

# Our Lady of Peace Parish

*“Three Churches One Faith Community”*

## Bulletin Sunday March 19th 2023 – 4th Sunday Of Lent

Office 603 Union St., Fredericton, NB E3A 3N5 Tel: (506) 444-6010

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### Churches & Mass Times



#### St. Anthony's Church

603 Union St.  
Fredericton, NB

Mass Time Saturdays at 4:00 PM



#### St. Patrick's Church

31 Main St.  
Stanley, NB

Mass Time Sundays at 1:30 PM



#### St. Theresa's Church

45 Royal Road  
Fredericton, NB

Mass Time Sundays at 11:00 AM

### Upcoming Events

Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup> St. Anthony's

&

Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> St. Theresa's

After each Mass there will be a Ukraine  
Hosting Information Session followed by Q & A.  
Please consider staying for this information.

Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> St. Anthony's

Regional Reconciliation Service  
3:00 PM

### Mass Times & Intentions

Tuesday March 21<sup>st</sup> 12:00 PM St. Theresa's  
*Katherine Phee*

Wednesday March 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 AM St. Anthony's  
*Rachel Richard*

Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup> 12:00 PM St. Theresa's  
*Jack MacNeil*

Friday March 24<sup>h</sup> 10:00 AM St. Anthony's  
*Winnie Smith*

Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM St. Anthony's  
*Mass for the People*

Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM St. Theresa's  
*Henry & Barry Anderson*

Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup> 1:30 PM St. Patrick's  
*Deceased Members of the McWade Family*

Marriages & Baptism please call pastoral office. 444-6010

### Our Lady of Peace Financial Update

Mar 12, 2023		Weekly	Contributions
Offertory	\$4,509	Offertory	\$4,509
Capital Infrastructure	240	Budget Needs	(5,255)
Special Collections	125	Excess (Shortfall)	<b>\$(746)</b>
Other	394	Year-to-Date	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,268</b>	Offertory	\$53,912
		Budget Needs	(55,510)
		Excess (Shortfall)	<b>\$(1,598)</b>

*Our Lady of Peace is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners through time,  
talent and treasure. For all you do, THANK YOU!*

### Website & Social Media

[www.ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca](http://www.ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca)

Keep up to date on all activities,  
news and weather cancelations!



@Ourladyofpeaceparishfredericton

Office Numbers

Fr. Maria's 444-6070

Patty Cameron 444-6018



### **CWL NOTICE**

During Lent, the CWL will be leading "*Mary's Way of the Cross*"

Tuesdays, after the noon Mass at St. Theresa's

**Stations of the Cross** – Will take place on Wednesdays at St. Anthony's Church following the 10:00 AM Mass.

**Confessions** Fr. Maria will hear confessions at St. Anthony's Church on Saturdays at 3:30 PM before 4:00 PM Mass.

### **Living Lent 2023**

Next Sunday is Solidarity Sunday and our Living Lent collection is for Development and Peace. Development and Peace supports partners in the Global South in the pursuit of alternatives to unjust social, political, and economic structures. We will be collecting toonies to support Development and Peace's work in poverty, development issues and disaster relief in the Global South. In addition to your toonie please consider making a larger donation this Solidarity Sunday to Development and Peace by using the special collection envelope in your box of parish envelopes or using a Development and Peace envelope at the back of the church. Thank you for your support!

Diocese announced the death of Most Rev. J. Edward Troy, Bishop Emeritus of Diocese of Saint John.

## **Eucharistic Adoration**



Adoration is a silent time for you to have some time alone with Jesus to recite your favorite prayers, read the bible, contemplate acts of faith, hope, charity, thanksgiving or reparation, or do whatever type of prayerful devotion that suits you before the Lord. You can just sit quietly and say nothing, just keep Him company like you would a dear friend.

**Friday 9:30 AM - St. Anthony's Church \***

**Thursday 11:30 AM – St. Theresa's Church**

**First Wednesday of the month 1:00 PM - St. Patrick's Church**

*\* If a Friday Mass is not scheduled or cancelled, Adoration is also cancelled.*

### **Our symbol for the Fourth Sunday of Lent is Mud**

Blindness is often used in Scripture as an analogy for those who reject God, making them incapable of seeing the truth. This is a reason why Scripture predicts that the Messiah will cure blindness and why only Jesus was able to miraculously restore eyesight. Further, the fact that the man was born in this condition means Jesus is not restoring some lost ability – He is about to give this man a perception he never had before. Both are important points in this particular miracle, the sixth of John's seven miraculous "signs" of Jesus' divinity. The use of muddy clay hints at man's ultimate origin: as being formed by God out of the dust of the earth.



St. Theresa's Church

**Jack Weatherhead**

Offered by Gisele Weatherhead

**Reconciliation Service – The Fredericton Regional Reconciliation Service will be held on Sunday, March 26 at 3:00 pm at St. Anthony's Church, 603 Union Street. All are welcome..**

**Family Faith Formation** ~ Because faith grows with those who are closest to us, Our Lady of Peace Parish offers "Family Style" Faith Formation for families with children in Kindergarten to Grade 7. Combining eight engaging in person family sessions with nine simple and practical at home sessions and family events that will focus on fellowship and community service, families will explore their faith in our parish community and most importantly at home.

Children in Grade 2 (and up) wanting to receive 1st Eucharist this year, families are asked to participate in Family Faith Formation and Sacrament Preparation will take place throughout the year, beginning with preparing and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Throughout the year family events are scheduled for families to come together for fun and fellowship. Please watch the bulletin for event information.

### **It's New... It's Fun...It's Faith-filled... It's Life-Giving... Introducing OLP Life Groups Ministry**

What is a Life Group? It is a small Faith-Sharing Community that meets once a week with the goal of loving and supporting one another in growing in faith and holiness. Group members help one another discern and live out God's plan for their life. This ministry was originally piloted in our parish from 2021-2022 and is now in the planning stages to expand and welcome more members. All adults in OLP parish are welcome! In the next few weeks you will hear from a few of the "pilot" participants in Life Groups about their experiences and about your invitation to join. For more information, please contact Tracy Horsley at [horsleysix@gmail.com](mailto:horsleysix@gmail.com).

Our Lady of Peace Parish, in collaboration with the Canada Revenue Agency, is pleased to announce that a tax preparation clinic will be provided (**Free of Charge**) to prepare tax returns for individuals who have a modest income and a simple tax situation. Due to **COVID** concerns, all sessions will be performed **non-contact means**. The tax preparation service will commence **March, 2023**. Steve Linton, a parishioner at St. Anthony's Church and volunteer for CVITP, will be available by **appointment** to prepare your income tax and benefit returns.

The service **does not** include tax returns for **complex situations** such as: returns for deceased persons; individuals who file for bankruptcy; self-employed individuals; individuals who report capital gains or losses; or individuals who report employment expenses, or business rental income or expenses. Should yourself or others you know be interested in this community service please contact **Steve Linton** for further information at **506-261-7600** or [lintons21@outlook.com](mailto:lintons21@outlook.com).



### **Welcome New Members**

Are you new to our Parish and would like to be registered with us? Family Registration Forms are available at the entrance of the Churches. Please feel free to fill one out and drop it in the offertory basket or drop it off at the Parish Office.

### **Development and Peace** *Standing for the Land in Honduras*



Honduras's diverse ecosystems, fertile lands and rich natural resources attract many profiteering enterprises that overexploit the land to no benefit for local communities. Development and Peace — Caritas Canada supports *Equipo de Reflexión, Investigación y Comunicación* (ERIC, Reflection, Research and Communication Team), an organization that helps communities in their struggle for land and territory and investigates human rights abuses. This Lent, meet our solidarity visitor Elvin Hernández, a human rights investigator at ERIC. Learn more at [devp.org/lent](http://devp.org/lent).

**INFORMATION SESSION: HOSTING A UKRAINIAN FAMILY** **March 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>**. As the war in Ukraine continues, the number of Ukrainian newcomers arriving in Fredericton has remained steady at about 12 families a month. Not all these families require hosts, the Multicultural Association of Fredericton is matching approximately 3 families a month with volunteer hosts.

Dan Roberts of the Multicultural Association of Fredericton will be presenting information on hosting families from Ukraine, on March 18<sup>th</sup> at St. Anthony's and at St. Theresa's on March 19<sup>th</sup> following each Mass. Please consider staying after Mass for this short presentation followed by a Q&A.

**HEALING MASS** for St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish will be held at St. Ann's Church at Kingsclear on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, at 2pm. Father Curtis Sappier will preside assisted by Father Bill Brennan. All are welcome!

**Note:** Judy and Barb will meet anyone, who is not familiar with where St. Ann's is located, at 1:15pm at Holy Family Church Parking lot, and they can follow us to the church or drive with us. (we can take 3 individuals each) In addition, a map will be available at Masses the weekend of 18-19<sup>th</sup> March.

**Gibson Memorial United Church**, 183 Gibson St. will be hosting a **Stuffed Pork Loin Dinner** (with all the trimmings) on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 4 - 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15/adult. Please call 506-457-1951 to reserve your tickets

**Gardening to Heal Hunger, Habitat and Heart** The Third Age Center Presents a talk and workshop by Corinne Hersey. Wednesday March 22 from 2:00 -4:00 PM at Gibson Memorial Church. Limited to 40 participants. See all the details on the bulletin board if interested.

**You are invited to a book club!** St. Kateri Tekakwitha Parish(Holy Family Church Site) will be the location for a book club for anyone interested in reading and discussing the best selling novel by Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer's "Braiding Sweet grass : Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teaching of Plants." Braiding Sweet grass is a "... beautiful and thoughtful gift to those of us, even the least bit curious, about understanding the land and living in healthy reciprocity with the environment that cares for us each day."

**See Full Invitation on the bulletin Board...**

# Ministry Schedule March 25th & 26th

St. Anthony's

St. Theresa's

Hospitality	Bonnie Bowlen	George Fernandez, Mary Fitzpatrick, Martin Colford Ed Theriault, Andre Paier, Betty Flanagan
Eucharistic Ministers	Ken Harris	Betty MacNeil & Janet Matheson
Altar Servers	Merla Spires	Samuel, David and Miranda Gutierrez, Julia Paier
Lector	Allison Wrynn	J. Cunningham
Sacristan		Bud Trevors

## Our Sacred Stories ... Seeing the Light, in the Midst of the Darkness

*As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world (John 9:5)*

March is a funny month. It is one of those months that seems to be a transition. We are not fully out of winter and yet, there is a taste of spring dangling before us. Our lives of faith are a bit like this. There are times when it looks like we have it all together, but it seems transitory. As disciples we sometimes have a faith that is full of clarity, when Jesus the Christ is right there, right beside us. Alas such occasions are too rare for most of us. The experiences of our lives bring times of darkness as well as moments of brightness. That is the pattern of a disciple's faith. We see it in the Gospels and we encounter in our own journey. This Sunday we are presented with the contrast of the darkness and light in the story of the blind man found in John's Gospel (John 9:1-41).

Jesus encounters a man who was blind from birth. He reaches out to the man and heals him, restoring his sight. This is a wondrous act, a miracle. Suddenly, a person who could not see regains sight. But there is a bigger wonder, a greater miracle in this story. The blind man gained his physical sight, then gradually he came to a new kind of sight as well. He came to see with spiritual vision.

The spiritual sight gained by the blind man in John's Gospel is not easy. The blind man healed by Jesus found himself drawn into the realm of the spiritual. He got his physical sight quickly. But he did not quickly come to see the spiritual impact of what had happened. This came only gradually. First, he found himself being questioned by his neighbours about how he had been healed. His response was to describe what had taken place. Put simply "the man called Jesus" gave him his sight.

Next, the neighbours took the man to the Pharisees and again he simply described what had taken place. When the Pharisees asked him who Jesus was, the man's response revealed a growth in his awareness: "He is a Prophet." The Pharisees then indicated that they regarded the man as a disciple of Jesus. To their resistance, the man expressed his belief that Jesus came from God. With this, the Pharisees drove him out of the synagogue.

Jesus found the man and the two spoke. The man began to express his faith that Jesus is the *Son of Man*, the active presence of God among us. For John such an assertion was an expression of the man coming to new sight, spiritual sight. It had been a difficult process and one that involved energy, time and a willingness to trust for the man. Spiritual sight was an awareness of God with him in the person of Jesus and a world that had changed with that presence.

How do we repeat the blind man's experience of faith moving to awareness? Perhaps it is a bit like our experience of spring. Sometimes spring comes for us only very gradually, after long days of warming, brightening and melting. Other times it seems to come upon us suddenly. We wake up to the sounds of birds and the appearance of leaves on the trees. And spring is here.

The disciple's faith is like that. Sometimes we are working away on faith that seeks to bring us to an awareness of God, ever-present in our world and our lives, and the gap seems so great. God seems so far from us. At other times, we have those occasions of awareness of this God among us and so close. The blind man's journey is one that took him to physical sight. But it was also a journey that took him to a second vision of the ever-present God, touching our world. His faith had led him to awareness. How often we are this blind person. How often we are given this second vision. Do we pay attention to such a gift of sight? John Jennings 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent