



Immaculate Conception Parish

With the Churches of :

Immaculate Conception Church, Truro; St. Michael's Church, Brule;
St Kateri, Indian Brook; Sacred Heart, Millbrook;
St. Bridget's, Shubenacadie

February 18th , 2024

1st Sunday of Lent



“After Jesus was baptized, the Spirit drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the Angels waited on him.”

Mark 1 : 12-15

Pastor: Fr. Jim O'Connor

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Saint Vincent De Paul Society

Help Line: 902-897-0222

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)

Address:

669 Prince Street, Truro,
NS B2N 1G5

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Richard Chiasson

Tuesday, 12:15 pm - † Randolph Canning; † Vina Savoie

Wednesday, 7:00 pm- † Marie-Catherine Saulnier; †

Thursday, 7:00 pm - † B. J. F, † Angus Jerome MacDonald

Friday, 12:15 pm - † Kathleen Akerman

Saturday, 4:00 pm - Martin Whelan

Sunday, 9:00 am - † Raymond Crawley

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

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Every Thursday evening during Lent we will be praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet at **6:40 PM** at the *Immaculate Conception Church* before Mass. Please join us.

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, March 22nd, 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 \$5,714.90 : ICC = \$3,889.70; St. Michael's = \$345.00; Sacred Heart = \$563.20; St. Bridget's = 720.00; St. Kateri = \$197.00 and Capital Campaign = \$805.00

WEEKLY EVENTS:

45'S Card Play: Card Play Sunday resumes on ***Sunday Evenings*** at 7:00 pm, in Campbell Hall on Sunday 7th, January. Come join us and bring a friend!

Bible Study: Bible Study has recommenced. Come join us in Kinsella I & II, ***Thursdays*** at **10:00 am** for 1 hour. We are studying Romans I & II; No previous Bible knowledge is required. All are welcome! Contact **Tony Harvey** at **902-977-0808** for more information.

DONATIONS:

40 Cans for 40 days of Lent: The Knights of Columbus have placed boxes in Campbell Hall to collect nonperishable food items during Lent. All items collected will be donated to our local Food Bank for Easter.

Spotlight

Please pick up a copy of our first Spotlight publication. Our plan is to present a different focus each month in more detail than is possible in our weekly bulletin. This first Spotlight focuses on updating our Liturgy and on the reverse we provide some 'apologetics' for your reflection. Hope you enjoy it!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Parish Life Survey: Our goal is to understand our parishioners' experience of worship and parish community life, and to identify the strengths, needs, and opportunities for growth in our parish, so we can better serve our God and our parishioners.

This survey has three sections. Part 1 asks about your experience of worship. Part 2 focuses on how the parish supports you in your faith journey. Part 3 asks about parish ministry and how we reach out beyond our community. Additionally, you'll have an opportunity to indicate in which areas of ministry you would be interested in participating, either as an attendee or volunteer.

Over three weekends (six overall) each church will be handing out a paper copy of the Survey to complete following Mass according to the schedule below.

PARTS 1, 2 & 3 are still available at all Church Entrances if you haven't filled one out.

The complete Survey is also available online for those who prefer.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ICParishSurvey>

(Feb 21) The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, Truro Conference will be holding its Regular Monthly Meeting in Campbell Hall on **Wednesday, February 21st**, at **7:30 pm**, after the Evening Mass. New members are welcome to attend!

(Oct 18 - 20) Eucharistic Congress: On December 8, 2023 Archbishop Dunn announced that we would host a Eucharistic Congress in our diocese. What is a Eucharistic Congress? A Eucharistic Congress is a time where a large number of Catholics gather to worship Our Lord in the Eucharist through the communal celebration of the Mass, hear talks, and intentionally pray with, reflect on, and respond to the Eucharist. It can be a very powerful time to manifest the unity of the Church. These gatherings reaffirm and re-emphasize the source and summit of our faith, putting Jesus where he belongs—at the center.

Knights of Columbus are now accepting applications for the **Bishop Colin Campbell Bursery**. The deadline is **April 10th, 2024**. We are also accepting applications for **Simon J. Khatter Scholarship** with **March 3rd, 2024**, as the deadline. The applications are on the Parish website under Knights of Columbus or you can contact **Randy Works** at 902-895-0489 or through email at worksrandy99@gmail.com

Prayer Chain: Did you know our Parish has a Prayer Chain? A small group of dedicated women who are committed to praying for people's needs. If you would be interested in this Ministry or have a prayer request, please call **Judy Ballard** at **902-897-7007**.

Seminarian Morgan Wilson Update:



Seminarian Morgan Wilson - Things have been going very well this semester. All of my classes are the same except for one, which is a great course on the writings of St. Pope John Paul II. We travelled to Toronto to play soccer against the two seminaries there, and after falling behind 4-1 we managed to bring it back 5-4 in the final minutes of the grand final. It was good fun, but it was also an opportunity to build fraternity that we all appreciated. It has been a prayerful semester for me, and I am so grateful for all the prayerful support from the parish. You all remain in my prayers.

P.S. I hope everyone is doing alright after all that snow!

Adult Faith Formation:

Pre-Registration is now closed and we are at capacity. If you would like to wait list in the event of no-shows, please email the Parish Office at office@icctruro.org.

Our first Alpha session is this **Friday, February 16th** from **6:30 to 8:30 pm** in Campbell Hall. We look forward to seeing the participants there!

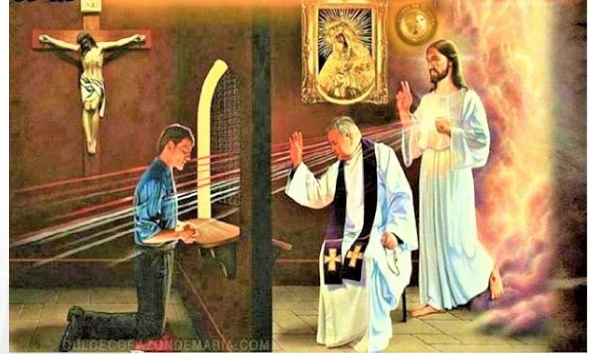


Introduction to this Sunday's Liturgy:

Friends, the holy season of Lent opens before us. Our readings today recall that God made a covenant with us after the Great Flood. Never again would a flood destroy the whole earth. Centuries later, God sent Jesus as the new covenant. As we hear in the second reading, Jesus suffered for our sins to lead us to God. Today's Gospel reminds us that the Spirit drove Jesus into the desert for forty days. We too are sent into the desert of repentance, to search our hearts, hoping to resist what is evil and to embrace all that is good. Knowing these covenants and the sacrifices of Jesus are for our benefit, we fulfill our role in them by acknowledging our need for God's goodness and mercy.

Day of Reconciliation:

Day of Reconciliation: On **Tuesday, March 5th, 2024** at **6:30pm** at Immaculate Conception Church. Visiting priests will be present, therefore, an opportunity to come and be reconciled with God through forgiveness of sins. Experience peace and serenity of conscience and spiritual consolation and an increase of spiritual strength for the struggle of Christian living. We'll offer times at other churches one hour prior to Weekend Masses on the week-ends of March 3 and 10, or by appointment.



Family Faith Formation (FFF) News:

***"Because FAITH is best taught and lived out in the family,
the Church calls parents to be the first and foremost educators of their children."***

FFF Parent/Guardian Sessions and Classes - this Sunday. Home Lesson next week.

First Reconciliation/First Holy Eucharist - **Parent Info Meeting (Levels 3&4)** - this **Sunday, 18th February** during FFF (10:15 - 11:30 am) in Kinsella I&II.

First Reconciliation "Family" Retreat and Celebration of the Sacrament - Saturday, **24th February - 9:00 am - 1:00 pm** (lunch provided) as previously scheduled. Preparations are already being made for this very exciting time in your child's life! Be sure to mark your calendar.

First Reconciliation Home Lessons: Checking in to see how these are going!! A schedule was emailed previously to help children prepare for the Sacrament and their families to stay on track. If any families are finding it a challenge to keep up with these lessons, please let Ann know as soon as possible so that you can be supported in this very special journey.

Mass Activity Booklet :

Pick one up on your way into Mass. Crayons provided (please return the crayons after Mass). A booklet designed to help children grow deeper in their understanding of the Mass.

Youth Night (Levels 7-12) - There is no session on 19 February - NS Heritage Day. Usually gather on Monday Nights. However, if school is cancelled or it is a holiday, there is no Youth Night. All Youth are encouraged to attend weekly. Parents are always welcome! Currently journeying through the *Alpha for Youth* series.

Family-Centered Mass - Sunday, 3 March @ 9:00 am. There is a **Ministry Sign Up Sheet** posted on the white doors downstairs to the right of Veritas. Sign up any time!!