

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

Home of the Franciscans of Halifax

February 13, 2022

CELEBRATING OUR FAITH - FEBRUARY 13, 2022

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 13, 2022



We are at full capacity for both Masses on February 13th, with physical distancing and capacity limits in place.

Mass will be livestreamed on the Parish Youtube Channel at 4:30 pm Saturday and 9:30 am Sunday.

These recorded Masses will also be available at any time.

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

OTHER ONLINE MASS LINKS:

St. Mary's Basilica Cathedral – https://livestream.com/halifaxyarmouth/cathedral Salt & Light – https://saltandlighttv.org/mass/

TELEVISED MASSES:

<u>Vision TV</u> – Channel 458 with Bell; Channel 660 with Eastlink - Sunday at 9:00 am; Monday to Friday at 9:00 am & 1:00 pm; Saturday at 9:00 am & 10:30 am Mass for Shut-Ins – Sunday at 11:30 am on CTV television.



With great sadness, we share with you the news that Michael Aloisi has died. Please remember Michael, his family and friends in your daily prayers and during this Sunday's Mass.

REGISTERING FOR SUNDAY MASS



The province of Nova Scotia has announced that starting at 12:01 am on Monday, February 14th, we will begin Phase 1 of the province's re-opening plan. Although capacity limits have increased to 50%, wearing masks and physical distancing remain in place. The increase in capacity does not have any positive effect on the numbers able to attend Mass at St. Catherine's due to the size of

our Church, therefore, the sharing of the seats available to us will continue.

If you are not on the current rotation list for attendance at Sunday Mass and would like to attend, please call the Parish Office on Wednesday between 9:00 am and 11:30 am to pre-register for Sunday Mass (11:00 am & 7:00 pm)

Phone: 902-454-8221 (Ext. 221)

Confirmations will be sent out by end of day Thursday, each week, to those who will be registered to attend that following Sunday.

You can only attend those Masses that have been confirmed by email or phone.

REMEMBER, AT THIS TIME, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO SIMPLY WALK-UP TO THE CHURCH DOOR AND ATTEND MASS.

HAPPY 74TH ANNIVERSARY, ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA!!



HAPPY 74TH!

World War II brought a great influx of people to Halifax and soon the need for housing became acute, and homes were built in the fast, developing northwest end. It was natural that many of the owners of the new homes were Catholic so in 1948, Archbishop John T. McNally established the Parish community of St. Catherine of Siena. Although a proper Church was a dream for the future, a military chapel (the "Barracks") at the corner of Bayers Road and Oxford Street was leased.

74 years ago this <u>Tuesday, February 15th</u>, the first Mass was celebrated by the newly formed Parish of St. Catherine of Siena, with Reverend Frank Carroll as Pastor.

For the first couple of years, the use of the "Barracks" cost the Parish a token \$1.00 per year because a friend of Father Carroll was stationed in Windsor Park and arranged the lease. When the military command changed, the Parish was asked for a rent of \$100 per month in order to continue the lease of the property.

Services for the growing Parish were held in the military chapel during those first years, but it was realized that, although it was possible to renew the lease on the chapel for another few years, something must be done about building a proper church. Property was acquired on Bayers Road and in 1950 permission was given to start building. The sod was turned on November 5th and the excavation and foundation were

finished by the end of the year. Things did not go as smoothly as hoped and a few challenges were experienced. The Church was not ready for occupancy until 1953.

On September 13th, 1953, parishioners were invited to come and 'inspect' their church before the Official Opening. The invitation read: "And precisely because it is your church, built through your labours and sacrifices, we feel that you should have the opportunity to examine it before it is officially opened."

On Friday, September 18, 1953, the Blessed Sacrament was taken in procession from the "barracks" to the Parish's new home on Bayers Road. The Sunday bulletin described the joy: "Pure happiness could be seen on the faces of all, and many were tears of joy that welled up in the eyes of those parishioners who for five years and seven months had waited and prayed for this great day. Yes, a new home, a new abode, in a beautiful setting, has been supplied by you for the Son of God, Our Redeemer."

May our faithful Pioneers receive great blessings for their tireless work in establishing our community! May we be encouraged and strengthened by the example of their sacrifices and faith!

Happy Anniversary to all!



VALENTINE'S DAY



Although the Roman Catholic Church continues to recognize St. Valentine as a saint of the church, he was removed from the General Roman Calendar in 1969 because of the lack of reliable information about him.

St. Valentine was a priest in the early Church. He was also a doctor. He helped people when they were sick, and he taught his Christian community in Rome how to follow Jesus. His example of always acting with love inspired many people to join the Church.

It was dangerous to be a follower of Christ in the early Church as Christians were persecuted for their faith. They were hunted down and kept in jail until they were put to death. Because St. Valentine was such a well-known leader of the Christian community, it was not surprising that he was arrested.

St. Valentine did not let being a prisoner stop him from living his faith. It is said that one of the jail guards brought his sick daughter to him and that St. Valentine healed her in God's name. St. Valentine also wrote letters of encouragement to the other Christian prisoners and to the members of his community. He wrote about Jesus' love and reminded everyone to stay strong in their faith. This is how the tradition of sending valentines to the people we love began.

St. Valentine was executed around the years 269-273 and is the patron of engaged couples, of happy marriages, and of love.



TAX TIME



The Canada Revenue Agency provides Canadians with a network of CVITP tax volunteers in communities throughout Canada. Volunteers help other members of their community honor their tax obligations and receive their tax credits. Individuals donate their time to provide this free service to people with a low-income threshold, such as: seniors and pensioners; students; wage earners; people with disabilities and social benefit recipients; newcomers to Canada; people who are not fluent in either official language; and people filing to claim

refunds, benefits and credits.

We have two tax volunteers with the CVITP who are offering this free tax service to those within our community. If you would like to have your taxes done by Ellen O'Reilly (902-454-0958) or Marg McMillan (902-454-0553), please give them a call to set up an appointment.

SYNOD 2021-2023 - NEXT STEPS



The Diocese is excited to launch the next phase of our local synod process. Until the end of February, they want to hear from people who are not currently engaged in our Church – they have opened an online survey for those who do not attend Mass or consider themselves involved with our Church. The survey is short, open-ended, and anonymous. They are hopeful that it will provide useful opinions and information on how to better reach out to those in our midst. But to get feedback that will help them plan for our future, they have to start by actually getting feedback! They need you to be part of this outreach.

The Diocese invites you to take some time to share this survey with people you know who are not part of our Church. They can be fallen away Catholics or people with no experience in the Catholic Church. A personal invitation from someone they know will be our best promotional tool for this initiative.

The survey can be found at: www.halifaxyarmouth.org/survey. Thank you!

PARISH SCHEDULE OF MASSES/ADORATION/CONFESSIONS

ST. FRANCIS AND ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

SUNDAY MASSES:

- St. Catherine of Siena: Sunday at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm
- St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata: Saturday at 4:00 pm, Sunday at 11:15 am
- St. Patrick's: Sunday at 9:30 am
- St. Theresa's: Saturday at 4:30 pm, Sunday at 9:30 am

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Tuesday – 12:00 noon, St. Catherine of Siena Church Wednesday – 9:00 am, St. Theresa's Church Thursday – 5:15 pm, St. Patrick's Church Friday – 9:00 am, St. Mother Teresa'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.

EUCHARISTIC 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 each month, 7:00 pm - Exposition, Adoration and Confession – St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata Church Thursday – Franciscans of Halifax hold Confessions - 7:30 pm – St. Catherine's Church

YOUTUBE CHANNELS:

Parish - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4QgKeNNdXQOpZaxOhNNGzg/featured
St. Catherine's - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5-tliXliE8KBTGLoluxlwA
Franciscans of Halifax - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9L3qlfstB9xXyv2ZMOqc0g/videos

STEWARDSHIP



During this time of Covid, there are a number of ways you can donate. Visit: https://saintcatherineofsiena.ca/donate to see how to donate by electronic 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 generosity!



DIOCESAN NEWS

NET Ministries of Canada



NET Ministries of Canada is launching a new podcast called *Youth Ministry 101* where you can learn tips, tricks and hear stories to help reach youth in your life, parish, or youth group! The podcast launched on January 18th and a new episode will come out every two weeks until summer 2022! Search NET Canada on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts or Google Podcasts. For more information visit www.netcanada.ca or email communications@netcanada.ca.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if you were already there,
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen