

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/Jesna Jose
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 Thursday - 5:15pm	St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Saturday 4:00pm; Sunday 11:15am Friday - 9:00am
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ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA'S CHURCH BULLETIN

Home of the Franciscans of Halifax

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 18, 2022



Merry Christmas!

What a joy filled season Christmas brings to our hearts, the healing peace and light of God comes to us wrapped in swaddling cloth. The scene is set in Bethlehem, and everyone is invited to gaze into God's light coming into the darkness. God comes in human flesh - Baby Jesus, our Messiah, has come to enlighten our hearts and raise our drooping spirits. With a humble heart, I personally invite you to join in the Spirit of Christ Jesus - the true Christmas Spirit - our God comes to us humble, weak, and vulnerable as a little child.

As you see below, we have many celebrations to raise our hearts in humble thanksgiving and adoration for the gift of the Child Jesus. To sing with the Angels who invited the shepherds to journey and follow the light of a Star so, we too, may experience for ourselves "Emmanuel, God with us".

I pray your heart is experiencing the expectant joy of this infinite visitation of our Lord and may the Love of God overwhelm us all this Christmas as we join as God's family to celebrate this mystery of God's Love.

I look forward to greeting you with fraternal affection.



Fr. Nathanael DesRoches, Parish Administrator

PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24th

6:00 pm – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church

6:00 pm - St. Theresa's Church (**Livestreamed**)

8:00 pm – St. Catherine of Siena Church

(The children invite you to the presentation of The Christmas Story at 7:40 pm)

8:00 pm - St. Patrick's Church

(Please note: There will be no 9:00 am FoH weekday

Mass at St. Catherine's; no 4:00 pm Mass at

St. Mother Teresa's; no 4:30 pm Mass at St. Theresa's)

Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25th

9:30 am – St. Patrick's Church

9:30 am – St. Theresa's Church

11:00 am – St. Catherine of Siena Church

11:15 am – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church

(Please note: There will be no 7:00 pm Mass at

St. Catherine's)

Weekday Masses, including the FoH 7:00 am Mass

and 9:00 am Saturday Mass, are cancelled for the

week between Christmas and New Year's. FoH

Adoration/Confession on Thursday evening at

St. Catherine's is also cancelled for December 29th.

Starting on January 5th, the Thursday weekday Mass

at St. Patrick's will change to 9:00 am.

The **Feast of the Holy Family** will be celebrated on

Friday, December 30th, at 9:00 am at

St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church.

This Mass will be livestreamed.

New Year's Eve – Saturday, December 31st

4:00 pm – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church

4:30 pm – St. Theresa's Church

(Please note: There will be no 9:00 am FoH weekday

Mass at St. Catherine's)

New Year's Day – Sunday, January 1st

9:30 am – St. Patrick's Church

9:30 am – St. Theresa's Church

11:00 am – St. Catherine of Siena Church

11:15 am – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church

(Please note: There will be no 7:00 pm Mass at

St. Catherine's)

MASKING IS ENCOURAGED



The Diocese is encouraging everyone to wear a mask when they attend Mass, and to respect those who choose not to wear a mask. As the Christmas season approaches, gatherings and social get togethers increase,

particularly during the Christmas mass times. The Diocese offers a gentle reminder that we are still living in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. Along with that, instances of other respiratory illness, such as the flu and RSV, are very high and are putting a strain on our already challenged health care system. This reminder is to help people feel safe and strive for the health and good of all.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 20th – Frank McGrath

DONATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



If you wish to make a donation, or a donation in memory of a loved one, it may be placed in a plain envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and placed

in the regular collection. Please include your envelope number or name and full mailing address, and the names of your loved ones. All remembered, will be listed in the Christmas bulletin.

AN ADVENT PRAYER

For those who had requested the Advent Prayer referenced in Fr. Paul's homily last Sunday, here it is in print:

An Advent Prayer

They watch for Christ who are sensitive, eager, apprehensive in mind, who are awake, alive, quick-sighted, zealous in honouring Him, who look for Him in all that happens, and who would not be surprised, who would not be over-agitated or overwhelmed if they found He was coming at once.

This then is to watch:

to be detached from what is present,
and to live in what is unseen;
to live in the thought of Christ as He came once,
and as He will come again;
to desire His second coming, from our affectionate
and grateful remembrance of His first.



STEWARDSHIP



2023 Sunday Envelopes are now available at the back of the Church for those who are currently envelope contributors.

The foundation of any church's financial health is the regular use of Sunday envelopes which ensures that we have a regular, stable, weekly income. Regular giving can also make a difference to you! Please consider signing up through either the box envelope system or the Pre-Authorized Debit Program. 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.

Included in the Sunday envelope box is a brochure on Pre-Authorized Giving. This plan allows parishioners to give intentionally, proportionally, and faithfully by setting up an automatic withdrawal from your bank account on a regular basis. No need to write a cheque or find the cash to place in your envelope each week. Further information can be found in the brochure. **Please consider enrolling in this plan to start in January 2023.**

2022 Contributions

As yearend approaches, parishioners are reminded that if you wish to contribute and receive a 2022 income tax receipt, donations must be received by December 31st. Any donations received January 1st onward, will be credited to 2023.

If you are not attending Mass at this time and unable to use Sunday envelopes, there are other ways to donate. Donations could be mailed care of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish, 6351 North Street, Halifax, NS, B3L 1P7 or by electronic transfer. You can use the Interac transfer feature of your bank account to email a donation to office@stfrancisandstclareparish.ca. Please indicate your name, that your donation is for St. Catherine's Church, and your envelope number, if applicable.

Thank you to all for your continued support.

Homeless Memorial Service

Please join us in honouring and remembering those who have lost their lives due to the structural and systemic violence of poverty, colonization and homelessness



When:
Tuesday December 20th 2022 at 2pm

Where:
Saint Patrick's Church (2263 Brunswick St,
Halifax, NS B3K 2Y9)

FAITH & CHRISTIAN CULTURE SERIES

FRANCISCANS OF HALIFAX



The Faith & Christian Culture Series provided by the Franciscans of Halifax every Wednesday evening has concluded its sessions until the new year. Parishioners will be reminded through the

bulletin when this series will resume.

ST. FRANCIS AND ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY!

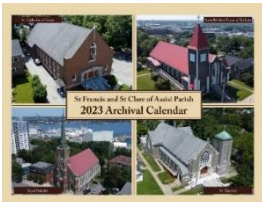


Our parish is seeking an Operations Manager to assist Father Nathanael and our leadership teams, with the administrative work of the parish. A job listing was

posted last weekend on the Diocesan website. The position is full-time for a 2-year term. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please check the Diocesan website for further information.

<https://halifaxyarmouth.org/admin-services/human-resources>

2023 ST. FRANCIS AND ST. CLARE PARISH CALENDAR



The Parish calendar has arrived. It will be available on the back table for the very reasonable price of \$10 a copy. With colour photos of our four churches on the front cover,

you will discover inside black and white photos of historical interest. All four churches are represented in the 12-month calendar. Feast days are noted in the days of each month. An excellent gift for family and friends near and far.

DIOCESAN NEWS:

RIP DEACON DOUGLAS CLARKE



Deacon
Douglas Clarke
RIP

Last week, Archbishop Dunn received the news of the death of Rev Mr. Douglas Clarke. He served in a variety of parishes around the Archdiocese. Here is a link to

the full announcement from the Diocese:

<https://halifaxyarmouth.org/pastoral-services/liturgy/item/rip-deacon-douglas-clarke>

Please keep his wife, Marian and his family in your prayers. May he rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS MASS ON EASTLINK TV FROM SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL BASILICA

****For those at home or away:*** Our friends at Eastlink Community TV will once again broadcast the 8:00 pm Mass LIVE on channel 10 or 610. The broadcast will begin at 7:30 pm with carols in the church followed by the Mass beginning at 8:00 pm. A recording of this broadcast will be repeated again at 11:00 pm.

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 – **CANCELLED FROM DECEMBER 27TH TO 30TH**

Saturday – 9:00 am Mass - Morning Prayer will take place at 8:30 am, and Confessions will be heard after Mass – **CANCELLED ON DECEMBER 24TH & 31ST**

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 – **CANCELLED DECEMBER 29TH**

YOUTUBE CHANNELS:

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

Franciscans of Halifax - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9L3qlfstB9xYyv2ZMOqc0g/videos>