

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 Sept 20

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

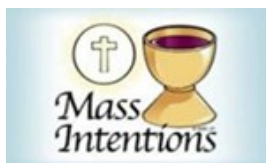
St. Catherine Church

Friday, 9:00 am

St. Stephen Church

Saturday, 9:00 am

St. Catherine Church
(Franciscan Mass)



Tuesday, Sept 22 9am

Jamie MacInnis

Wednesday Sept 23 9am

Mary Elizabeth Beaton

Thursday Sept 24 9am

Neil MacDonald

Friday Sept 25 9am

Christopher Power

Saturday Sept 26 9am

Gaston Brisson

Saturday Sept 26 4pm

Danny Kenney

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.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FAITH

Sept 20 2026

SFSC Parish Weekday Masses

Until further notice, the 9:00am weekday Masses will continue to be celebrated at Stephen Church and the 7:30am Friday Mass will be celebrated at St. Catherine of Siena church.

Today's Gospel Reading - Matthew 20:1-16

In today's Gospel, Jesus moves from Galilee to teach in Judea where he is sought out by great crowds and tested by the Pharisees on issues such as marriage and divorce. He also encounters a rich young man who is unable to accept Jesus' demand that he leave his possessions to follow him. Jesus' response to the man sounds very much like the conclusion we will find in today's Gospel: the first will be last and the last will be first.

On the surface, the parable of the workers in the vineyard appears to be an offence to common sense: those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two.

A close read shows us that the landowner paid the workers on the terms that were negotiated and he had, it seems, acted justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who laboured in the field for a full day their due pay.

But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament that the landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else?

The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways.

**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 at
St. Stephen 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

St. Stephen's Family Faith Formation Kick-Off/Meet & Greet

What is Family Faith Formation? Family Formation is a family-based catechetical program that helps families grow in the transforming love of God by understanding and living the Catholic Faith.

There will be a Family Faith Formation Kick-Off/Meet and Greet, on Sunday, September 27th, following the 9:30am Mass at St. Stephen's Church. This will be a fun opportunity to meet one another, discuss the program, and register as well. Classes for Gr. P-6 will resume on Sunday Oct. 4 following the 9:30am Mass, and there will be an information session for parents at that time as well. Class Schedules/Information will be discussed. Please spread the word and encourage others to join us. All are welcome to attend to find out more about the Program.



Catechists/Teachers NEEDED! In order for our Family Formation classes to move forward, we will need dedicated Catechists/Teachers for the classrooms. We will need two teachers per grade level, as per protocols, so we welcome anyone interested in teaching our young students. Classes will be held on a bi-weekly basis and I will set you up so you have everything you need. Please contact Maria McDonald for more information: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com

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? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the means by which the Catholic faith community 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.

Please contact Maria McDonald: faithformationsfsc@gmail.com
to learn more about RCIA!

Feast of Padre Pio Celebration at St. Stephen Church

We will be celebrating the Feast of Padre Pio on Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:00pm at St. Stephen Church. The 9:00am Mass will be cancelled on this day. There will be Veneration of the Relic of Padre Pio after the Mass.

You can watch the movie *Padre Pio: Miracle Man* by clicking on the link:
<https://app.formed.org/app/collections/117849>

At the link you will be directed to sign in or to create an account at Formed.

To create an account:

1. Search for our parish by Postal Code B3L 1P7. Click on our parish.
2. Register with your name and email address.
3. Check that email account for a link to begin using Formed.

This movie captures the Capuchin friar's intense faith, devotion, and deep spiritual concern for others, as well as his great compassion for the sick and suffering. It reveals the amazing details and events in Padre Pio's life as a boy and throughout his fifty years as a friar, dramatizing the frequent attacks from the devil, as well as the persecution he suffered at the hands of people, including those in the Church.

St. Catherine's Religious Education Program for Elementary Students



Religious Education

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!

Next Sunday, September 27th, we will celebrate another Children's Liturgy during the 11:00 am Mass. Classes begin on Sunday, October 4th, from 10:00 – 10:45 am in the Church Hall.

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



'A Night with St. Clare of Assisi'

Grade Primary to Six students from throughout the Parish are invited to our first Special Gathering of the year on:

Friday, October 2nd, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm
St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall

We will start the evening by enjoying supper together – YES, we are having pizza! We will then enjoy a movie on St. Clare of Assisi. We will learn about how this young woman, who was born into a rich family, gave up everything to spend her life in prayer and in service to the poor.

There will be crafts and, 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!

Come and enjoy this time together!

St. Stephen's Knights of Columbus Events



45's Card Games

Please join us for 45's card games at St. Stephen's Church Hall on Tuesdays at 7:00pm!
For additional information, contact Jim Evans at 902-266-4090.



Coffee Social

We will be hosting a coffee social in St. Stephen's Church hall on Sunday Sept. 27th after the 9:30am Mass.
All are welcome to attend.



Parish

Leadership Team

Claudette Carroll

Jim Evans

Jaison Joseph

FOLLOW US ON



[Facebook](#)



[@sfscparish](#)

MEET OUR TEAM

Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, FoH
Administrator

Fr. Peter Hanna, FoH
Associate Pastor

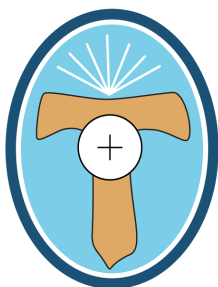
Deacon Paul Carnell
Deacon Gordon MacKinnon
Deacon Bernie Coffin (Ret'd)
Deacon Gérald LeBlanc (Ret'd)
Deacon Br. Grant McLean,
FoH
br.grant.sfsc@gmail.com

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

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, October 22

Thursday, November 19

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.



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

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