

St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish



Parish Administrator:
Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, FoH

Pastoral Support:
Archbishop Martin Currie

Deacons:
Rev. Mr Len Moore
Rev. Mr. Paul Carnell
Rev. Br. Grant McLean

Parish Address:

6351 North Street, Halifax, NS B3L 1P7
office@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca
www.stfrancisandstclareparish.ca/
https://www.facebook.com

One Parish Community at these locations:

St. Catherine of Siena Church
6476 Bayers Road
www.saintcatherineofsiena.ca

St. Mother of Teresa of Kolkata Church
6032 Normandy Drive
www.motherteresaparish.com

St. Patrick's Church
2263 Brunswick Street
www.saintpatrickschurch.ca

St. Theresa's Church
6351 North Street
www.sttheresaschurch.org

Administrative Assistants:

St Theresa's & St. Catherine of Siena
Pat Belgrave, 902-454-8221
Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 1:00pm

St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata:
Cheryl Delaney, 902-454-5835
Tues. & Thurs. 9:00am - 2:00pm

St. Patrick's:
Cheryl Delaney, 902-429-1300
Wed. & Fri. 9:00am - 2:00pm

Religious Education Coordinators:

St. Catherine - Donna Noddin
St. Mothers Teresa - Susan Sarty
St. Patrick's - Michele O'Neill
St. Theresa's - Sr. Lucia

PARISH MASS SCHEDULE

St. Catherine of Siena
Sunday - 11:00am & 7:00pm
Tuesday - Noon

St. Theresa's
Saturday 4:30pm; Sunday 9:30am
Wednesday - 9:00am

St. Patrick's
Sunday 9:30am

St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata
Saturday 4:00pm; Sunday 11:15am
Friday - 9:00am

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA'S CHURCH BULLETIN

Home of the Franciscans of Halifax

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 19, 2023

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA'S CHURCH 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT

IS PROVIDED AT THE END OF THIS BULLETIN.

TO VIEW OUR CHURCH OR PARISH REPORTS ONLINE, VISIT:

<https://saintcatherineofsiena.ca/financial-reports>

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, March 21st – Darlene Margaret Murrant
Saturday, March 25th – Joe Mercer

NEXT SUNDAY – MARCH 26TH, AT 2:00 PM



All parishioners are invited to a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, March 26th, at 2:00 pm at St. Mother Teresa's Church Hall (6032 Normandy Drive).

New Parish initiatives will be reviewed, and most importantly, feedback from all parishioners will be collected for moving forward together as St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish as we reflect on our NEW Parish Vision Statement:

"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."

A **SPECIAL INVITATION** is extended to all of those parishioners who have been involved previously or are

presently involved in committees or organizations at the local church level or Parish level. We would welcome your experience and input.

If you have questions you would like to submit prior to the meeting, please send them to office@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca.

See you all next Sunday!

ONE PARISH BULLETIN!!!



Hey everyone, you heard correct!
We are launching a new single
Parish Bulletin!
And we need your assistance!

Kindly help us with the naming of our new bulletin. Email your suggestion(s) to bulletin@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca by March 23rd and if you are the lucky winner, then coffee is on us!

The last local bulletins will be published for the weekend of March 25th & 26th. The new Parish bulletin will be published for the weekend of April 1st & 2nd.



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



A Men's Prayer Breakfast will take place at St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church, 6032 Normandy Drive on Saturday March 25th, 2023.

Mass will begin at 9:30 am followed by breakfast and fellowship. This is a great opportunity to meet and connect with men in our parish over a meal and discuss issues of faith we face in today's world. Register at events@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca or you can register on the sign-in sheets available at each church location.

WHAT A WONDERFUL CELEBRATION!



Congratulations to members of St. Patrick's Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul who celebrated 150 years as a Conference on March 10th. The special Mass celebrated on March 10th was in thanksgiving for all of the blessings and service that was provided

by the Conference members to the wider community over those many years.

It was a privilege to have Archbishop Brian Dunn present to celebrate, as well as, Archbishop Martin Currie, the Spiritual Advisor to the Halifax Particular Council of SSVP. Of course, Fr. Nathanael was also present for this historic celebration, and we were pleased to welcome Fr. Robert Nicholas along with a number of religious from the Sisters of Charity, "who have historically played a major role in the support of St. Patrick's Church".

Although serving the community around St. Patrick's for a number of years earlier, "Finally, on March 10, 1873, the St. Patrick's Conference was given 'Aggregate' Status by the International Confederation of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Paris, France."

The two quotes in this article have been taken from the history of the Conference as compiled by St. Patrick's own, Bob Doherty. If you are interested in the complete history, visit:

[SSVP HALIFAX HISTORY](#)

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."
(Matthew 25:40)



What is Laetare Sunday?

During Advent, we celebrate Gaudete Sunday on the Third Sunday of Advent. In Lent, we celebrate Laetare Sunday on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Both days refer to happiness. In fact, both 'Gaudete' and 'Laetare'

mean rejoice, and the connection is obvious as they are both days of joyful anticipation in the middle of liturgical seasons that might be seen as deeply solemn.

TODAY, on Laetare Sunday, Easter is exactly 21 days away. It is a day in which the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. Our hope and joy are in the Lord as through his Passion, Death and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and with one another. Let us rejoice!

WASHING OF THE FEET – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The Parish will be celebrating Holy Thursday at St. Catherine of Siena Church on April 6th at 7:00 pm Mass. We would appreciate the involvement of parishioners throughout the

Parish to assist us with the Washing of the Feet ceremony that takes place within the Mass. Would those parishioners willing to participate, please call the Parish Office (902-454-8221) or email office@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca. Please leave your name, phone number and email address. Thank you!

DONATIONS FOR EASTER FLOWERS



We are accepting donations for the purchase of Easter flowers at each Church location. If you wish to make a donation or a donation in memory of a loved one, please mark your name,

contact information and envelope number on a plain, white envelope and place it in the regular collection at any weekend Mass. We will be pleased to acknowledge these remembrances in the Easter Sunday Parish bulletin. Thank you!

ST. FRANCIS AND ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY – Sat/Sun, April 1st & 2nd

Regular Mass Schedule at each Church location

CHRISM MASS – Tuesday, April 4th

12:00 noon Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica (12:00 noon Mass at St. Catherine's is cancelled.)

Wednesday, April 5th – regular 9:00 am weekday Mass at St. Theresa's Church

HOLY THURSDAY – Thursday, April 6th

7:00 pm – St. Catherine of Siena Church
(followed by one hour of Adoration)

GOOD FRIDAY – Friday, April 7th

3:00 pm – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church
& St. Theresa's Church

GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS – Friday, April 7th

7:00 pm – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church

EASTER VIGIL – Saturday, April 8th

8:00 pm – St. Patrick's Church

EASTER SUNDAY – Sunday, April 9th

Regular Sunday morning Mass Schedule at each Church location; NO 7:00 pm Mass at St. Catherine's.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



The Parish offers two opportunities on the Fridays of Lent (except Good Friday) for praying the Stations of the Cross. Parishioners are invited to attend:

- St. Theresa's Church at 3:00 pm. These Stations will be broadcast weekly on the [Parish YouTube Channel](#).
- St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church at 7:00 pm.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM



This Sunday, March 19th, another "Gathering" for students from grade primary to six will take place from 10:15 – 10:45 am in St. Catherine's Church Hall.

Next Sunday, March 26th, we will celebrate a Children's Liturgy during the 11:00 am Mass.

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

For information on the junior high program, please contact Anne Yurchesyn at anne.yurchesyn@dal.ca.

EASTER WEEKEND FUNDRAISER AT ST. THERESA'S

It's Back!

EASTER WEEKEND FUNDRAISER

In support of

St. Theresa's My Extra Help 2023 Campaign and
In Loving Memory of Bill Quinn who organized so many of our parish's social events.

Make your Purchase go TWICE as far: Your purchase will be DOUBLED in value
as a Parishioner has offered to match, dollar for dollar, all funds raised.

Order **Electronically** by clicking anywhere on this ad. **OR**
On **Paper** by picking up an order form at the doors of St. Theresa's Church
and returning it through the mail slot at the Parish Office or
in the collection basket at Mass on the next 3 week-ends.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY NOON ON SUNDAY, APRIL 2nd



PICK-UP ON GOOD FRIDAY

All items will be pre-packaged and ready for pick up on

Good Friday, April 7th
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

in St. Theresa's Church Hall

6351 North St. (Please use the parking lot door off Seaforth Street)

PAYMENT

By Cash or Cheque at time of Pick-Up.

Please have exact change as making change will not be possible.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

We sincerely thank our Bakers, Cooks, Organizing Team, Packers, and Purchasers for your participation in this fundraiser to help "Keep St. Theresa's Strong!"

STEWARDSHIP



There are a number of ways you
can donate.

Visit: <https://saintcatherineofsiena.ca/donate> to see
how to donate by electronic fund transfer, mail or
how to sign up for pre-authorized payments. 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!

DIOCESAN NEWS:

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE SOLIDARITY VISITOR

VISITS HALIFAX



The Halifax-Yarmouth Archdiocesan Council of
Development and Peace-Caritas Canada invites
parishioners and the general public to an interactive
session with our solidarity visitor from Cambodia.

Ramy Chan is the Executive Director of Youth
Resource Development Program (YRDP), one of D&P's
partners in Cambodia. Ms. Chan is on a Solidarity visit
in Atlantic Canada and will be making a stop in Halifax.
Come and learn how your solidarity impacts our
partners in the Global South.

- March 22, 7pm St Mary's University, Sobey
Building, Room 260
- March 23, 1pm, St Mary's Basilica, Currie Room

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL'S

150TH ANNIVERSARY



The Diocese congratulates
the Society of Saint
Vincent de Paul (SSVP) at
St. Patrick's Church in
Halifax on their
150th anniversary of
receiving their Aggregate,

the formal international recognition, from the
International Confederation of the Society of
Saint Vincent de Paul located in Paris, France. On
March 10th, the Society celebrated this significant
anniversary with a Mass presided by Archbishop Brian
Dunn at St. Patrick's.

From humble beginnings in the basement of the old
St. Patrick's Church on Brunswick Street – the same
site of the existing church – the St. Patrick's
Conference of SSVP has evolved significantly. The
Society estimates that between 1960 and 2020 that its
Vincentians, as SSVP volunteers are known, made over
30,000 visits to individuals and households providing
financial, food, clothing, and heating assistance. In
2022 during the COVID pandemic, the Society
provided more than \$50,000 in its regular assistance
program, along with another \$15,000 in its Christmas
campaign.

May we be filled with gratitude for all the service to
those in need performed by the members of
St. Patrick Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de
Paul.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!



The Diocese thanks those
who contributed to their
diocesan Formed in Faith
Collection! Your donation
will help, Archbishop
Dunn, his staff, and other

church leaders to develop and provide the training, programs, resources, and support for all of us to create healthy vibrant communities of faith. It is within and through these communities that we witness and grow Christ's presence in our world today.

You can still donate! Donations can be made in the following ways:

1. Complete the donor card that was mailed to you. Return it using the enclosed return envelope. Or drop the envelope in your parish Sunday collection.
2. Donate online by credit cards:
www.halifaxymouth.org Scroll down selection list and click on Formation Collection.
3. Make a monthly pledge to provide on-going support. Indicate this on your donor card or online.

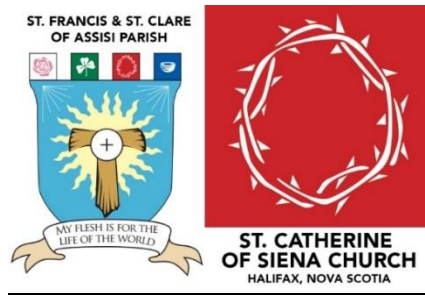
Thank you again for your generosity!

LOOKING FOR WORK?



Do you communicate well?
Are you a good researcher?
Do you know the sacraments of the Catholic Church? Do you know how to encourage people to

donate? Parishes and organizations in our Archdiocese and beyond are looking for people with these skills and more. If you are looking for full time work, or know someone who is, there may be a position or two that may pique your interest! Special call out to students looking for summer work. Several of the positions are aimed at students who are currently studying and will return to full time studies in the fall. Check out the latest listings on the Archdiocesan **[Human Resources page](#)** - scroll to the bottom of the page! Consider sharing your gifts with the Church!



St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish at St. Catherine of Siena Church **2022 Stewardship Report**

Issue Date: March 2023

As we look back on 2022, we begin by offering our thanks for all the support that has been given to St. Catherine's Church, both financially and spiritually, during the past year. On March 27th, 2022, we were finally able to open our doors and leave capacity restrictions due to Covid-19 behind us. Since that time, we have seen many parishioners come back, and through our doors we have welcomed many new parishioners to our worship. We are so thankful that you are with us!

Last week, the 2022 Parish financial statement was released. This week, we present the financial statement for St. Catherine of Siena Church.

Sunday Collections & Operating Expenses



All churches rely on Sunday Collections as their main source of funding. In 2022, St. Catherine's experienced close to a 23% increase from \$118,374 in 2021 to \$145,181. This is an exceptional increase and is related to being open more in 2022 for Sunday Mass, and with the increase in numbers attending our celebrations. Our sincere thanks for your commitment to our Parish and Church.

Of course, as activity at the Church increased in 2022, so did operating expenses. For most of 2021, we were celebrating Sunday Masses only and were closed for 10 weeks of that year. In November 2021, the Parish began to celebrate weekday Masses, and the Franciscans of Halifax began their 7:00 am Tuesday to Friday Masses, along with Thursday night Adoration/Confession, and their 9:00 am Saturday Mass. This wonderful change meant that we are now putting lights on and heating the Church six days of the week (in 2022) instead of one day (in 2021) resulting in an increase in 'Church Expenses'. An increased cost in snow removal and insurance coverage can also be added to the total. The increase in 'Residence Expenses' would mainly be the result of increased heating costs and insurance costs.

Extraordinary Revenue & Expenditures

Included under 'Extraordinary Revenue' is interest from our monies on deposit with the Diocese. The standard 'Room and Board' amount of \$830 per priest/month is allocated to St. Catherine's to cover the cost of housing the parish clergy. The increase in 'Donations, Fundraising and Other' can be explained by the generosity of donors, a \$4,458 Bequest, and \$2,455 insurance payout to cover the cost of the replacement of some glass panes in our large window after Hurricane Fiona visited.

Our 'Extraordinary Expenditures' of \$7,762 was the total cost of upgrading the audio system in the Church. We are sure you will agree that those monies were well spent. *Can you hear me now??*

2022 Overall Financial Health

St. Catherine's had an operating surplus of \$28,542; as of December 31st, 2022, a bank balance of \$79,930; and funds on deposit with the Diocese of \$476,184 (includes the \$118,265 received in 2022 from

HRM due to their appropriation of land for the widening of Bayers Road). Think of it this way, our bank balance is our chequing account and our funds on deposit with the Diocese is our savings account. Of note, we earn 3% interest on our funds on deposit at the Diocese.

Receipts and Expenditures with Previous Year Comparison
January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

		Jan - Dec 2022	Jan - Dec 2021
Sunday Collections		\$145,181	\$118,374
Operating Expenses:			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 36,392	\$ 37,104	
Church Expenses	54,336	42,526	
Hall Expenses	279	24	
Residence Expenses	25,430	17,828	
Community, Formation & Mission	18,493	16,229	
Diocesan Assessment	18,885	19,376	
Total Operating Expenses		\$153,815	\$133,087
Operating Surplus/Deficit		-\$8,634	-\$14,713
Extraordinary Revenue:			
Capital Projects	\$ -	\$ 2,929	
Covid-19 Wage Subsidy	-	4,118	
Interest on Deposit with the Diocese	11,261	8,620	
Room & Board	18,260	16,600	
Donations, Fundraising and Other	15,417	4,238	
Total Extraordinary Revenue		\$44,938	\$36,505
Extraordinary Expenditures:			
Capital Projects - Church	\$ 7,762	\$ -	
Capital Projects - Residence	-	-	
Total Extraordinary Expenditures		\$7,762	\$0
Extraordinary Surplus/Deficit		\$37,176	\$36,505
Total Surplus/Deficit		\$28,542	\$21,792
Bank balance as at December 31st		\$79,930	\$54,750
Undesignated Funds on deposit at the Diocese		\$476,184	\$346,658
(includes \$118,265 received in 2022 from HRM to appropriate land)			

