



# Immaculate Conception Parish

With the Churches of :  
Immaculate Conception Church, Truro; St. Michael's Church, Brule;  
St Kateri, Indian Book; Sacred Heart, Millbrook;  
St. Bridget's, Shubenacadie

December 10th , 2023

2nd Sunday of Advent

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**Saint Vincent De Paul Society**

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## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00pm - † Gerald Gower

Tuesday, **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Masses**

10:00 am - **St. Mary's Basilica** - † Alexander McKinnon

6:00 pm - **Sacred Heart** - Colleen & Greg Glasgow

7:00 pm - **St. Kateri Church**

**Wednesday, 9:00 am-** † Yolilio Montesa; † Perseus Montesa

Thursday, 7:00 pm - † Anita Kiely Gower

Friday, 12:15 pm - † Cesar Montesa; † Paz Montesa

Saturday, 4:00pm - †Theresa Townsend-Shcolar;

Sunday, 9:00am - †Dana Gloade

## WEEKEND MASSES

### Saturday

**4:00pm** - Immaculate Conception, Truro

**4:00pm** - St. Michael's, Brule

### Sunday

**9:00am** - Immaculate Conception, Truro

**10:00am** - St. Kateri, Indian Brook

**11:30am** - Sacred Heart, Millbrook

**11:30am** - St. Bridget's, Shubenacadie

**6:00pm** - Immaculate Conception, Truro

**Filipino Simbang Gabi**

**Holiday Mass Schedule:** Regular Mass times will continue throughout the Octave ( 8 days) of Christmas. Attached to the Electronic Bulletin is our Schedule for Christmas and other Masses!

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** : Thursdays after the 7:00 pm Mass

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**: 30 mins prior to weekday Masses or by appointment

**Holy Rosary** : In prayerful support of all our ministries, the rosary will be offered before every Sunday 9:00 am Mass, from 8:20 - 8:40 am. Everyone is invited to join us.

**Baptism Preparation** : If you plan to celebrate the Baptism of your child this coming year, we invite all parents and godparents to attend the Baptism Preparation session on Friday, January 26th, 2024 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the Kinsella Room. Please pre-register as you'll be required to watch videos prior to the session.

## COLLECTION UPDATE

**Previous Week's Collection** was : ICC \$5,290.60 = \$4,210.75; St. Michael's = \$100.00; Sacred Heart = \$316.85; St. Bridget's = \$553.85; St. Kateri's = 109.15 and Capital Campaign = \$801.00

## DONATIONS

**Kane's Kitchen:** "A Huge Thank you" to all our parishioners. Your kindness and generosity of your donation is greatly appreciated. We have now surpassed our required goal. Merry Christmas to you and your family and a Happy New Year.

**Salvation Army and Warm Items:** As the weather turns colder, there are many in our community who are hugely impacted and find life very tough. They are receiving donations of gently used sleeping bags, warm blankets and tents at their office at 14 Outram Street, Truro; Tuesday thru Friday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

**Mitten Tree:** The Mitten/Christmas Tree is up in Campbell Hall. Parishioners are asked to place mittens, hats and scarves for all ages (infants to adults)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

**Veritas Books and Gifts:** Tuesday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm (or by appointment)

***“He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.”- Isaiah 40:11***

#### Meetings:

**The Pastoral Care Ministry** will be holding Workshop #3 on **Saturday, December 16th**, in the Kinsella Room from **1:00 to 2:30 pm**. This workshop topic will be mainly for developing teams of 2 - 3 people each to assist the Priests in facilitating Mass in several Senior Facilities in the area. All members are invited to attend. Deacon Wilfred Boudreau will be the Facilitator. Father Jim will be present.

**(Dec 12) Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.** Please come to Mass at **10:00 am** at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica with Archbishop Dunn. Across Canada dioceses recognize Tuesday, December 12th, this Feast as the **National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous People**. As part of the Mass there will be a special presentation on Our Lady of Guadalupe given by the Honorable Graydon Nicholas, former Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. All are welcome!

