

Our Lady of Peace Parish

"Three Churches One Faith Community"

Bulletin

Sunday, December 24th, 2021 – Nativity of the Lord

Pastoral Office

603 Union St., Fredericton, NB E3A 3N5

Tel: (506) 444-6010

Fr. Maria Arokiam Chinnappan, HGN

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Parish Email: parishoffice@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

Merry Christmas

Woli Nipayimiyan

Joyeux Noel

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

Knights of Columbus

Parish January Food Drive Jan 1 – Jan 31

Details to Follow

Touched by Cancer Mass

January 21st 2022 7:00 pm

Parish Synod Discussion Group

January 23rd 1pm – 3pm

St. Theresa's Hall

Mass Times & Intentions

Sunday December 26th 11:00 am St. Theresa's

People who have no one to pray for them

Sunday December 26th-1:30 pm St. Patrick's

Theodore Bourque

Friday December 31st 4:00 pm St. Anthony's

Pauline Allain

Saturday January 1st 10:00 am St. Patrick's

All deceased members of St. Patrick's Community

January 2nd 11:00 am St. Theresa's

Deceased Members of the Cassidy & McCallum families

January 2nd 1:30 pm St. Patrick's

Naomi Grew

Reconciliation, Marriages & Baptism please call pastoral office.

Our Lady of Peace Financial Update

Weekly Offertory – Dec 19, 2021

Sunday Contributions:	\$6,333.00
Auto Debit (average):	<u>\$2,162.00</u>
Total:	\$8,495.00
Weekly Budget Needs:	\$5,400.00
Excess (Shortfall)	\$ 3,095.00
Capital Infrastructure:	\$ 230.00
Special Collections:	\$ 40.00
Other:	\$ 2105.00

Year-to-Date

Offertory:	\$ 257,615.00
Budget Needs:	<u>\$ 275,400.00</u>
Excess (Shortfall):	(\$ 17,786.00)
Information inquires should be directed to:	
Frank O'Donnell 472-0145	
(mbfod@nbnet.nb.ca) or Greg Feener	
472-9364 (glf@nbnet.nb.ca)	

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

Website & Social Media

www.ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

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



@OurLadyofPeaceParishFredericton

Fr. Maria's Office Number 444-6070

Parish Announcements

COVID Protocol Update

Effective this weekend the Province of New Brunswick is requiring all places of worship in New Brunswick to put the following COVID-19 measures in place. Please note that you will not be asked to show proof of vaccination to attend Mass.

- Masks are required at all times in church buildings.
- Each of our churches will operate at 50% or less capacity.
- Maintain two metres of physical distancing between different households. The only exception to the 2m between households are for those who have arrived together in the same vehicle.
- No congregational singing. A cantor is permitted during Mass.
- No physical sign of peace is to be exchanged during Mass.
- Record names of all attendees and contact information by row or have a consistent assigned seating plan for contact tracing.
- Parishioners will be screened at the door for COVID-19 symptoms and asked if you have been instructed to self-isolate.

Other activities using parish facilities, including Parish Nursing activities, meetings, presentations, workshops and Religious Formation for children, youth and adults will require proof of vaccination or provincially approved proof of exemption to attend for people over 12 years of age.

We encourage parishioners to continue to monitor their health before attending Mass and choose to attend/not attend accordingly. Your cooperation and understanding as we navigate these new restrictions is very much appreciated.



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays 1:00 at St. Patrick's Church *
Thursdays 11:30 at St. Theresa's Church *
Fridays 9:30 am at St. Anthony's Church *

** if there is no weekday Mass on Thursday or Friday, Adoration is also cancelled.*



On October 10, 2021, Pope Francis inaugurated "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission", a 2- year-long Synod for the universal Church. The Synod is asking the Church to reflect on how we journey together as Church, listen and respond to the working of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the world, and how decisions are reached at all levels: who is involved, who is excluded and how can our processes be improved.

What is a Synod?

A Synod is a formal process, used by the Church, in which a large number of people are consulted on a specific topic for discussion. Though it usually leads to a formal gathering from which a formal document is produced, Synods can involve countless discussion groups that precede the formal gathering, assuring the greatest amount of participation possible.

How Can I Be Involved in the Latest Synod?

Everyone is invited to add their voice. A series of questions have been provided to parishes to gather input. Our Lady of Peace Pastoral Council invites everyone to participate in the discussion, either on their own or as part of a discussion group.

Three Ways to Participate:.

- 1) Join Our Lady of Peace Parish Discussion Groups on Sunday, January 23rd from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at St. Theresa's Church. Registration will be open early January to join a discussion group.
- 2) Fill out the insert in the bulletin, individually or as a group, and submit to the parish office by Friday, January 21st. Please feel free to share to anyone you feel would like to have a voice in this process.
- 3) The Diocese of Saint John has a link to the questions on their website at <https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/synod-2021-2023>. The last 6 questions will be the focus of our parish discussions.

Development and Peace

Over the last few weeks our Committee has been presenting true stories of People on our Planet that have been mistreated by International companies, some of which are Canadian. Our Committee initiated the Petition that so many of who have agreed to sign; and for that I wish to sincerely Thank You. Our Petition will end this weekend, and please remember the People on our Planet that will continue this noble and honorable struggle.

On behalf of our Development and Peace Committee, I wish all of you a safe and happy Christmas!!

Parish Nursing Ministry

Christmas Basket Fundraiser

We Have Our Winners

Congratulations to

Katherine McCallum & Olive Beaulieu

Total amount raised for Parish Nursing Programs

\$816.00

Thank You to everyone for your continued support.



Wondering what is happening in the parish? ~ Check out the parish monthly activity calendar available at each of our parish churches and online.

www.ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

From the Parish Office

Your 2022 Offertory Envelopes are now available at your Church. If you can't find yours please call the office for assistance. Please do not use your 2022 envelopes until 2022.

Missals are now available at all three churches. To help with the cost of purchasing a \$5.00 donation is appreciated. There are containers by the missals to place your money. Missals are also available at the Parish Office.



Happy Birthday to **Irma Tucker**, member of the St. Antony's Elite 90's Club

St. Theresa's Heat Pump Installation

This project has cost over **\$50,000.00**. Building funds accumulated have helped pay for one third of this expense. The finance committee would like to retire this debt as soon as possible. Therefore we are inviting parishioners to assist in this effort by asking for a special donation. Envelopes can be found at the entrance area for anyone who would like to contribute. Donations at this time would be appreciated and added to your current year tax receipt. Our sincere thanks

Parish Giving

In addition to our parish envelope and auto debit program, parishioners are able to use E-Transfers for their parish giving.

E-Transfers can be done through on-line banking with your financial institution. Please send to **olpdonations@gmail.com**. If you need to add a secure question, please use:

- **"What is this donation for?"** and the answer **"ourladyofpeace"**

Envelopes can be dropped off at the pastoral center at 603 Union St. There is a mail slot in the door at the backdoor. Please do not leave envelopes in the mailbox at the front door.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office for assistance.

Christmas Message from our Pastor

We are so grateful for your presence with us this Christmas. This has been a challenging year for all of us but we continue to rejoice in the fact that Christ is Lord and he reigns in our world and in our hearts this day. He came into this world as a little baby and he continues to give us hope as little babies always do. He was fragile and depended upon Mary and Joseph for sustenance, love and care. During this pandemic, we realize just how fragile each of us is and how much we need others to make it through. My prayer for you is that our parish community can provide you with the sustenance, love and care that the Holy Family provided one another.

I hope and pray that our Christmas celebrations will help you to experience the presence and the love of the Holy One who humbled himself to share in our humanity, that we might come to share in the glory of his divinity. Whether you are an active parishioner or whether you come only occasionally we hope you will experience in our places of worship and in the people who gather here some sense of the welcome, the love and the light of God's radiant goodness.

On behalf of the parish staff here at Our Lady of Peace Parish I wish you all a truly blessed Christmas and a peace-filled and prosperous 2022. We are all so very grateful for your support for this parish community, and for the collaboration we share with you in ministry and mission in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May this Christmas season bring you joy, to bless you with peace, and to lift you up in hope.

Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year 2022.

Fr. Maria

Ministry Schedule Week of DECEMBER 24TH & 25th

	St. Anthony's – December 31st	St. Theresa's – January 2nd
Screeners/Ushers	4:00 Mary Feener, Bonnie Bowlen, Vicky Knight	11:00 Michele McCann, Mary Fitzpatrick Allison Wrynn, Ed Theriault, Betty MacNeil
Lector	Greg Feener	Betty Flanagan

Christmas Message 2021 "All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.'" (Matthew 1:22-23)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are living in exceptional times. Every day we watch and wait for the latest news, discoveries of new COVID-19 variants, latest case counts, new restrictions, trying to understand how this will affect our daily lives as the pandemic continues to cause many people so much anxiety, fear, and even division. Yet, amid this uncertainty, we are reminded that there is something even greater to wait for – the coming of our Saviour.

In the scriptures Jesus is given the name "Emmanuel", which means "God is with us." In his general audience of April 26, 2017, Pope Francis reminded us that God, "is not an isolated God; he is a 'God-with. In particular, with us, namely, with human beings. Our God is not an absent God, confined to a far-off heaven; he is instead a God "impassioned" with man, so tenderly in love as to be incapable of being separated from him." Jesus was not born into the world to remain on the sidelines. He cares deeply about each one of us. From the time he came into the world, Jesus has remained with us in every circumstance – including our present challenges. This should give us great hope! Because if God is truly with us, then that changes everything.

More than anything else, the world needs Jesus. He is the source of all our hopes and desires. We do not have to live in fear. By drawing near to him and his Church in the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession, meditating on God's Word in the scriptures, making time for him in personal prayer and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reaching out to those in need as apostles of mercy, we will experience renewed hope and courage. We will experience Jesus' tender love consoling us, dissolving our fear, and replacing it with his peace. Renewed by God's grace we can face the challenges ahead together, as a Community of Faith.

This Christmas let us turn to Jesus as never before, opening our hearts and surrendering our lives to him. May we echo the words of the Blessed Mother, the first to give God permission by her powerful response – "be it done unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). While we relive the anticipation of those who anxiously awaited Christ's first coming, we look forward to his second coming where his kingdom will be fulfilled. And fully surrendered to Jesus, we wait in joyful hope for his coming into our hearts this Christmas, transforming our lives, our parishes, our diocese, and instilling in us a desire to go forth, strengthened by the Holy Spirit, to make disciples of others.

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts this Christmas and always!

✠ Christian Riesbeck,
CC Bishop of Saint John
December 20, 2021