

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

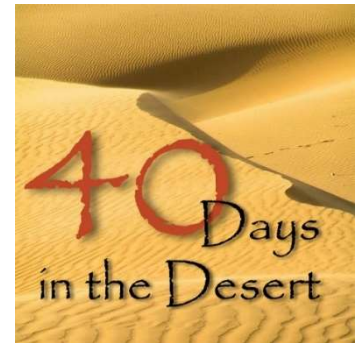
*Home of the Franciscans of Halifax*

March 6, 2022

**CELEBRATING OUR FAITH – MARCH 6, 2022**

# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 6, 2022

**We are at full capacity for both Masses on March 6<sup>th</sup>,  
with physical distancing guidelines 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/halifaxarmouth/cathedral>

Salt & Light – <https://saltandlighttv.org/mass/>

### **TELEVISED MASSES:**

Vision TV – 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.

## **ARCHBISHOP DUNN'S LENTEN MESSAGE – MARCH 2022**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In working with our homeless people, we realized that one of our basic needs as a human being is to have a home. A place that we, as individuals, can call our own – a Physical Home. A physical structure that keeps us warm, protects us from harmful weather and houses the things that make our lives a bit better. Without this place, this building, this permanent place to return to at the end of the day, we are then homeless. We are very aware there is a crisis in our country of physical homelessness.

Another home needed and more desired than ever is not one of a structure or a storage place, but instead a spiritual place of belonging – a Spiritual Home. In this place, we keep our most precious of things so that they are protected with dignity and held sacredly. This is a place where we are welcomed and loved, a place where we are missed when we are gone and at the end of the day, we yearn deeply to return to it – the place of faith, hope, peace, joy, and love. The place where we are with other companions traveling on a long and sometimes tiresome road, yet we feel we belong. Having a spiritual homelessness comes from having a lack of all these things.

Spiritual homelessness is feeling lost, without true purpose, without a place to turn in our most desperate times, a place where we are at our lowest and are without a place or person to turn. It is often referred to as a “hole inside” us that feels empty and in need of being filled. Saint Augustine captures this in his *Confessions*: “You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.” It is the place which many vices and bad choices are used to try and fill. It is where we ask ourselves often, “is this it?” or even, “what is my purpose?”. A spiritual homelessness is not being connected to creation, to our creator and to our soul.

Finding a spiritual home starts when we accept that we cannot find it in things, in vices, in lifestyles, in careers, in willpower. It starts when we accept it cannot be built or created by us but instead, when we get out of our own way and rely on a higher presence. It is where we release our sense of control and power and choose to give up our will to be filled by a power of a loving God. It is where we securely trust. This returns us to the deepest sense of knowing and belonging, most precious sense of home that we have ever experienced. This emptiness is only filled when we invite the presence of Jesus to our lives, welcoming Him into our daily existence and asking for His will to be done – this is the call of evangelization. It is where we return from the dark, return from the long voyage, to be welcomed into the loving and compassionate arms of our Father and held to rest in safety, security and with grace, mercy and deep abiding love.

During this Season of Lent, let us focus our spiritual practices on the developing of our Spiritual Home.

✠ Brian Joseph Dunn  
Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth

**PARISH MISSION – SAVE THE DATE!!!**



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FOR OUR UPCOMING**  
**PARISH LENTEN MISSION**

We are pleased to announce that plans are set to hold a Parish Lenten Mission for members of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. If you are wondering how to live a good Lent, MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the evenings of Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, to Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, and join us!

Father Bill Burke will lead our Parish Lenten Mission.

Fr. Burke is a native of Main-à-Dieu in Cape Breton. He graduated from St. Francis Xavier University, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1968. He taught secondary school English, French and Literature in the small town of Kadjebi, Ghana, with the Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) from 1968 to 1971. He then worked as a Social Worker in Toronto until 1973, when he entered St. Paul's Seminary in Ottawa. Ordained in 1977, Fr. Burke has served in seven parishes in the Diocese of Antigonish. In 1985 he graduated with a master's degree in Liturgical Theology from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.



Over the years, Fr. Burke has conducted numerous workshops, preached parish missions, and taught liturgy courses at the undergraduate level. For eleven years, he also served as a volunteer Chaplain with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in Nova Scotia.

From November 2006 to August 2013, Fr. Burke was appointed the Director of the National Liturgy Office for the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in Ottawa, before returning home to become Pastor of the newly created parish of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys in Sydney. He also serves as the pastor of St. Anne's Parish, Membertou.

We look forward to welcoming Fr. Burke to our Parish family! Plan now to attend! More details will be shared as they become available.

## PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE



O Lord our God, look down with mercy on the Ukrainian people. Protect and save them from the unjust aggressors who seek to subdue them. Grant them steadfast trust in your mercy and protection.

O Mother of God, who gave us your miraculous icon at Zarvanytsia, intercede for the Ukrainian people, who run to the shelter of your mercy in their time of need.

O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Grant peace and protection to the people of Ukraine. Give them strength and courage to defend what is good, right, and holy. Keep them safe from harm and provide for all their needs, both temporal and spiritual.

Hear our prayers, O Lord, and deliver us from distress, for You are merciful and compassionate and love mankind. To You we give glory: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.



Our Lady of  
Zarvanytsia

*Prayer written by Carrie Chuff, a Ukrainian Greek Catholic mom.*

## ATTENDING SUNDAY MASS



As Phase 2 still requires physical distancing, these changes will 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 until March 20<sup>th</sup>.

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.**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM



This Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, students will receive an emailed lesson from their Catechists!

We have some wonderful news to share!!! This past Tuesday evening, we celebrated two more First Communions at St. Catherine's. Congratulations to Claire Graham and Aodhamair Parker! Claire & Aodhamair, through receiving the Body of Jesus Christ for the first time, may you feel your union with Jesus today and every day as you live a life of faith dedicated to Him.



## EMERGENCY SHELTERS PROJECT – DIOCESAN UPDATE



Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise \$379,990.50 to construct twenty crisis emergency shelters at parishes across the Archdiocese within six weeks! We have shelters at twelve locations, including three shelters outside of the Halifax Regional Municipality. All of them are currently occupied and being supported by many committed parish volunteers.

In January of 2021, Archbishop Dunn named homelessness one of his top pastoral priorities. This is a broad issue with many contributing factors and is a problem that touches every part of Nova Scotia. In October of 2021, a CBC report estimated 1,168 people across the province sought help due to homelessness.

While the crisis shelters are not a long-term solution to the complex issue of homelessness, your charitable contributions have directly impacted the lives of these twenty people this winter.

Remaining funds are being used to improve ventilation for each unit to prevent locks freezing during times of extreme temperature variation and pay for ongoing toilet rental fees. Funds have also been reserved for any needed repairs and the eventual transportation and storage of shelters. We are also exploring the possibility of adding additional shelter units.

Thank you again for your generosity!

### Financial Breakdown to January 31, 2022

Shelters (construction, installation, electrical hook-up, repairs)	\$277,885
Portable Toilets (monthly rental costs to date)	<u>\$2,290</u>
TOTAL	\$280,175

## 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

#### 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 – 1<sup>st</sup> 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>

Franciscans of Halifax - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9L3qfstB9xXyv2ZMOqc0g/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 continued generosity!

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### Archbishop Dunn’s Development & Peace Letter - 2022



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year, as we approach Ash Wednesday on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, marking the beginning of Lent, let us remember that the liturgical season of Lent is a season of conversion. It is a time set apart for deepening our relationship with Christ and seeking inner transformation through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

I want to draw your attention to the call to “true ecological conversion” which Pope Francis calls us in his letter, *Laudato Si’*. He writes, “we have to realize that a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” (LS, n. 49). Pope Francis ties together the degradation of the environment with love for the poor and reminds us that the poorest nations in the world suffer the most under the conditions of climate change.

Development and Peace – Caritas is the official international solidarity organization of the Catholic Church in Canada, and its Lenten campaign, ***People and Planet First***, helps us reflect on how to respond to these cries. This year, Development and Peace is inviting Canadian Catholics to join in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the Global South who are feeling the most significant impacts of the changing climate. Development and Peace is highlighting the work of their partners who, despite their challenges, are finding ways to live in harmony with their environment. In Madagascar, for example, one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, D&P implemented 51 climate change adaptable microprojects. Hundreds have benefited from workshops on climate adaptation

practices like composting, agroecology, urban agriculture, making biomass charcoal and rearing flood resistant livestock.

Since 1967, the CCCB has set aside the fifth Sunday of Lent as Solidarity Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, when each parish across Canada takes a special collection. I encourage you to give generously in support of the **People and Planet First** campaign. The health restrictions may deter many from attending in-person Mass, so I request that all priests promote Solidarity Sunday in their churches on the 5th Sunday of Lent and online to reach their parishioners. Donations can also be made online at <https://www2.devpc.org/en/civircrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=3&gl=2v0x0>, by mailing a cheque, or by calling 1-888-234-8533.

This Lent, let us join in solidarity as we place the **people and the planet** at the heart of our Lenten journey.

Sincerely in Christ,  
✠ Brian Joseph Dunn  
Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth

### **Human Rights and Due Diligence Legislation Petition**



While global leaders were in the COP26 meetings talking about how to tackle climate change, more and more activists are being threatened and killed for protecting the forests, waters, and biodiversity that our people and our planet are most in need of. The most vulnerable members of our human family are bearing the largest burden, dealing with the worst impacts of climate change, and facing negative effects of ill-planned, top-down climate “solutions”.

In the Global South, many Canadian companies don’t adhere to standards that are compulsory in Canada. They, or others acting for them, often abuse human rights and the environment. And they persecute those who oppose them. Development and Peace’s partners want Canadians to help put an end to this abuse.

This Lent, D&P continues with its advocacy to collect more signature for a Due Diligence legislation mandating Canadian corporations operating abroad to respect human and environmental rights. It is up to us to ensure that our corporations cannot misbehave when they operate abroad. Please sign the online petition: <https://www.devpc.org/en/campaign/people-planet-first/take-action/>

### **A Message from Development and Peace on Ukraine**



Development and Peace appeals and prays for peace in Ukraine and calls the faithful to stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian people. As an organization committed to justice and peace, we strongly condemn all acts of military aggression.

Expressing great sadness at the worsening situation in Ukraine, Pope Francis called for a global day of fasting and prayer for peace in Ukraine on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ash Wednesday.

In the coming days, large numbers of people will likely end up displaced, needing help with meeting their basic needs. We have therefore made an immediate allocation of \$75,000 to help with the provision of food, shelter, medical care and transport to safe locations. In addition, we ask for your solidarity and support to help us respond to the needs on the ground. To donate, visit: <https://www2.devp.org/en/civCRM/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=3&gl=2y0x0>  
Last but not least, thank you for joining us in praying for peace.

Please give generously!

## 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