

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

Jun 28-Aug 30

Sunday 9:00 am

St. Catherine Church

Sunday 7:00 pm
St. Catherine Church

Livestream:

Sunday July 5 2026

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday, 9:00 am
St. Stephen Church

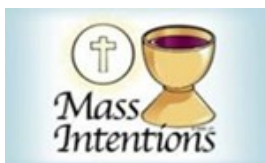
Wednesday, 9:00 am
St. Stephen Church

Thursday, 9:00 am
St. Stephen Church

Friday, 7:30 am
St. Stephen Church

Friday, 9:00 am
St. Stephen Church

Saturday, 9:00 am
St. Catherine Church
(Franciscan Mass)



Tuesday July 7 9am
No Mass

Wednesday July 8 9am
No Mass

Thursday July 9 9am
No Mass

Friday July 10 9am
No Mass

Saturday July 11 9am
Paulette Dann

Saturday July 11 4pm
Janice Page

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Faith

July 5 2026

A Pastoral Letter to our Parish in Ordinary Times

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we journey through Ordinary Time, the Church invites us into a season that is anything but ordinary. The green vestments remind us of growth, life, and perseverance. This is time to deepen our relationship with God, strengthen our faith, and allow the Holy Spirit to continue the work of conversion within our hearts.

Conversion is not a single moment but a lifelong journey. Even after we have encountered Christ, He continually calls us to turn away from sin and draw closer to Him. Every day presents a new opportunity to surrender our lives more fully to God's will. The saints remind us that holiness is achieved not through extraordinary deeds alone but through daily fidelity to God in the ordinary circumstances of life.

At the heart of this conversion is prayer. Prayer is not merely saying words; it is entering into a living relationship with the Lord. Through prayer, we listen to His voice, receive His grace and discover His presence in every aspect of our lives. A parish that prays is a parish that grows in faith, charity and unity.

We encourage every member of our parish to renew their commitment to prayer. Set aside time each day for silence before God. Read and meditate upon Sacred Scripture. Pray the Holy Rosary. Spend time before the Blessed Sacrament whenever possible. Participate fully in Sunday Mass and seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly. These simple practices open our hearts to the transforming grace of Christ.

Our world often distracts us with noise, busyness and anxiety. Jesus continues to say, "Come to me". He desires to heal our wounds, strengthen our weaknesses, and fill us with His peace. When we place prayer at the centre of our lives, we discover anew the joy of being His disciples.

May this season of Ordinary Time become a season of extraordinary grace for our parish. Let us encourage one another in faith, support one another in charity, and walk together on the path of holiness. May the Blessed Virgin Mother of the Church, intercede for us and lead us ever closer to her Son.

With prayerful and fraternal blessings,

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Nathanael and Fr. Peter

Franciscans of Halifax - Spiritual Exercises

The Franciscans of Halifax will be participating in their annual Spiritual Exercises on July 6-10, 2026. There will be no weekday Masses or Adoration during this time.

Please keep them in your prayers this week!



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.
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

Save the Date! Parish BBQ - Saturday, July 11, 2026

Join us for a parish BBQ on Saturday, July 11 in the park across from St. Stephen Church after the 4:00pm Mass. Inclement weather will bring the event inside to the Hall. Let's welcome summer and enjoy hotdogs, hamburgers and cold drinks!



St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish The Committees and Their Roles Convoked by the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth

Pastoral Council—is a consultative body, of fully initiated practicing members of the parish. Their task is to assist the pastor and other parish leadership for the parish's growth in mission, formation and as a community of faith. A Pastoral Council is concerned with fostering pastoral activity. The purpose of the Council is to enhance the process of strategic, -term planning focused on formation, mission and building the community of faith, propose pastoral programs that support the planning objectives, improve pastoral services and evaluate the effectiveness of various programs and services.

Finance Council—assists the pastor/administrator in the administration of parish matters. The Finance Council is a key element for promoting the financial health of a parish, assuring accountability and assisting the pastor/administrator in using the financial resources to carry out the mission and proper objectives of the Catholic Church as stated in Canon 1254, and in the document Communities of Missionary Disciples.

Each parish, therefore, is required to have a Finance Council, both by adherence to the Code of Canon Law and by local norms issued by the diocesan bishop. To be effective, the Finance Council should meet regularly with specific agendas and should have access to all the relevant financial information and policies of the parish.

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Parish Leadership Team (PLT)— is a group of three to five key people, lay and ordained, who support the pastor /administrator in making and executing important decisions and providing a circle of trust-based accountability. This group meets frequently to make the day-to-day decisions that are needed to bring about missionary renewal in the parish and the fulfillment of the mission.

The role of the PLT is to support the pastor/administrator in the operation of the parish by helping him to make and execute the best possible decisions. It is an operating body, which means that each team member is actively involved in, and responsible for, making and executing the day-to-day decisions. The PLT is guided by the missionary mandate of the pastor/administrator and the Pastoral Council and works within the budgetary constraints provided by the Finance Council.

Dear Catechists and Parish Volunteers,

As the school year ends, so does our catechetics. We are truly grateful for each and every one of you. Your generous gift of time, talent, and energy is the heartbeat of our parish family.

To our catechists: thank you for answering the call to share the Gospel. You do not simply teach lessons; you guide our children, youth and adults into a deeper, living relationship with Jesus Christ. By sharing your faith, you are planting seeds that will bear fruit for generations to come. Your patience, preparation, and love are powerful witnesses to the Catholic faith. Through this sharing of faith, we joyfully celebrated baptisms, first reconciliation, first communion, confirmation and marriages.

To all our parish volunteers—liturgical ministers, ushers, music and choir members, event coordinators, council and committee members, and those working quietly behind the scenes: thank you.

A parish cannot function without the dedication of its people. Whether you are welcoming parishioners and newcomers, preparing the altar, leading the parishioners in the rosary and adoration, special prayer and study groups, serving the poor, offering social activities within the parish community and beyond, or keeping our facilities functioning and beautiful, you are Christ's hands and feet in our community.

Pope Francis reminded us that "to volunteer is to live the grace of a heart that goes forth". Thank you for stepping forward, for your sacrifices, and for making our parish a vibrant, welcoming home of faith and charity.

Please know your priests, deacons, staff and fellow parishioner pray for you. May the Lord bless you abundantly for your goodness, and may the Holy Spirit continue to guide and inspire your ministry.

With prayers and gratitude,

Fr. Nathanael and Fr. Peter

LOVE IN ACTION

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

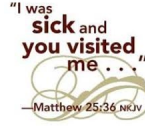
Sr. Rita Hanna, FoH

Anne James
Operations Coordinator

Haley Bishop
Faith Formation Coordinator
faithformationsfsc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Clark
Administrative Assistant
officestfstc@gmail.com

Communion Ministry Volunteers at St. Catherine of Siena Church



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 happen. Your commitment would be for one Sunday a month following Sunday morning Mass.

To volunteer, call the Parish Office at 902-424-8551

FELLOWSHIP

Coffee Social at St. Catherine of Siena Church Sunday , July 5 after the 7:00 p.m. Mass



Please join us for coffee and friendship (and maybe some treats) in the Hall at St. Catherine of Siena Church following the Sunday 7:00 p.m. Mass.

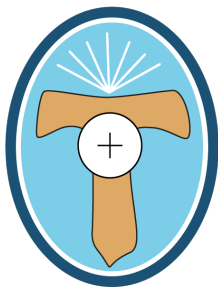
STEWARDSHIP

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.



PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY - CLOSED

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY - 9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

Email: officestfstc@gmail.com

Telephone: 902-454-8221

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