**(Dec 12) Tuesday, our parish Mass is moved for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** to Sacred Heart at **7:00 pm** and St. Kateri at **6:00 pm** (see invitation above for St. Mary's)

**(Dec 13) Advent Reconciliation Day.** At Immaculate Conception we'll begin at **6:30 pm** with a short reflection and then have five priests available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, 13th. The whole parish is invited. In addition, at the remaining churches on Sundays throughout Advent, the presiding priest will be available for an hour before Mass. Alternatively, an appointment is possible by calling or emailing a priest for arrangements. His mercy sets us free.

**(Dec 13) Wednesday Mass is moved** from evening to **9:00 am** to accommodate our Advent Day of Reconciliation

**(Dec 17) Simbang Gabi:** Our Parish Celebrates with the Filipino Community. For the first time **SIMBANG GABI** (meaning, Night Mass) will take place on **Sunday, December 17th** at **6:00pm** at Immaculate Conception Church. At this time, on our Third Sunday of Advent, we include the unique Filipino tradition of a Marian Mass before Christmas. Our aim is to share the rich Filipino Faith-Culture which embraces the Blessed Virgin Mary and continue to build our multicultural community. A festive potluck meal follows Mass with their cultural foods and carols. All Filipino friends are invited!

**St. Bridget's Letter of Invitation:** Recently, a letter was mailed to all known parishioners of St. Bridget's Church, inviting them to celebrate Christmas with us. Please pray that the health and heart of families will heed the spirit working through our initiatives to bring them home to our family of faith. Pray also they'll feel our welcome hospitality as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Christ Jesus.

**SVDP:** The Truro St. Vincent de Paul Society is seeking new members from the parish to help us continue to provide two of our most successful projects in the Truro community. After several years of generous time and assistance, our furniture delivery team is retiring and we are in need of new members to assist with the pick up and delivery of furniture for needy families. Ownership or access to a pickup truck would be an asset. Interested members of the Parish are invited to join us at our next meeting on **Tuesday, December 12 2023** at **7:30 pm** in the Kinsella Room at the Immaculate Conception Church.

**Gifts for Needy Families:** Every Christmas our Immaculate Conception Church helps over 40 needy families through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Once again this year we invite parishioners to share in the joy of making this blessed season a joyous one for our families. We are especially inviting parents to involve children in sharing with those who have less. On **Sunday December 10th**, there will be a small tree in Campbell Hall, with the names of the children from our sponsored families. If anyone would care to help out by selecting and donating a gift to a child, you can talk to one of our St. Vincent de Paul members after Mass. They will assist you in choosing a child's or parent's name and answer any questions that you may have. Wishing you a joyous Christmas season, St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**Veritas Books and Gifts:** We have a number of new items for Advent and Christmas, along with regular items available. We are open Tuesdays **10:00 am to 4:00 pm**, or by appointment by calling **902-893-7188**. For the month of December we will be opening on Friday the **1st, 8th and 15th** from **10:00 am** until **1:00 pm**.

**ICLA:** The wheelchair that was purchased by the Immaculate Conception Ladies Auxiliary is now located in the back room in Campbell Hall. We ask that you please return it to this location after you use it. It is not to leave the Church property at any time. Many thanks for your cooperation.

#### Reminders:

**Special Intention Mass:** There will be Masses for **Colleen and Greg Glasgow** on the **9th and 23rd December**, two of our dedicated parishioners, who are in need of our prayers.

### **Parish Life Survey:**

In cooperation with the Diocese we are striving to clarify what Immaculate Conception Parish's mission is in the midst of our active parish and the needs of our community. With a new year dawning and by the grace of God we have many ministries underway and others under consideration. What is our guiding light for choosing a ministry? How do we decide on formation programs? In what way should we reach out to missing Catholics and unchurched? The role of our Pastoral Council is to understand these things and to plan ahead. To start they wish to hear how you feel about your faith, our parish, the needs of our community, and how we fit into the mission of Jesus, the Christ. Therefore, in the new year we will present a survey for parishioners of all ages to complete. Please pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon all of us.

**Survey Data Entry:** The results of the paper vision (parishioners will respond via a paper survey or an online survey) of our Parish Life Survey in the new year, will require data entry. Please let Carla in our office know if you would be able to help.

