



ST. FRANCIS AND ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH AT ST. CATHERINE'S

Home of the Franciscans of Halifax

April 10, 2022

2021 ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA FINANCIAL REPORT

Last week, the financial report for St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish was released. This week, the local Church reports are available. To view the report for St. Catherine's or the Parish, visit:

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

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH – APRIL 10, 2022

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD APRIL 10, 2022



On **Palm Sunday**, we usher in Holy Week with palm branches in hand, remembering the triumphant entry of our Lord into Jerusalem, and the beginning of the week that leads us to the commemoration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord – the Paschal Triduum.

On that first Palm Sunday, “A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.” In ancient times, palm branches symbolized goodness and victory. It was common practice in the ancient world to welcome home a king or war hero by laying out a path of branches for him to ride or walk over. With this same purpose, palm was used by the people of Jerusalem to honor Jesus, their King, as he arrived in victory and triumph, but most did not understand what kind of king Jesus would be. Again, at the end of the Bible, people from every nation raise palm branches to honor Jesus (Revelation 7:9).

In Jesus' time, military rulers usually rode into the cities on horses. Jesus came on a donkey. The donkey was a symbol of peace, and those who rode upon them proclaimed peaceful intentions. This was a sign that he was a leader who would triumph with love and compassion, and not with military might. His was a kingdom that would grow in the hearts of people who put their faith and trust in God.

Even as the countless multitudes waved the palm branches and shouted for joy, they missed the true reason for Jesus' presence. They could neither see nor understand the cross.

Parish Livestream Masses:

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



Donations for Easter Flowers

We are accepting donations for the purchase of Easter flowers. 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. We will be pleased to acknowledge these remembrances.

PARISH HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH – **PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY**
REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE AT EACH CHURCH LOCATION

TUESDAY, APRIL 12TH – **MASS OF CHRISM**
12:00 NOON – ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA

THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH - **HOLY THURSDAY**
7:00 PM – ST. THERESA'S CHURCH

FRIDAY, APRIL 15TH – **GOOD FRIDAY**
3:00 PM – ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA & ST. PATRICK'S

SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH – **EASTER VIGIL**
8:00 PM – ST. MOTHER TERESA OF KOLKATA

SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH – **EASTER SUNDAY**
REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE AT EACH CHURCH LOCATION,
EXCEPT NO 7:00 PM MASS AT ST. CATHERINE'S

please note

Please note: The only weekday Mass during Holy Week will be on Wednesday at 9:00 am at St. Theresa's Church. Also of note, there will be no Thursday evening Confessions by the Franciscans of Halifax at St. Catherine's Church.

HOLY THURSDAY - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE WASHING OF THE FEET

As part of the Holy Thursday celebration at St. Theresa's Church, twelve people (three from each church) are needed for the Washing of the Feet. Would those parishioners willing to participate, please call the Parish Office at 902-454-8221 or email news@saintcatherineofsiena.ca. Thank you!



**Celebrations of the Easter Triduum will be available online
on the Parish Youtube Channel:**

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

TELEVISED MASSES:

St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica - Eastlink will be broadcasting celebrations from the Cathedral on Good Friday (3:00 pm), and Easter Sunday (10:30 am & 12:00 noon). If you have Eastlink cable, Eastlink TV can be viewed on channel 10 and 610.

Mass for Shut-Ins airs Sunday, 11:30 am, on CTV television.

Vision TV – Channel 458 with Bell; Channel 660 with Eastlink

- Sunday at 9:00 am
- Monday to Friday at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm
- Saturday at 9:00 am and 10:30 am

PARISH LENTEN MISSION – “ENCOUNTERING THE LORD”



. . . to Fr. Bill Burke for leading our Parish Mission this past week. It was a WONDERFUL week of inspiration from a WONDERFUL Priest. On behalf of all who attended in-person or online, THANK YOU, FR. BILL, for your presence with us.

For those of you who have not had a chance, as yet, to view the Mission, the four evenings are available on the Parish Youtube Channel:

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

If you would like to express your gratitude to Fr. Bill by way of a gift, a card, or note of thanks, you can deposit them in the regular collection at any weekend Mass. For those joining us online, you are certainly welcome to send your gift or words of thanks electronically or by mail. Please ensure that you specifically note any monetary gift is for the Parish Mission.



FUNERAL MASS FOR FR. ROBERTO DONATO – APRIL 26TH AT 2:00 PM

Hello brothers and sisters,

We have appreciated the prayers and notes of affection that many of you have sent since Fr. Roberto's death on December 2nd. It has been a process these last few months, grieving the loss of this great man, and waiting for arrangements to be made so that we could celebrate his funeral here. Things are now in place and one of Father's family members is very soon bringing his ashes to Canada.



We would like to invite you to join us at the Funeral Mass for Fr. Roberto on Tuesday, April 26th, at 2:00 pm. It will be held at St. Mary's Basilica, and since there are no current government restrictions for gathering limits, we are able to welcome all who want to attend. We would love to see many of you there, to celebrate the Mass for the repose of his soul.

Peace and all Good,
Franciscans of Halifax

CHRISM MASS – TUESDAY, APRIL 12TH, AT 12:00 NOON



Archbishop Dunn invites you to join him and priests of the Archdiocese for the annual Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 12th, at 12:00 noon at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica. This special Mass will also be livestreamed (www.halifaxyarmouth.org).

The Chrism Mass is held during Holy Week in every Catholic diocese. During this Mass, the priests, deacons and representatives of the entire diocesan community gather around their Bishop, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. These are the Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens, and the Sacred Chrism. Whenever the Holy Oils are used in a diocese, the ministry of the Bishop who consecrated them is symbolically present.

