

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 Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm

St. Stephen Church

Sunday 9:30 am

St. Stephen Church

Sunday 11:00 am

St. Catherine Church

Sunday 1:00 pm

St. Faustina Polish

Mission

St. Catherine Church

Sunday 7:00 pm

St. Catherine Church

Livestream:

Sunday Oct 11

Weekday Masses

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

Franciscan Mass

St. Catherine Church

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday, October 11, 2026



Gospel Reading - Matthew 22:1-14

The parable Jesus tells is straightforward. The king dispatches his servants to invite the guests to the wedding feast that he is planning for his son. The first guests refuse the invitation. A second dispatch of servants follows. Again, some guests ignore the invitation. Some go so far as to mistreat and even kill the servants.

The king invokes his retribution against these murderers by destroying them and burning their city. With the invited guests now deemed unworthy to attend the wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. Guests arrive, but accepting the king's invitation brings with it certain obligations.

We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

The parable teaches us about humility. The invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place.

To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.

The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast.

"Many are called, but few are chosen"



Tuesday, Oct 13

Hal Dobbeltsteyn

Wednesday, Oct 14

Bill Montevicchi

Thursday, Oct 15

Rose Mombourquette

Friday, Oct 16

Ann Marie Rankin

Saturday, Oct 17

9am - Hal Dobbeltsteyn

4pm - Darlene Ainsworth

Deepen the Knowledge of Your Faith

Do you feel tongue-tied when someone challenges your faith? If someone asked why we call Mary 'the Queen of Heaven' or how Jesus' crucifixion 2000 years ago saves your soul today, could you explain? You aren't alone. Many adult Catholics know how to practice their faith but struggle to explain why.

Join us for an intensive, eye-opening series designed exclusively for adults who want to move beyond the basics. Unpack the historical, scriptural, and theological bedrock of Catholicism so you can finally answer tough questions with total confidence.

- Deepen Your Roots: Master the core teaching, principles, and values that form the foundation of our Church
- Re-ignite Your Faith: Move from going through the motions to truly understanding the prodound beauty of what we profess

Course Details:

- This is a 9-week course. We'll meet on Saturdays 2:00-3:30pm at the Siena Room in St. Catherine's, **starting October 17**
- Course fee is \$5 to cover the cost of materials, and financial assistance is available for those who need it.
- Email biblecourse2026@gmail.com or leave a message at 902-449-6672 to enroll.

Northwood Halifax

10:15 am

Second Wednesday of
every month

Berkeley Gladstone

10:00 am

Fourth Wednesday of
every month

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays
after 9:00am Mass to 4:00pm
St. Stephen Church

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession

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

Confession Times

Saturdays, after 9:00am Mass
St. Catherine of Siena Church
Saturdays, 3:00-3:45pm
St. Stephen Church

Pray the Rosary

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm
Monday 7:15-8:00pm
St. Stephen Church
Sunday 6:20-6:45pm
St. Catherine of Siena Church



**Society of St.
Vincent de Paul**

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



Hallowe'en Lunch - Thursday, October 15
11:30am-1:30pm at St. Stephen's Church Hall

Please register before Monday, Oct 12th
brownebetty@hotmail.com or 902-453-3644
(leave your name and any guests' names)

Our gathering will start with a Special Prayer of Thanksgiving followed by Lunch. After dessert we will play some Scary Games. Party wraps up with a big Hallowe'en sing-a-long with help from our very own Fun For Seniors' band

PRIZES will be awarded for Best Costume (Yes, of course, costumes are welcome!)
Door Prize, 50/50 Draw, and Treats
(Your door donation will help support the November 12th Fun For Seniors event)



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.



A \$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. Bring your energy and get ready to move! It will be a fun morning while we support a great cause!



RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Do you know someone who has expressed an interest in the Catholic faith, or someone who was baptized Catholic but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

RCIA prepares, welcomes, and receives adults into the Catholic Church. Perhaps you or someone you know is considering becoming Catholic and wants to learn more about who Jesus is and more about the Catholic Church.

The first meeting will be held at St. Stephen's Church on Monday, Oct. 19 from 6:30-8:00pm, in the Marian Room, located in the basement. Please use the red side door on Robie Street.
Contact Maria McDonald: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com for more information.

Young Adults (YA)/Family Faith Formation/Youth Group

Young Adults (YA) Group - Friday, October 16, 7:00-9:00pm

The Young Adults Group invites you to attend our next meeting at St. Stephen's Hall on October 16. We look forward to seeing everyone and we hope to welcome newcomers as well. Please spread the word and mark your calendars for October 16, 7-9pm! *Use the red door on Robie Street.*

Please bring a snack to share

Family Faith Formation (Gr. P-6) - Sunday, October 18 after the 9:30am Mass

Please join us for our next class in the church hall on Sunday, October 18 after the 9:30am Mass. There will also be a Gr. 2 Parent Meeting in the Marian Room. Registrations are ongoing, so if you plan on registering your child/ren, please come by or email Maria McDonald, Faith Formation Coordinator: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com.

Youth Group (Gr. 7 through Gr. 12) - Wednesday, October 14, 7:00-8:30pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 7:00-8:30pm at St. Catherine's Hall
Registrations will continue into November.

For more information, please contact Maria McDonald: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com.



Thinking of the Poor at Thanksgiving

Special Thanksgiving Collection on October 10th & 11th

We have four Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul within the boundaries of our Parish. Our SSVV volunteers answer calls, largely for food assistance, each week. Parishioners provide a significant source of support through the annual Thanksgiving collection. We encourage you, if you can, to consider donating to this Catholic mission of helping the poor.

If you use a box of Sunday envelopes, there is a special envelope for this collection. Please write which SSVV Conference you are supporting on the Thanksgiving envelope. There are also special envelopes available at both church sites that allow you to indicate whether your gift should be directed to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Catherine's, St. Stephen's, St. Patrick's, or St. Theresa's.

On behalf of those we serve, THANK YOU!

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 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. Catherine's Religious Education Program for Elementary Students

This Sunday, October 11th, we will take a break from activities as we celebrate Thanksgiving weekend.

Next Sunday, October 18th, classes will take place from 10:00-10:45 am for students enrolled in the program at St. Catherine's.

Program Information & Registration Forms are available at the entrance of the Church for students from grades primary to six to enroll in our Church program.

For more information on the program, please contact Donna Noddin: donna.noddin@gmail.com

St. Francis and St. Clare Men's Group

The St. Francis and St. Clare Men's Group will reconvene on Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30pm in the Siena Room in the basement of St. Catherine church. This is an opportunity to get to know other men in our parish, to deepen your understanding of our faith, and to share experiences and perspectives with other Catholic men.

Meetings will be based on a program of study called *What We Believe - The Beauty of the Catholic Faith*.

Feel free to contact Philip at pdofns@gmail.com for more information.

Thanksgiving Mass and Rosary This Weekend

Praying the Rosary at St. Stephen Church - Due to the Thanksgiving long weekend, there will be no Rosary at St. Stephen church on either Saturday, Oct 10 or Monday, October 12. We will resume as usual next week.

Thanksgiving Day Mass at St. Stephen Church - Thanksgiving Day Mass will be held at St. Stephen Church on Monday, October 12 at 10:00am. *The Mass will not be livestreamed.*

St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day - Thank You!

Our parish was blessed with many events this past weekend for St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day. None would have been possible without the support of our wonderful volunteers. Thank you so much for sharing your gifts and enthusiasm with all of us!



With prayers and gratitude,
Fr. Nathanael & Fr. Peter



Healing Masses with Fr. Mark Cherry

Thursday, October 22 & Thursday, November 19, 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Join Fr. Mark Cherry of Sacred Heart Evangelization and Healing Ministry for a series of healing Masses at St. Stephen Church. All are welcome.

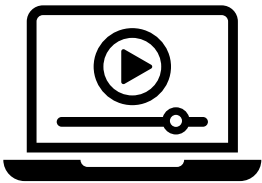
Options for Giving to our Parish



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

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



Have you checked out formed for amazing Catholic content?

Movies, formation series, documentaries, devotionals, audio books, and eBooks. The Parish has a subscription to [formed](https://www.formed.org), so it doesn't cost you anything to use! New programs are added regularly. It is a great way to grow in faith, and it's easy to register and use. Just follow these instructions:

- Go to [formed.org/signup](https://www.formed.org/signup)
- Search for our Parish by Postal Code B3L 1P7 and click on our Parish name
- Register with your name and your email address
- Check your email account for a link to begin using [formed](https://www.formed.org)

The SFSC Parish Bulletin Has a New Look!

On Oct 1, 2026, Microsoft Corp. officially discontinued *Publisher*, the program used by the parish to create bulletins for many years. We have switched to *Canva*, a graphic design platform for creating presentations, websites, and other digital products.

Welcome to the second iteration of our new bulletin. This is a work in progress, and there will be revisions and tweaks going forward as we get used to working with *Canva*. Learning new software comes with a learning curve - please bear with us as we adjust!

Previously, we requested that anyone wishing to include a notice in the bulletin should send the information to the Parish Office by Wednesdays at 12:00pm. Going forward, **please send any bulletin notices to officestfstc@gmail.com by Tuesday at 12:00pm noon.**

MEET OUR TEAM

Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, FoH - Administrator
Fr. Peter Hanna, FoH - Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Paul Carnell
Rev. Mr. Bernie Coffin (Retired)
Rev. Mr. Gérald LeBlanc (Retired)
Rev. Mr. Gordon MacKinnon
Rev. Br. Grant McLean, FoH br.grant.sfsc@gmail.com
Sr. Rita Hanna, FoH

Anne James - Operations Coordinator
annejsfsc@gmail.com
Maria McDonald - Faith Formation Coordinator
faithformationsfsc@gmail.com
Elizabeth Clark - Administrative Assistant
officestfstc@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Closed
Tuesday to Friday - 9am to 1pm

Email: officestfstc@gmail.com
Telephone: 902-454-8221

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

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

Please email announcements for the bulletin to officestfstc@gmail.com by 12:00pm Tuesday mornings.