

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:

Sunday April 12 2026

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday, 9:00 am
St. Catherine Church

Wednesday, 9:00 am
St. Catherine 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, April 14th
Pat Young

Wednesday, April 15th
The Algee Family

Thursday, April 16th
Sidney (Teddy) Baillie

Friday, April 17th
Nina Di Costanzo

Saturday, April 18th
9:00 am - The Comstock
Family
4:00 pm - John Cox

Divine Mercy Sunday

FAITH

April 12, 2026

Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet

St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish is celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday on Sunday, April 12th, from 2:30-4:00pm at St. Catherine of Siena Church. This time of silent adoration will include the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Between 1930 and 1938 Christ appeared to Sister Faustina, a Sister of Mercy in Poland who initiated the Divine Mercy devotion. On Good Friday 1937, Jesus requested that Blessed Faustina make a special Novena before the Feast of Mercy, from Good Friday through the following Saturday. He gave her a chaplet to be recited and said it was appropriate to pray the chaplet at three o'clock each afternoon (the Hour of Great Mercy). Sr. Faustina was canonized on April 30, 2000, the Sunday after Easter, the Feast of Divine Mercy.



For information on how to recite the Chaplet, visit: [Divine Mercy Chaplet](#)

Feast of St. Catherine of Siena Wednesday, April 29th, 7:00pm

There will be a special Mass celebrating the Feast Day of St. Catherine of Siena on Wednesday, April 29th, at 7:00pm in St. Catherine of Siena Church. (Please note: As we will be celebrating the feast as a Parish in the evening, the 9:00am Mass at St. Catherine of Siena will be cancelled.)

Catherine was born on March 25, 1347, in Siena, Italy. 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.

St. Catherine of Siena Church was established on February 15, 1948. Father Frank Carroll was the first Pastor and, during a trip to Rome, he had celebrated Mass over the tomb or at a shrine in honour of St. Catherine of Siena. He then requested permission to have the church named after this remarkable woman. All are welcome to come and celebrate this great saint!



“Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire.”

– St. Catherine of Siena

St. Catherine of Siena 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 of Siena Church needs additional volunteers to make these visits. Your commitment would be for one Sunday a month following Sunday morning Mass. If you feel you may be called to this ministry, please contact the Parish Office at officestfstc@gmail.com or by telephone at 902-454-8221 and leave your contact information.



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

Parish Young Adult Ministry

The next meeting of our Young Adult Ministry group will take place on Friday, April 24th, from 7:00 to 9:00pm in St. Stephen Church Hall. The group meets every second Friday evening; their last meeting will be on May 8th. This ministry is open to all young adults ages 18 to 40 who are seeking to deepen their relationship with Christ. If you have any questions, please contact Haley Bishop at faithformationsfsc@gmail.com or 902-454-8221.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for April 2026: 'For priests in crisis'

Pope Leo XIV has urged Catholics across the globe to join him in April in praying for priests in crisis. In his prayer, the Pope entrusted all priests into the Father's hands, especially those going through moments of crisis, "when loneliness weighs heavily, when doubt clouds their hearts, and when exhaustion seems stronger than hope." "May they never lose trust in You," he concluded, "nor the joy of serving your Church with a humble and generous heart."

Knights of Columbus 8666 Gift Card Winner

The winner of the Knights of Columbus 8666 gift card tree is **Tracy Dominix**. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser. Monies raised will go back into parish events.

Congratulations to our Catechumens

Cate, Karen and Ron
are now in full communion with the Church!

At the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, 2026, Cate Belbin, Karen Gosbee, and Ron Robichaud received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion. Let us pray that they receive the continuing Grace to grow in faith and holiness.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul – St. Stephen Church

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, St. Stephen Church, has just the thing for a Mother's Day gift! Tickets go on sale before and after the Masses of the last two weekends of April for a beautiful Basket of Goodies.

Remember to bring cash. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA'S ELEMENTARY PROGRAM (PRIMARY TO SIX)



This Sunday, April 12th, classes will take place from 10:00-10:45am in the Church Hall.

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

ST. STEPHEN'S ELEMENTARY PROGRAM (PRIMARY TO SIX)



This Sunday, April 12th, classes resume.

For more information on the program, please contact Haley Bishop (faithformationsfsc@gmail.com).

Youth Group, for Junior High and High School Students

The group meets on Wednesday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm in St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall. For more information or to register, contact: Haley Bishop (faithformationsfsc@gmail.com).



**We invite grade primary to six students to join us on:
Friday, April 17th, from 6:00 - 8:00pm
St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall
for an EASTER PARTY**

We will have a video on the power of the Resurrection. There will also be Easter crafts, treats, and lots of fun! As always, we will have the ping pong tables set up, and all the board games available to be played. It's a great opportunity to be together!

Upcoming Retreats in April - Facilitated by Fr. Dominic Sultana

Made for More

Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Hall, Dartmouth. It is an invitation to pause, to listen, and to rediscover the life God is calling you to live. Have you ever felt that there is more to your life with God? More peace. More clarity. More purpose. For more information, please visit the link: [Made for More](#)

Living the Experience of Easter

Sunday, April 19 (evening) to Thursday, April 23 (evening) at Between the Hearts Renewal Centre, Amherst. It offers a quiet and sacred space to enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection - and to allow this grace to touch your own life. Easter is not only something we celebrate. It is something we are invited to live. For more information, please visit the link:

[Living the Experience of Easter](#)

Fr. Dominic Sultana is a diocesan priest of the Diocese of Gozo (Malta), ordained in 2005. He currently serves as an itinerant preacher and retreat guide, offering parish missions, retreats, seminars, and formation internationally. His ministry is exercised in communion with the local Church and with the permission of the local Ordinary wherever he is invited to serve.

**Parish
Leadership Team**

Claudette Carroll
Jim Evans
Jaison Joseph

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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)

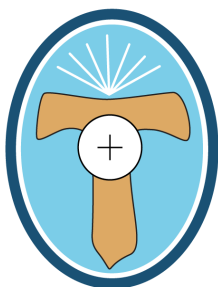
Rev. Br. Grant McLean, FoH

Sr. Rita Hanna, FoH

Anne James
Operations Coordinator

Haley Bishop
Faith Formation Coordinator
faithformationsfsc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Clark
Administrative Assistant
officestfstc@gmail.com



LOVE IN ACTION

NEW COLLECTION ENVELOPES FOR THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
We are pleased to inform parishioners that we have NEW Offering Envelopes for the Society at the back of both churches. These envelopes allow you to indicate the Conference within the Parish (St. Catherine of Siena, St. Patrick, St. Stephen and St. Theresa) that is the intention of your donation. You can simply tick the box indicating the Conference. On behalf of those we serve, THANK YOU!



TAX TIME - We have a Canada Revenue Agency tax volunteer in our community who can 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. Our CVITP volunteer is offering to do tax returns by phone until April 30th to those within our community. 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. A representative will then be in touch with you.

DIOCESAN NEWS

MAiD Awareness Sunday: April 18, 2026



As Christians, we are called to care for the vulnerable and uphold the dignity of every life. If no action is taken before March 17, 2027, Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) will be expanded to include individuals whose only medical condition is mental health-related. However, the NS medical regulator requires physicians to offer euthanasia to patients as one of their potential medical treatments without patients requesting that information and, if the patient requests it, sign referral forms so their patients can get euthanasia. We invite parishioners to write to the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, to ask for stronger protections, improved mental health supports, and changes to physician legal requirements. Send an email using this link: <https://www.nooptionsnochoice.com/english/take-action-nova-scotia-consent>.

This campaign is being organized by the Christian Medical and Dental Association of Canada (CMDA). For more information on CMDA visit: <https://cmdacanada.org/>

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 officestfstc@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.

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - CLOSED; TUESDAY TO FRIDAY - 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

Email officestfstc@gmail.com
Parish Office: 902-454-8221
Address: 6032 Normandy Drive, Halifax, NS B3K 2S9

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