

Our Lady of Peace Parish

“Three Churches One Faith Community”

Bulletin Sunday December 10th 2023 –2nd Sunday of Advent

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

Fr. Maria Arokiam Chinnappan, HGN - **Administrative Assistant:** Irene Jewett

Religious Formation Patty Cameron 444-6018 pattycameron@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

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

Mass Times & Intentions

Tuesday Dec 12th 12:00 PM St. Theresa's

Art Noseworthy

Wednesday Dec 13th 10:00 AM St. Anthony's

Cecile Thibodeau

Thursday Dec 14th 12:00 PM St. Theresa's

Dell Mitchell

Friday Dec 15th 7:00 PM St. Anthony's

Touched by Cancer Mass

Saturday Dec 16th 4:00 pm St. Anthony's

Yvonne McCarthy

Sunday Dec 17th 1:30 PM St. Patrick's

Mass for the People

Sunday Dec 17th 11:00 AM St. Theresa's

Justin McNeill

Upcoming Events

Touched By Cancer Mass

Friday December 15th 7:00 pm

St. Anthony's Church

Parish Advent Reconciliation Service

Tuesday, December 19th at 7:00 pm

St. Theresa's Church

Our Lady of Peace Financial Update

Dec 3, 2023		Weekly		Contributions	
Offertory	\$ 7,481	Offertory	\$ 7,481		
Capital Infrastructure	75	Budget Needs	(5,255)		
Special Collections	520	Excess (Shortfall)		\$ 2,226	
Other	642	Year-to-Date		Contributions	
Total	\$ 8,718	Offertory	\$ 253,567		
		Budget Needs	255,200		
		Excess (Shortfall)		\$ (1,633)	

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

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



@Ourladyofpeaceparishfredericton

Office Numbers

Fr. Maria's 444-6070

Patty Cameron 444-6018

Ministry Schedule December 16th & December 17th

St. Anthony's

St. Theresa's

Hospitality	Bonnie Bowlen	George Fernandez, Martin Colford, Elaine Read Mary Fitzpatrick, Betty MacNeil, Janet Matheson,
Eucharistic Minister	Theresa Donaher	Mary Ellen & Lawrence Holleran
Altar Servers	Ken Harris	Reign Buenaventura, Samuel, David & Miranda Alfaro,
Lector	Greg Feener	Mannie Pahati & Terry Murphy
Sacristan		Mary Fitzpatrick



St. Theresa's Church
+ *Raymond Cormier* +
Offered by Mary Billings

St. Anthony's Church
+ *Marie & Wayne Carr* +
Offered by John & Elizabeth Walsh

Let's Keep the Surveys Rolling In!



Each completed survey will provide Fr. Maria and our various ministries with valuable information for future planning. All responses will be confidential, and the parish will only receive information about our community as a whole. Please help us by completing the 10 – 15 minute survey. You can complete the survey online at <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/ba0x55> Paper copies of

the survey can be picked up at our three parish churches. Completed survey can be placed in the collection basket or returned to the parish office. Or you can join us after the 1:30 pm Mass in Stanley on December 10th for coffee and to complete the survey. **Survey closes Monday, December 18th .**

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00 pm St. Anthony's Church
5:30 pm St. Theresa's Church
8:00 pm St. Patrick's Church

Christmas Day

10:00 am St. Theresa's

New Year's Eve

5:00 pm St. Theresa's Church

New Years Day

1:30 pm St. Patrick's

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples – December 12

The National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples is celebrated annually on December 12, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas

Bishop Riesbeck will be presiding at a special Mass on the evening of December 12, at St. Dunstan's Church, followed by a reception. This Mass will also be livestreamed via St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

Advent Reflection Books ~ Advent Reflection Books for adults and families are available at each of the churches. Please be sure to pick one up to enrich your Advent experience this year.

Celebrate the Advent season with FORMED ~ Prepare for Christ's coming with resources for adults, families, and children. Be sure to check out the daily reflections and "Rooted: Discover the Jesse Tree this Advent" and much more.



Families are Invited to "A Night in Bethlehem"!

Saturday, December 16th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm Msgr. Boyd Family Center

At "A Night in Bethlehem", families will explore the city at the time of Jesus' birth. Enjoy hands-on experiences and learn about the most important baby ever! Everyone is Welcome! Please bring a donation of non-perishable food items. To register please email pattycameron@ourladyofpeacefredericton.ca

Parish Advent Reconciliation Service ~ Tuesday, December 19th at 7:00 pm at St. Theresa's Church

Our Lady of Peace Parish groups, CWL, Knights of Columbus, Religious Formation and Pastoral Council are joining forces to help those in need this Christmas Season.

With your help we can make this Christmas better for people who rely on the homeless shelters and youth in transition programs.

We have set up a gifting tree decorated with tags bearing items for the homeless and youth in transition as Christmas gifts and a donation box for warm winter clothing in each church. All purchased and donated items must be in the provided boxes in each church no later than December 17th, for sorting and distribution on December 18th.



Blue Donation Box Please drop off new or gently used, warm winter clothing items such as gloves, hats, scarves, coats, and new socks.



Gifting Tree Please help yourself to a tag, purchase the Christmas gift listed on the tag, put the tag on the item and return it to the church (unwrapped).

Prayers for Peace in our World! On the first Monday of each Month at 7 pm – 7:45 pm in St. Dunstan's Church beginning November 6th. Everyone is welcome. (Blue Church doors at King Street entrance by Tim Hortons).

Employment Opportunity- Our Lady of Peace Parish Custodian and Maintenance Position

Due to the retirement of our Custodian (St. Theresa's Church) this position will be available in the near future. The position responsibilities include but are not limited to the following:

- **Cleaning the church, church hall and meeting rooms.**
- **Maintain grounds, including lawn care and snow removal on stairs and walkways.**
- **Light maintenance and repair work as needed.**
- **Working with subcontractors as required.**

If interested and require more information contact Ken Harris at (506) 474-0332.

Knights of Columbus Community Breakfast: Sunday, December 10th, 10:00AM to 1:00PM at the Knicol Hall, 170 Regent Street. Adults \$ 8.00, Children \$ 5.00 and Families \$ 25.00. Everyone welcome.

Celebrating Christmas! All are welcome to join the Fredericton North Heritage Assoc. this Tuesday, December 12th at 2pm in the St. Mary's Church Hall (780 McEvoy). A presentation on Christmas Past by Koral Lavorgna, a Christmas reading from Walter Long's book and Carols by the Doucette sisters are all apart of the celebration. A light lunch will be served.

St. Francis of Assisi Please join us for an afternoon of Christmas music and festivities St. Francis of Assisi Church on Lincoln Road. Sunday, December 17, 1 pm. Bring your family and friends to sing along to songs of the season and enjoy some baked goods, tea, coffee. Free will offering. Let's celebrate the gift of music!

Our Sacred Stories - . Advent: A Time of Hope & A Change of Heart

Our humanity carries a host of burdens, whether personal or global. Grudges, past hurts and disappointments, old hatreds, intolerances - they dot the horizons of our lives. It seems our world is constantly mired in these conditions and these conditions are not avenues to life. They are, in fact hindrances. They generate a lack of trust in one another. They reveal a blindness to the good in each other and they wound our relationships. They are hinderances to peace.

Around the world, these barriers to peace are evident, in the disputes, differences and long-standing hatreds. They produce nothing but conflicts and even wars. Such hurdles prevent the emergence of relationships that are life-giving and filled with promise. It is possible to recognize as well that this wounding of relationships and this inability to live in peace is not limited to the global picture, but also appears in our personal and even intimate relationships.

This is not God's dream, God's plan for all creation. The story of God's dream begins in Mark's Gospel with John the Baptist and his message of "repentance for the forgiveness of sins." With John's appearance on the scene, the final act of God's saving outreach to humanity begins. Jesus would be the center of this loving, life-giving entry of God in our world.

The Old Testament prophets had already prepared the world for such a life-giving dream. Isaiah announces it with full voice: *Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.... Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain* (Is.40:1-4). God will heal and reconcile. God will bring the promise of salvation to the peoples of the earth, a core piece of our faith.

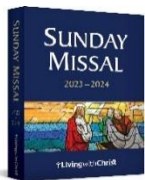
Living faith and the conversion or change of heart it calls for is all about relationships – with God, with neighbour, with all humanity and creation itself. John the Baptist called for a baptism of repentance (Mark 1;1-8). This is more than our personal sins and flaws. It is our whole attitude and way of life. Repentance for us is a change of heart and a redirecting of our lives to bring new life to all our relationships, personal and global. It is a metanoia, a change of heart for our world.

Our community of faith, our church is a global community with many cultures, languages and ways of expressing our faith. For some 2000 years this community has been growing and developing, evolving and changing. Key to our unity and at the core of how we do church is our willingness to work at listening to one another and respecting each other, even or perhaps especially where we are different. To listen deeply and to respect differences in a way that expresses our unity and ability to live together and share faith together in peace is, significant.

The Synod on Synodality, that held its first session in Rome this past October is focused on this blessing of listening. In his opening address to the Synod, Pope Francis emphasized our church's need for such openness. It comes from our shared baptism. Every voice, he said, needs to speak, to participate. And listening deeply, to every voice is essential.

Francis sees the synod as an opportunity for the whole church, in this year, "to become a listening Church.... To listen to the Spirit.... To listen to our brothers and sisters speak of their hopes and of the crises of faith present in different parts of the world, of the need for a renewed pastoral life." Being church in this time, calls for a change of heart, a new advent for a listening church for all.

John Jennings



Sunday Missals are available at all Our Lady of Peace Churches. To help defray the increase in cost of the missals we are asking for a donation of \$7.00. You can also pick up your Missal at the Parish Office.



The 2024 Offertory Envelopes are ready for pick up in your Church. If you do not see an envelope with your name on it please contact the Parish Office and one will be made available for you. Parishioners who use the Auto Debit Program please take your box of envelopes as there are special envelopes within the box you may want to use.

Please do not use 2024 Envelopes until 2024.....