The Chrism Mass reminds us of our oneness in Christ through Baptism and its holy anointing, made possible by the ministry of the Bishop and his priests. The Chrism Mass is also a key moment in which the unity of the Bishop with his priests (together, they form the presbyterate) is manifested and renewed. During the liturgy, the entire assembly is called to renew its baptismal promises; deacons and priests also renew their vow of obedience to the local Bishop and their commitment to serve God's people. At the end of the Chrism Mass, the Holy Oils are brought back to parishes of the diocese for use in the coming year.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY

The Good Friday Collection on April 15th is requested by the Holy See to help maintain the Christian sites of the Holy Land and to support the Church in the pastoral, educational, and social works that contribute to a sustained Christian presence in the land where Jesus Christ walked. For more information, visit: www.commissariat.ca



DIVINE MERCY NOVENA AND CHAPLET



Between 1930 and 1938 Christ appeared to Sister Faustina, a Sister of Mercy in Poland, who initiated the Divine Mercy devotion. On Good Friday, 1937, Jesus requested that Blessed Faustina make a special **Novena** before the Feast of Mercy, **from Good Friday through the following Saturday**. He gave her a chaplet to be recited and said that it was appropriate to pray the chaplet at three o'clock each afternoon (the Hour of Great Mercy). She was canonized on April 30, 2000, the Sunday after Easter, the Feast of Divine Mercy. For information on how to recite the Chaplet, visit:

<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>

POPE APOLOGIZES TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

On April 1, 2022, Pope Francis expressed “sorrow and shame” for the abuse and lack of respect for Indigenous identities, culture and spiritual values in the residential school system. His apology came as a part of his final address to the delegation of Indigenous People that came to meet with him from March 28th to April 1st. He said, “I ask for God’s forgiveness, and I want to say to you with all my heart: I am very sorry. And I join my brothers, the Canadian bishops, in asking your pardon.”



To read the full text of his address, visit:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2022/april/documents/20220401-popoli-indigeni-canada.html>

Members of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) were also part of the delegation. “We are deeply grateful to each of the Indigenous delegates who travelled with us to the Holy See to share their experiences and desires for a brighter future for their people,” said CCCB President, the Most Rev. Raymond Poisson. “The Holy Father has heard first-hand the stories of those who suffered at the hands of Catholic Church members, and has responded with compassion, remorse, and a genuine desire for truth, justice, and healing.” You can read a statement from the CCCB, by visiting: <https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/canadas-catholic-bishops-welcome-pope-francis-apology-to-indigenous-peoples/>

The Holy Father's apology was informed by private encounters with 32 Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, residential school survivors and youth from across Canada. Delegates shared a range of lived experiences including from their time in residential schools, the resulting loss of culture and language, and complex relationships with the Catholic faith that continue to this day. Through shared prayers, the exchange of gifts and the telling of powerful stories, Pope Francis was moved by their courage, their commitment and their resilience in the face of suffering. He emphasized his shame for the Catholic Church's role in the residential school system, and re-committed to visiting with them on Canadian soil.

Residential Schools: We are sorry. We apologize. (Part 3 from the Diocese)

Considering the generally cordial relationships the early missionaries enjoyed, one might ask the reasons for the Catholic Church's involvement in residential schools. In a day and age when missionary work was hard and involved great effort to reach a small number of people, the unfettered access to the minds and lives of children was a tempting proposition. Involvement by "Rival Christian Providers" also served as a strong motivator. Though more and more resources shifted to the schools, missionary outreach to the people "on the land" continued to receive strong support.



As for the government, the various churches that were contracted provided the cheapest labour. The churches had already built a certain amount of trust and respect, each with a particular People. Their involvement made the whole idea more sellable (both to the indigenous and non-indigenous peoples).

We are sorry for the misuse of power that was exercised while the Catholic Church gained unfettered access to the minds and lives of Indigenous Children over successive generations. We apologize for ridiculing indigenous cultural and religious practices, discouraging indigenous languages and belittling indigenous identity, each act an assault on the human person.

For more information the relationship between the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth and the local Mi'kmaq community go to: www.halifaxyarmouth.org/mi-kmaq-community

PRAY FOR PEACE

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at-risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.



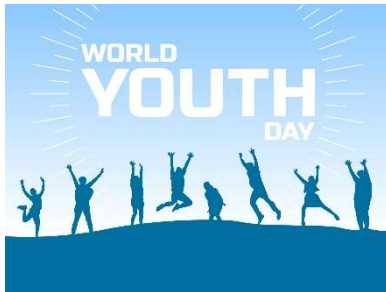
STEWARDSHIP



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

World Youth Day: April 10, 2022



Each year World Youth Day is recognized on Palm Sunday throughout the Church. Many are familiar with the international gatherings that happen every few years that gathers young adults with the Holy Father in a particular place in the world.

This year the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth, through Holy Cross University Chaplaincy, will host a World Youth Day event on Sunday, April 10th, at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica. Join the chaplaincy team for music, fellowship, talks, and food! The festivities will close with the celebration of the 5:00 pm Mass. Come on out!

When: April 10, 2022 (Palm Sunday)

Time: 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Where: St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica Hall

Who: youth & youth leaders

Thank you for giving from the heart to Share Lent 2022!



Development and Peace — Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the *People and Planet First* campaign with your Share Lent donation. Thanks to your generosity, your donations allow the communities that our partners accompany to survive and thrive in the face of climate change, poverty, and corporate abuses. Your donation means communities can defend their human rights and care for the planet. This sum will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Latin

America, and the Middle East.

If you have not had a chance to donate, there is still time to place your Share Lent envelope in the offertory or to donate online at:

<https://www2.devvp.org/en/civcrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=3&gl=2y0x0>

Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice