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 Nov 15

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

Mass Intentions



Tuesday, Nov 17
Margaret Mullie
Wednesday, Nov 18
Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, Nov 19
Catherine Cable
Friday, Nov 20
Gerald, Grace & David Lee
Saturday, Nov 21
9am - Jerry Casey
4pm - Isabelle Marie & Calisse Roopchard (Living)

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, November 15, 2026

Advent Backpack Program

Our first annual Advent Backpack Project is now underway!

You will find at the entrances of our churches re-useable grocery bags, containing a list of donation items, ready to be picked up for those who would like to support this worthwhile cause. The items will go out to the many who are in need of these basic items. Please take a bag home, fill it with any or all of the items, and deliver the bag back to the church before Thursday, December 17th.

For those who prefer to make a cash donation, we are also seeking funds to help cover the cost of the backpacks. Please place your donation in the regular collection in an envelope marked BACKPACKS, send by e-transfer to officestfstc@gmail.com, or bring it to the Parish Office Tuesday-Friday, 9am-1pm. Thank you!

Mark the date of **Saturday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m.**, when youth and families are invited to come and fill the 125 backpacks for the patrons of Daily Bread. This very worthwhile project has been designed to engage volunteers of all ages, as even very young children can participate in sorting items from the bags as well as filling the backpacks.

Please try and make every effort to attend the Advent Backpack Sorting Day, and bring along your family and friends. It is an amazing opportunity for the children to volunteer and be as equally involved as the adults. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and snacks will be provided. We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your generous support for this Advent project.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to help on sort day, please reach out to the church representative listed on the donation sheet enclosed in the re-usable grocery bags.

Bayers Road Widening Project - Update

HRM released a new update on the status of the Bayers Road Widening Project this past Monday: "The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that the intersection of Bayers Road and Oxford Street will reopen by the end of the day on Sunday, Nov. 15th."

Effective Sunday, November 22nd the access reverts to one-way (outbound) on Bayers Road.



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
902-455-6525

St. Patrick
902-405-3806

St. Stephen
902-405-3686

St. Theresa
902-414-4625

A Special Celebration of Hope and Light

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." — John 1:5

The Advent and Christmas seasons are filled with joy, celebration, and bright lights. Yet for many, they can also bring a deep sense of absence, grief, or heaviness. Whether you are grieving the loss of a loved one, facing illness yourself or that of a loved one, navigating a difficult transition in your life, or finding it hard to feel the joy of the season, you do not have to carry your burden alone.



You are warmly invited to a quiet, reflective Mass of comfort and remembrance on **Tuesday, December 1st, at 7:00 pm** in St. Catherine of Siena Church. Together, we will bring our sorrow, our struggles, and our weary hearts to Emmanuel - God with us - who walks beside us in every dark and quiet place.

All are welcome. As a family of faith, we are called to rejoice together, but also to weep together and carry each other in prayer. We hope you will join us!



St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi
Youth Group (Gr. 7-12) at St. Catherine Church

Our next Youth Group Meeting will be on
Wednesday, Nov. 25 from 7:00-8:30pm.
See you then!

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

OCIA
A Journey of Faith

OCIA: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Our next meeting is on Monday, Nov. 16 from 6:30-8:00pm in the Marian Room at St. Stephen Church.

Perhaps you or someone you know is considering becoming Catholic or wants to learn more about the Catholic Church.

Please contact Maria McDonald with inquiries:
faithformationsfsc@gmail.com

World Day of the Poor – November 15th

Pope Leo XIV has declared this Sunday, November 15th to be the 10th World Day of the Poor, with the theme of '*The Lord is the refuge of the poor' (Ps 14:6)*.

Reflecting on Psalm 14, the Pope notes that it was written during a dramatic period marked by the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, when the people "felt deprived of God's presence and experienced unprecedented material and moral misery."

In his message for the 10th World Day of the Poor, Pope Leo XIV reflects on God as "the refuge of the poor," urging Christians to rediscover the central place of the poor and examine our commitment to justice, solidarity, and human dignity. The Pope goes on to stress that Christians are called not only to seek refuge in God, but also "to be a refuge for the poor".





Young Adults (YA) Group

Our next meeting is Friday, Nov. 27 from 7:00-9:00pm at St. Stephen Church Hall (*Access on Robie Street)

We will be discussing the book **Interior Freedom**. If you don't have a book yet and would like one, please inquire at the next meeting. See you then!

Contact Maria McDonald to register or to inquire:
faithformationsfsc@gmail.com

Family Faith Formation (Gr. P-6)
St. Stephen Church

Please join us for our next Family Faith Formation Gathering on Sunday, November 29 following the 9:30am Mass, in the Church Hall. The families at St. Stephen Church will host a Coffee Social in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus, and we'd love to see **ALL** parishioners come down to the hall for coffee, light refreshments, and conversation. Please email Maria McDonald, Faith Formation Coordinator: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com with any questions.



St. Catherine
Religious Education Program
for Elementary Students



This Sunday, November 15th, classes will take place from 10:00-10:45 am in the Church Hall. Please enter from the parking lot.

Next Sunday, November 22nd, we will celebrate a Children's Liturgy during the 11:00 am Mass.

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

Development and Peace

The Power of the Movement



Do you know someone who believes in social justice and solidarity among all people and who would like to participate in awareness and mobilization campaigns to build a world of justice and peace?

Invite them to become a member of Development and Peace - Caritas Canada and join a democratic movement with 12, 800 members across the country!

For more information, contact the animator in your region (find them at devp.org/contact.)



Thursday, December 3 - 11:00am - 1:30pm
St. Stephen Church Hall
(please use lower Robie Street doors)

After our 11:00am Mass, we will enjoy a Turkey Dinner
and sing some of our favourite Christmas Carols.
We warmly welcome you to join us!
Tickets are $25.00.
Please contact Betty Browne: brownebetty@hotmail.com or 902-453-3644,
and leave your phone number and the names of those attending.

We will have Door Prizes and a 50/50 Draw!



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.



Advent is Coming!

In just two weeks, we will begin the liturgical season of Advent! The Advent Wreath is one of the symbols of the season. The circle of the Advent Wreath, with no beginning and no end, reminds us of God. The wreath is often made of branches that remind us of living things. There are four candles on the wreath. The four candles (3 purple, 1 pink) represent the four Sundays of Advent. Each Sunday, another candle is lit!

You are invited to St. Catherine Church Hall following the 11:00 am and 7:00 pm Masses on **Sunday, November 29th**, to **BRING ADVENT HOME** by making an Advent Wreath for your home. Everything you need to make the wreath will be supplied. We ask for your help in providing some light snacks, muffins, sweets, etc., for us to enjoy while we make our wreaths. A sign-up sheet is available at St. Catherine of Siena Church, or you can email or phone Donna (donna.noddin@gmail.com / 902-455-1617) if you are able to bring something along. Refreshments will be provided. All are welcome!

SACRED HEART
EVANGELIZATION AND HEALING MINISTRY

Healing Mass with Fr. Mark Cherry

Thursday, November 19, 6:30-10:30pm
at St. Stephen Church

Join Fr. Mark Cherry of Sacred Heart Evangelization and Healing Ministry for the final healing Mass in the autumn series. **All are welcome.**

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

PARISH OFFICE

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

To place a notice or announcement in the bulletin, email it to: officestfstc@gmail.com by no later than 12:00pm on Tuesday mornings.