

#### Weekend Mass Schedule

**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. Catherine Church  
(St. Faustina Polish Mission)

**Sunday 7:00 pm**  
St. Catherine Church

**Livestream Mass:**  
**Sunday, May 4th**

#### 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, May 6th**  
Elaine Roberts

**Wednesday, May 7th**  
Peter Liam Kelly

**Thursday, May 8th**  
Guy Harrington

**Friday, May 9th**  
Harold Webb

**Saturday, May 10th**  
9:00 am  
- Pamela Gasparetto  
4:00 pm - Marie Mason

## 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.*

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### FAITH

**May 4, 2025**

#### MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY



Since the 13<sup>th</sup> century, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honor Mary, the Mother of God. The month of May, considered the end of winter and the start of a new season of growth, reflects Mary's gift of new life to the world when she gave birth to our Saviour, Jesus Christ. It is a chance for new beginnings in a spirit of gratitude and devotion.

Devotion to Mary is an important part of our Catholic identity. As our mother, she is an example of a committed "Yes" to the will of God. The month is dedicated in a special way to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary as the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. An opportunity for all the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our own lives.

#### CARDINALS ASK THE FAITHFUL TO PRAY FOR THEIR DISCERNMENT FOR THE NEW POPE

The Holy See released a declaration on Wednesday in which the Cardinals preparing for the upcoming Conclave ask the faithful to pray for them.

"The College of Cardinals gathered in Rome, engaged in the General Congregations in preparation for the Conclave, wishes to invite the People of God to live this ecclesial moment as an event of grace and spiritual discernment listening to the will of God." The Cardinals said they feel "the need to be supported by the prayers of all the faithful", since they are aware of their responsibility in choosing the next Successor of Peter.  
(Excerpt taken from Vatican News.)

As the Conclave begins on May 7<sup>th</sup>, let us pray:

Heavenly Father,  
look with mercy on your people  
and grant us a new shepherd.  
Help those who choose our next Pope  
to listen to the guidance of your Spirit  
and to act for the good of your holy Church.

Father,  
we ask your grace through Christ your Son  
in the unity of your Holy Spirit,  
one God for ever and ever. Amen.



#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH'S FAMILY!!



Last weekend, we welcomed Madelyn Josie MacDonald, child of Bradley and Kathryn, and Jeremy (Peter) Nguyen, child of Joseph and Maria, into the community of faith. May the Spirit they have received through the waters of Baptism guide them as they grow in greater understanding of their faith and holiness!

**Northwood -  
Halifax Campus**

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

**Berkeley Gladstone**

Mass is celebrated on the  
4<sup>th</sup> 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

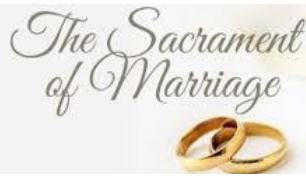
**SSVP  
Food Assistance**

St. Catherine's  
902-455-6525

St. Patrick's  
902-405-3806

St. Stephen's  
902-405-3686

St. Theresa's  
902-414-4625



Congratulations to Alex Plumb and Kate Mosher who were united in the Sacrament of Marriage last Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. May your marriage always bring glory to God, joy to one another and blessings to your family for generations to come. May love and laughter fill your hearts and your home for all the days of your lives.

**DIOCESAN PRIESTS' RETREAT**

The Priests of the Diocese will be on Retreat from May 11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>. Let us pray that it is a time of rest and renewal for our Diocesan Clergy.



- The 7:00 pm Mass on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, is cancelled.
- Weekday Masses are cancelled from Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, to Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Franciscan Adoration/Confession on Thursday evening, May 15<sup>th</sup>, at St. Catherine of Siena Church is cancelled for this week.

Adoration on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, at St. Catherine of Siena Church will still take place. The 9:00 am Saturday Mass on May 17<sup>th</sup> will be celebrated.



**ROSARY CENACLE**

The Rosary is a beautiful devotion and is easy to pray – even if you have never prayed it before. You are invited to join in praying the Rosary every Monday evening at 7:15 pm in St. Stephen Church in the Marian Room in the hall. Please enter via the Robie Street entrance. It is a time of peaceful prayer and good fellowship. All are welcome.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** - The Adoration of the Holy Eucharist, or Eucharistic Adoration, is an opportunity for the faithful to pray to Jesus Christ before the Eucharist at their local parish. As Catholics believe the body, blood, soul and divinity are substantially present in the Eucharist, when you participate in Eucharistic Adoration, you pray and worship Jesus in a more intimate, present and real way. Adoration takes place on Wednesdays, following the 9:00 am Mass to 4:00 pm, and Fridays from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in St. Catherine of Siena Church. The Franciscans of Halifax hold a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration from 7:30 - 8:30 pm each Thursday (except May 15<sup>th</sup>) in St. Catherine of Siena Church (Confession available).



**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH URGENTLY 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 urgently needs additional volunteers to make these visits. Your commitment would be for one Sunday a month following Sunday Mass. If you feel you may be called to this ministry, please contact the Parish Office at [officestfsc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfsc@gmail.com) or by telephone at 902-454-8221 and leave your contact information.

**HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT FORMED FOR AMAZING CATHOLIC CONTENT?**



Movies, formation series, documentaries, devotionals, audio books and eBooks. It's easy to register and use. The Parish has a subscription to FORMED so it doesn't cost you anything to use! New things are added regularly, and it is a great way to grow in faith.

Signing up for FORMED is quick and easy. Just follow the simple instructions below:

1. Go to [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup)
2. Search for your parish by Postal Code **B3L 1P7**. Click on your parish.
3. Register with your name and email address.
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.



## **(GRADES PRIMARY TO SIX)**

This Sunday, May 4th, a Children's Liturgy will be celebrated at the 11:00 am Mass at St. Catherine's. For more information on the program, please contact Donna Noddin ([donna.noddin@gmail.com](mailto:donna.noddin@gmail.com)).



**Youth Group, for Junior High and High School Students**, meets on Wednesday evenings, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall. For more information or to register, contact Anna Irish ([annamichelleirish@gmail.com](mailto:annamichelleirish@gmail.com))

Grade Primary to Six students from throughout the Parish are invited to our:

## **'Cozy' Movie Night**

Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
St. Catherine of Siena Church Hall



What do you need for a 'Cozy' Movie Night? Students are asked to wear their pajamas and bring their favorite blanket, pillow and stuffy. **AND, THERE WILL BE PIZZA!!!**



We will start off our 'Cozy' evening by helping to make a quilt. The Secular Franciscans want to celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of "The Canticle of Creatures" which was composed by St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis believed that nature gives us a reason to praise God. Students will praise God by coloring a square for that quilt!!!!

We will then enjoy a movie about, who else, ST. FRANCIS!!!!

**Come and enjoy this time together!**



## **CHILDREN'S RETREAT (ST. STEPHEN)**

Calling all students grade P to 6 at St. Stephen (not attending Sunday school). Our next Children's Retreat is scheduled for Sunday, May 4th, after Mass from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Children are invited to enjoy a healthy snack that will be served until 11:00 am followed by a lesson and an activity. The theme for this retreat is Blessed Mary, the Mother of Jesus. All supplies will be provided. Parents/guardians can register the students by email at [paijax54@gmail.com](mailto:paijax54@gmail.com) or by the sign up sheet (at the rear of the church). Please advise of any food allergies.

## PARISH NEWS

Our April event started with a beautiful Mass celebration followed with an enjoyable lunch. Games were played and laughter was heard throughout the hall.

April Winners:

Door Prizes: Dena, Juanita, and Linda

50/50 Draw: Georgina

FFS Committee and Helpers wish to thank:

- Brother Peter for celebrating Mass.
- St. Stephen's Council #8666 for hosting the Silver Rose presentation.
- Gifted seniors sharing beautiful ministries: Judy, Lorraine, Paulette and Peter.
- Theresa Richard for her delicious sandwiches and yummy lemon tarts.
- St. Catherine of Siena Church for prize donations.

**Fun  
for  
Seniors**



April 27<sup>th</sup> - May 3<sup>rd</sup> is National Volunteer Week. Are you wishing to volunteer?

Come join in all the fun. Our Committee and Helpers will gladly welcome you!

Please contact Janet: [janet.mullock@bellaliant.net](mailto:janet.mullock@bellaliant.net) 902-455-3718

The Crafters

The **Crafters Group** is a small group of ladies that meets every Tuesday morning 9:30 to 11:30 in St. Stephen Church Hall. Please use the lower door on Robie Street. All are welcome to join us. Some of us knit, crochet, maybe do a crossword puzzle or just have a friendly chat. Come join us for a coffee or tea and a cookie with some good conversation.



**Parish  
Leadership Team**

Claudette Carroll  
Elizabeth Clark  
Jim Evans

**FOLLOW US ON**



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[@sfscparish](#)

**MEET OUR TEAM**

Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, FoH  
Administrator

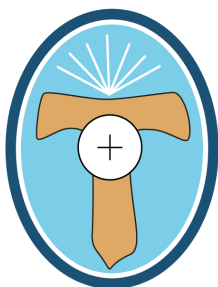
Fr. Peter Hanna, FoH  
Associate Pastor

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

Sara Hutt  
Administrative Assistant  
[officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com)



**DIOCESAN NEWS**



**MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP DUNN ON  
VANCOUVER TRAGEDY AND FROM THE CCCB**

Dear Friends:

Please join with me in praying for those affected by the tragic events during the Lapu-Lapu Day celebration in Vancouver. Seeing a day of joy turn so quickly to sorrow is difficult for us all.

The Filipino community is a growing, dynamic part of our diocese, and the church in Canada. May we unite our hearts with them in praying for the grace to persevere in the face of tragedy and for the repose of the souls of the departed.

Let us entrust these prayers to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who understands our sorrow but also points us to the hope found in the Risen Christ.

Sincerely in Christ,

†Brian Joseph Dunn, Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth

[Archbishop's Letter \(pdf\)](#)

Also, a statement from the President of the CCCB regarding the tragedy at the Lapu-Lapu Filipino Festival in Vancouver.

Click here to read in [English \(pdf\)](#) and [French \(pdf\)](#).

**WANT TO TEACH AT FRASSATI ACADEMY?**

Frassati Academy is now accepting applications for teachers (Pre-Primary to Grade 7) for the 2025-26 school year. Both full and part-time positions are available. Should you know a suitable candidate, please encourage them to apply. Click [here](#) to view the posting.

For more information on Frassati Academy, visit their website: [www.frassatiacademy.ca](http://www.frassatiacademy.ca) or contact: [info@frassatiacademy.ca](mailto:info@frassatiacademy.ca)



**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](mailto: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 included in your year end income tax receipts issued in February. Thank you for your continued generosity! The Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) plan assists you in your support of the work of our community. It allows you to give intentionally, proportionally, and faithfully to your community by having your offering automatically withdrawn from your bank account each month. 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](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com) by 9:00 am each Wednesday morning. Thanks!

**PARISH OFFICE - WALK-IN HOURS: MON/WED/FRI 9:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON**

Email [officestfstc@gmail.com](mailto:officestfstc@gmail.com)

Parish Office: 902-454-8221

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

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