### **Christmas Eve Mass Tickets:**

Tickets for the **4:00 and 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Masses at the Immaculate Conception Church**, are available after Weekend Masses from the Vestry. Please see an Hospitality Minister after Mass to collect your tickets. Tickets are also available at the Office during Office Hours. Tickets are free, come get your Mass Tickets, before they are gone, as we have a maximum occupancy per Mass, due to Fire Code Regulations.

### **Class Action Suit:**

As required, during the claims period **December 19, 2022 to December 14, 2023**, copies of the **Short Form Notice** are available at the church entrances, the electronic bulletin and on our webpage.

This notice was approved by the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia

#### **NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT IN CLASS ACTION**

To all individuals who were sexually abused by a priest of the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Halifax or Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Yarmouth between April 14, 1954 and March 31, 2020 and have not previously settled or otherwise released either the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Halifax or Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Yarmouth.

The Court has approved a settlement which provides compensation to eligible class members who file a claim for sexual assault and meet the requirements of the claims process.

If you opted out of the class action, the settlement will not impact you. If you are part of the lawsuit as a Class Member, you can submit a claim for a payment of money as compensation. The amount of money that you may receive will depend on the specifics of the claim you submit. The potential amount of money to be paid to a Class Member whose claim is accepted will likely range from \$30,000 to \$350,000.

For further information, visit <https://kmlaw.ca/cases/catholic-priest-sexual-abuse-class-action/> or call 1-833-630-1785, or email [catholicabuseclassaction@kmlaw.ca](mailto:catholicabuseclassaction@kmlaw.ca).

You must submit your claim for compensation before December 14, 2023. If you do not submit your claim for compensation before December 14, 2023, you will lose your right to compensation.

### **Ministry Leaders Needed:**

**Hiring for FFF:** In the new year we'll be advertising for a part time coordinator in our Family Faith Formation. Ann Huntley, Carla Field and many volunteers have undertaken a great task to lead our current program with renewed spirit. We'll continue to build on the foundation already established in our parish using Alpha and Formed.org resources. Our goal is to increase faith practice in families and retain faith practice of youth into their adult years. We also invite new volunteers to consider this rich ministry. Anyone interested in the paid position or volunteering, please contact Carla in our office.

**Any Photographers Out There?** Our parish has many cherished moments and celebrations in need for capture with photography. If you are skilled with a camera and would like to volunteer in this ministry, please contact our parish office or speak with Father Jim.



### Family Faith Formation:

Next **Youth Night** is **Monday, 11th December** starting with Mass. Please arrive a few minutes early to be settled for **7:00 pm**.

Next **Family Gathering** is **17th December** which will include a Nativity Drama Rehearsal. Parents help will be greatly appreciated! Fr. Jim will also have a short discussion on Catholic Education.

**Nativity Drama** will take place during the **7:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass**.

**Sunday Mass Activity Booklets** are available on the white, double doors at the bottom of the stairs to the right of Veritas.

**Holy Spirit Day Retreat** has been (tentatively) rescheduled for **31st January (9:00 am to 3:00 pm)**. Mark your calendar please.

**Confirmation Preparation Parents/Sponsors Meeting** (Grade 9/10) will take place on **Monday, 8th January** at **7:00 pm**.

# *Happy Advent!*



**Christmas Day Meal:** St. Bridget parishioners are volunteering in a Free Community Hot Turkey meal with all the trimmings on **December 25th** at **12:30 pm** in St' Bridget's Hall. All who are lonely or have no one to celebrate Christmas with are welcome!

**St. Bridget's Heat Pumps:** We are investing in our future, both environment and Church, by striving to improve heating efficiency, enhance comfort and reduce costs. Heat pumps are planned for the main Church and the lower hall. After a Provincial grant of \$14,000, St. Bridget's commitment is some \$28,000 to complete the project. This commitment will be drawn from St. Bridget's investment savings. Your generosity will help us reach our goal to replenish our savings balance. Please use the envelopes provided in your box of Collection Envelopes or use the envelopes placed in the pews. Donations from any of our family of churches are gratefully accepted.

**MAiD:** Attached to the electronic Bulletin is a statement from CCCB on Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD). Our Catholic teaching on this matter is clear that life begins at conception and ends with natural death. Please stand secure in this teaching, the gift of life from God and our witness of truth to others. Paper copies of statement can be found at Church Entrances.