Caring for our Home

In December 2022, the Diocese contracted Capital Management Engineering Ltd. to conduct property assessments and energy audits on churches in the Diocese. St. Catherine's signed up to have this assessment done. The two engineers who visited congratulated us on being very pro-active in repairs and upkeep and having so much documented on the building. Although the official report has not been released, they assured us that we are structurally sound for many years to come. The report will give us a 25-year plan on replacement, improvement, and necessary repairs to properly plan for these expenditures.

Regarding the energy audit, the engineers were more than impressed with the natural gas boiler that was installed in 2012. They suggest it should be good until 2040! As far as lighting is concerned, with our \$3,300 expenditure in December of 2021 to upgrade the lighting in the main church, they suggested no additional upgrades for the building.



Of course, every home needs constant care, and we have been blessed at St. Catherine's with people who have always taken care of our property so well. Accept our sincere thanks and gratitude.

In April 2023, we expect that the widening of Bayers Road between Connaught Avenue and Windsor Street will begin as we have not heard otherwise at this date. St. Catherine's leadership has been in negotiations with the HRM since December 2019 on this settlement for the appropriation of 1.5 feet of our land. Due to historic issues with property lines, the sidewalk will be coming 4.5 feet closer to our front steps! Along with the financial compensation, there will be some beneficial improvements to our property.

Sunday Envelopes & Pre-Authorized Debit Program

Give Thanks
TO
THE *Lord*
for **He is Good;**
His love endures
FOREVER
Psalm 107:1

Any parishioner who would like a box of Sunday envelopes can simply drop a note in the collection basket and they will be issued by the Parish Office. In this way, you will receive a charitable income tax receipt that might entitle you to tax savings. These tax savings, in effect, reduce the cost of your donation.

We also encourage you to consider making your donations through the Pre-Authorized Debit Program. If you have automatic debits taken from your bank account to pay your bills, then you already understand the PAD principle. Using the PAD program for your offering allows you to give intentionally, proportionally, and faithfully to the church, even when you are not able to be here in person.

Thankful & Grateful!

A BIG THANK YOU to all parishioners for your generosity. Together, we continue to grow a dynamic faith for St. Francis & St Clare of Assisi Parish through our individual and collective commitment to be a part of something great!

If you have any questions on this financial report, please contact the Parish Office at 902-454-8221 or email office@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca.

PARISH LIVESTREAM MASS LINK:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4QgKeNNdXQOpZaxOhNNGzg/featured>

FRANCISCAN OF HALIFAX MASSES CELEBRATED AT ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH:

Tuesday to Friday – 7:00 to 7:45 am Mass

Saturday – 9:00 am Mass - Morning Prayer will take place at 8:30 am, and Confessions will be heard after Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION/CONFESSION:

Monday – 7:30 to 8:30 pm (to participate arrive before 7:30 pm) – St. Theresa's Church

Wednesday – after 9:00 am Mass to 4:30 pm with Benediction - St. Theresa's Church

Wednesday – 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:00 pm – Exposition/Adoration/Confession– St. Mother Teresa's Church

Thursday – Franciscans of Halifax hold Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration & Confessions - 7:30 pm – St. Catherine's Church

YOUTUBE CHANNELS:

Parish - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4QgKeNNdXQOpZaxOhNNGzg/featured>

Franciscans of Halifax - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9L3qlfstB9xXyv2ZMOqc0q/videos>