Sept 13 after the 9:30am Mass at St. Stephen's church.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANOTHER LINE DANCING FUNDRAISER!!



On Saturday, October 17th, from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon in the St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall, everyone (18 years and older) is invited for a fun, friendly class of Line Dancing.

The best thing about Line Dancing is that you don't need a partner! It will be a perfect mix of fun, fitness, and friendly faces. New to Line Dancing or experienced, all are welcome.

The \$10 admission fee (cash only) will be collected at the door. There will also be a 50/50 draw. All proceeds will support the St. Catherine's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul.

STEWARDSHIP

Options for Giving to our Parish

1. Sign up for pre-authorized debit (PAD) on our website or by contacting the Parish office.
2. E-transfer by sending donations to officestfsc@gmail.com (include name, designation of your gift and church).
3. CanadaHelps.org - a secure third-party method to make a one time donation and/or to set-up monthly donations by credit card (see our website).
4. Request weekly Sunday envelopes through our Parish Office.



The options for giving are available on our website at
<https://www.sfscparish.ca/donate>.

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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY - CLOSED

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY - 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

Email: officestfsc@gmail.com

Telephone: 902-454-8221

Address: 6032 Normandy Drive, Halifax, NS B3K 2S9