

Our Lady of Peace Parish

“Three Churches One Faith Community”

Bulletin

Sunday, December 12th, 2021 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Pastoral Office

603 Union St., Fredericton, NB E3A 3N5

Tel: (506) 444-6010

Fr. Maria Arokiam Chinnappan, HGN

Administrative Assistant: Irene Jewett

Parish Email: parishoffice@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

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

“Hope” Online Advent Retreat

Wednesday December 15th at 7:00 pm

Touched by Cancer Mass

Friday December 17th 7:00 pm

St. Anthony's Church

Family Faith Formation Advent Session

Sunday December 19th at 9:45 am

Mass Times & Intentions

Tuesday, December 14th 12:00 pm - St. Theresa's Church

Patricia Gyuk

Wednesday December 15th 10:00am - St. Anthony's

Pauline Allain

Thursday, December 16th 12:00 pm - St. Theresa's

No Intentions

Friday December 17th 7:00 pm - St. Anthony's Church

Touched by Cancer Mass

Saturday, December 18th, 4:00 pm - St. Anthony's Church

Deceased member of the Donovan & McSorley Family

Sunday, December 19th 1:30 pm - St. Patrick's Church

Melvin Bartlett

Sunday, December 19th 11:00 am - St. Theresa's Church

Jim Noble

Reconciliation, Marriages & Baptism please call pastoral office.

Our Lady of Peace Financial Update

Weekly Offertory – Dec 5, 2021

Sunday Contributions:	\$4,482.00
Auto Debit (average):	<u>\$2,162.00</u>
Total:	\$6,644.00
Weekly Budget Needs:	\$5,400.00
Excess (Shortfall)	\$1,244.00
Capital Infrastructure:	\$ 110.00
Special Collections:	\$ 435.00
Other:	\$ 2704.00

Year-to-Date

Offertory:	\$ 243,771.00
Budget Needs:	<u>\$ 264,600.00</u>
Excess (Shortfall):	(\$ 20,829.00)
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.*

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 Mass Schedule

Attendance at Christmas Mass will be by **reservation only**. Please call the parish office 444-6010 or email parishoffice@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca When registering please provide main contact, phone number, email address and number of people arriving with you.

Reservations must be made by December 22nd at noon

Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00pm - St. Anthony's Church

5:30pm - St. Theresa's Church

7:00pm - St. Anthony's Church

8:00pm - St. Patrick's Church

Christmas Day

10:00am – St. Theresa's Church

Boxing Day

Sunday December 26th

11:00am - St. Theresa's Church

1:30pm - St. Patrick's Church

New Years Eve

4:00pm – St. Anthony's Church

New Years Day

10:00am – St. Patrick's Church

Sunday January 2nd

11:00am – St. Theresa's Church

1:30pm – St. Patrick's Church

Parish Nursing Ministry Christmas Basket Fundraiser

Tickets and Envelopes will be made available at each Church for you to fill out. Use the envelope to put your money in, tickets are **\$2.00** each or **3 for \$5.00**. Envelopes can be returned to the office or deposited into the offertory basket. Tickets must be returned no later than 4:00 on Saturday December 18th.

Looking for Homemade Christmas Baking



Accepting Christmas Baking to add to a basket for a second draw on **Dec 18th**.

If you are able to contribute please drop your goodies off at the **Parish Office** on **Dec 15th**.



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.

Thank you to Dat Tran for the generous donation for Christmas Flowers.

Blessing Bag Project

Our Family Faith Formation program is looking to make Christmas a little brighter for vulnerable youth in our community. We are gathering items to be assembled into Blessing Bags during our Advent session on Sunday, December 19th.

Do you want to help us? Collection boxes will be at the three churches from **November 28th** to **December 12th**. Full list of items can be found at the back of the church and on our website. Sample of needed items:

- \$10 gift cards (Tim's, Dairy Queen, McDonalds, Subway)
- Snack items (chocolate bars, gum, microwave popcorn, candy, etc.)
- Nail polish / Hair brushes / Shaving Cream
- Good quality disposable razors / Hair elastics
- Adult coloring books / pencil crayons
- Bags will be distributed in time for Christmas to community groups that support vulnerable youth in our community

Development and Peace

I wish to Thank all those who were able to sign the Petition this past weekend that is part of our Fall Campaign entitled, People and Planet. The petition will continue to be at the three Church buildings within our Lady of Peace Parish for the next two weekends. I ask those who haven't had to opportunity to sign the Petition to consider doing it this coming weekend or next. Your support in this Campaign will continue to help our People and Planet Campaign. As Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto has recently stated, "I support this campaign, and its call for due diligence legislation."

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 very much appreciated and added to your current year tax slip. Thank you for your consideration in this regard.

Ministry Schedule Week of DECEMBER 18TH & 19th

	St. Anthony's - Saturday 4:00 pm	St. Theresa's - Sunday at 11:00 am
Screeners/Ushers	Mary Feener, Bonnie Bowlen & Vicky Knight	Michele McCann, Mary Fitzpatrick Marilyn Brennan, Allison Wrynn Ed Theriault, Betty MacNeil
Lector	Cathy Bowlen	Michelle McGabe

Our Sacred Stories

Good News: God is Among us – How can I tell?

Our English word, Gospel comes from the Anglo-Saxon, *god-spell* or glad tidings. These glad tidings or good news or gospel are the story of God's presence acting among us. What a wonder! It lies at the very center of our faith. We capture it in what is known as the Paschal Mystery - the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. It is good news that is so important, so wonderful that from the earliest times Christians told and retold the story over and over again.

At some point in the first several generations it was decided that this oral story of the message and mission of Jesus should be written down. This writing down occurred in a number of Christian communities and was shared around their world, as the glad tidings, the gospel.

In the Feast of the Incarnation, and leading up to it, in Advent, we celebrate the glad tidings of God's coming among us, to all humanity. It is the beginning of the Paschal Mystery and truly gospel, good news. How do we know and experience God among us? *How can I tell?*

In Luke's Gospel (Luke 3:10-18) we meet John the Baptist. John is often seen as the last of the Old Testament prophets and at the same time, the first of the apostles of Jesus. As prophet, he calls on people to change, to prepare for the advent of God into our lives. As apostle, John calls for us to recognize and acknowledge that God is now among us. Listening to this prophet and apostle, how can we grow in our own awareness of this wonder of our faith?

Perhaps it is in a very active way. As John the Baptist spoke, repeatedly people asked him the question *what should we do?* In Luke's telling of the story, John offers concrete expressions of the transformation that is called for. Whether it is the crowd around him in general or tax collectors or soldiers, the advice he offers is an expression of God's reign or dream for all humanity in practical, real terms. The responses are varied, but they all call for an attitude of compassion, respect, justice and peace. At the core of the dream, there is always a loving heart, which reflects the heart of our God.

Paul, writing to the Philippian community of Christians (Phil.4:4-7) reveals the same message. He points out that the presence of God is truly among us. Thus, we should live in a way that is marked by gentleness that is obvious to all. Because God is near, we can rely on that presence among us. And so, live in peace.

John and Paul help us to find a response to our question. *How can I tell that God is among us?* It is by recognizing and acknowledging God's presence in those we encounter – acknowledging that God is indeed among us, as we act towards one another in ways that reflect this presence.

The Old Testament prophet Zephaniah (Zeph.3:14-18a) presents us with the ultimate result of such a vision of God's active presence when we are told:

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,...

The Lord, your God is in your midst,...

[God] will rejoice over you with gladness,...

[God] will renew you in love.

John Jennings

3rd Sunday of Advent