



# *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

## *Welcome Everyone!*

Especially to all our new parishioners and to all who are visiting our Parish!

**March 17th , 2024**

**5th Sunday of Lent**



*“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”*

*John 11: 25-26*

### **Introduction to this Sunday's Liturgy:**

As we draw close to Holy Week, we hear Jesus talk about his approaching death. Yet his message to his disciples is not so much about his death as it is about eternal life. As Christians, we know that as difficult as death is, our true focus, our true hope is in eternal life, trusting that our Lord is our source of eternal salvation. During this final week before Holy Week, let us keep in mind that just as our Lenten journey will not end with Good Friday, but with Easter, so too does our own life's journey end not in death but in new life.

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Seanna Sills  
Tuesday, 12:15 pm - † Jordan Denny ; † Magdalene Martin  
Wednesday, 7:00 pm - Flo Gwinn; † Vincent Syliboy  
Thursday, 7:00 pm - † Edward Peter-Paul  
Friday, 12:15 pm - † Martin Whelan; † Catherine Carpentier  
Saturday, 4:00 pm - Thanksgiving for Goill & Sebright Family  
Sunday, 9:00 am - † Ron Vautour

## 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

### Lenten Devotions:

In addition to the Devotion of Daily Mass, the following are available:

**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.



### Stations of the Cross:

An ancient devotion since the early centuries and a powerful contemplation on the suffering Christ. Come pray the Stations this Lent in any of our churches and enter the mystery of Christ's suffering and death as we move along our journey to the Resurrection.



### Stations of the Cross Times:

**Friday 12:45 pm** - Immaculate Conception (following Mass)  
**Friday 6:00 pm** - St. Kateri (preceded by Adoration)  
**Friday 6:30 pm** - St. Bridget's Church  
**Saturday 3:00 pm** - St. Michael's Church (before Mass)

**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 \$4,009.60 : ICC = \$2,728.05; St. Michael's = \$275.00; Sacred Heart = \$309.00; St. Bridget's = \$612.00; St. Kateri \$85.55 and Capital Campaign = \$415.00

## 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.

### Divine Mercy Novena:

On **Good Friday, March 29 at 6.30 pm** ( prior to the Stations of the Cross at 7 pm), at Immaculate Conception Church. The daily Novena continues for 9 days on your own until Saturday April 6. This Novena is in preparation for the graces of Divine Mercy **Sunday on April 7th**. Divine Mercy pamphlets are available in the church and by linking to the Divine Mercy website ([www.thedivinemercy.org](http://www.thedivinemercy.org)) or you may wish to use this YouTube link while you pray <https://youtu.be/3Al8a1jmqq>



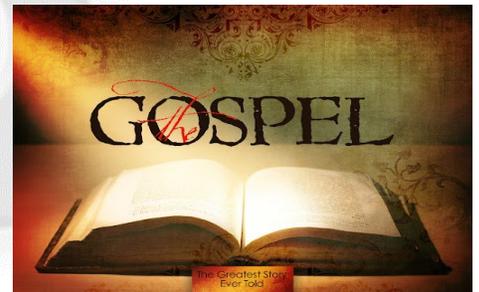
### Easter Vigil:

Our highest liturgy of the year and we urge your presence at this glorious celebration. We'll hear God's plan of salvation unfold in four readings from the Old Testament along with their associated and sung psalms from the Kingdom of David. We'll hear the climatic Gospel of the Resurrection. With the Eucharist prayers we make the very same Savior, Jesus the Christ, present among us. We will also celebrate the initiation of new members into our Catholic family. To aid participation in our celebration we'll introduce a projection screen for our hymns and prayers while we make known the four Rites as they're celebrated. Come let us celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus together. Celebration begins at **8:00 pm** at the Immaculate Conception Church



### The Joy of the Gospel:

Deacon Wilfred Boudreau and Michael Isenor are offering a book study on this encyclical by Pope Francis. It will run for seven weeks on **Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm**, starting **April 3rd** and running to **May 15th, 2024**. It will be held at **St. Bridget's Church** downstairs. It is an opportunity to share our thoughts and our lives in small group discussion. If interested please call **Michael** at **(902) 758-5252** or **Wilf** at **(902) 719-4398**.



### Family Faith Formation:

**Calling all Grades 5-12 – Dramatization – Mary's Way of the Cross**-- Good Friday **10:00 am** service. You are wanted, needed, chosen!! Come participate in the dramatization of the Stations of the Cross from Mary's perspective. Acting, narrating, behind-the-scenes helping, singing, non-speaking parts ... there is something for everyone (no experience needed, no auditions)!! Come check it out and see if it's for you! **Practice Monday night March 18th at 6:30 pm**.

**Family Faith Formation** – Home Lesson on white double doors this week. In-person sessions resume on **Sunday, March 24th**.

**Youth Night** -- **Monday, March 18th, at 7:00pm** – all youth Grade 7-12 are welcome. Bring a friend or two!

**Confirmation Candidates (youth preparing for Confirmation in May)**-- Check-In Session this **Monday, March 18th, at 7:00 pm**. Important that all candidates preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation this May be present!

**First Reconciliation** – If your child has been preparing for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and missed the Reconciliation Retreat, please contact Ann as soon as possible so that other arrangements can be made.

### Adult Faith Formation:



We ask that you pray for a true experience of the **Holy Spirit** for all of our **Alpha** participants. Stay tuned for more information on our next Alpha season.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**(20 Mar) The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Truro Conference** will hold its Regular Monthly meeting in Campbell Hall, on **Wednesday, March 20th**, following Mass, at 7:30 pm. New members are welcome to attend.

**(March 26) All in our diocese are invited to our noon hour Chrism Mass and Blessing of Holy Oils.** We're planning for a good turn out from our parish so we've rented a bus for travel to and from Immaculate Conception Church and St Mary's Cathedral Basilica where this significant celebration takes place. Priests and Deacons from around the Diocese will gather around the Altar with Archbishop Dunn, the music will be glorious and the ceremony beautiful.



The bus leaves approximately 10am from ICC, makes one stop at St. Bernard, Enfield and **arrives at 11:30 am** at the Basilica, returning, in the reverse, at ICC approximately **4:00 pm**. After subsidizing the cost, we're asking \$15 per seat, max \$30 per family, children 12 and under are free. Please register with cash or cheque at the parish office. You may send an envelope with your name, contact info and fee with the presider after Mass from any church, or you can call **Barbara Geronimo** at **(902) 986-9604** to book your seat.

**(Mar 28) Holy Thursday Luncheon: 12noon-1.30pm** at St. Michael's, Brule. Funded by Kane's Kitchen, the ladies of St. Michael's will prepare and serve a FREE Soup Lunch (a choice of Hamburger or Spring Vegetable), Roll and a Sweet, plus tea and coffee. Lunch is available for the surrounding community of St. Michael's and will be served in the Church Hall. Please join us.

**(18 - 20 Oct) Eucharistic Congress:** 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 Bursary**. The deadline is **April 10th, 2024**. 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](mailto:worksrandy99@gmail.com)

**Monsignor Martin Bursary:** The Immaculate Conception Ladies Axillary will be offering the Monsignor Martin Bursary of \$1000.00 this year to a graduating student from our parishes. Applications can be found online, forms at the church office or from the guidance off of your high school. Closing date is **May 15th, 2024**.

## RCIA:

Third Scrutiny of the Elect takes place on the 5th Sunday of Lent. This will take place at St Mary's Cathedral Basilica. On Thursday past they were Presented with the Lord's Prayer and the Book of Gospels.

## VOLUNTEERS:

The Guatemala Outreach Program is looking for new volunteer members. If you are interested in joining the Guatemala Project and would like to learn more you can attend our next meeting **April 10th, at 7:00 PM** at Immaculate Conception Church. You can also call or Text **A. Kennedy** at **(902)956-1793**

**Pastor:** Fr. Jim O'Connor

**Telephone:** 902-893-7188 Ext: 5001 **Email:** [fatherjim@eastlink.ca](mailto:fatherjim@eastlink.ca)

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Andrew Rembarczyk

**Telephone:** 902-893-7188 Ext: 5004 **Email:** [arembarczyk@gmail.com](mailto:arembarczyk@gmail.com)

**Office Administrator:** Carla Field

**Telephone:** 902-893-7188 **Email:** [office@icctruro.org](mailto:office@icctruro.org)

**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



Archdiocese of | Archidiocèse d'  
Halifax-Yarmouth

## Conscience Protection for Nova Scotia Doctors

**NO OPTIONS,  
NO CHOICE**

Imagine a healthcare system where death is considered a therapeutic treatment. *Imagine being a Christian doctor in that system.* Imagine being told by your medical regulator that you are abandoning your patient if you don't make arrangements for them to get an assessment for euthanasia. That healthcare system is in Nova Scotia today. The Nova Scotia medical regulator is pushing through a policy that would force physicians to refer patients for euthanasia, abortion, and transgender services. *Twenty-three courageous Christian physicians* have told Nova Scotia's medical regulator that they cannot abide by this new draft policy

When they are at their most vulnerable, people may choose euthanasia if they don't have suitable options to live. We need physicians who will go the extra mile to ensure their patients are connected with the supports and services they need. Nova Scotia's physicians are too important to patient care to be sacrificed for the sake of an unnecessary policy.

Click here for a message from Larry Worthen: <https://bit.ly/NSPastorsVideo>

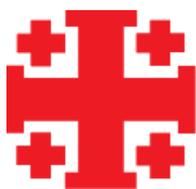
We need your help! On Friday March 22, 2024, the NS medical regulator plans to pass a policy that would force NS physicians to participate by way of a referral in euthanasia, abortion, and transgender services against their conscience. Twenty-three NS physicians have already signed letters saying that they cannot abide by this policy. The regulator has indicated that if there is a complaint against a physician for not following this policy, they will be disciplined and may lose their license. All of these services are currently available without a referral.

Write the Nova Scotia regulator today to tell them you don't want this policy to be approved: <https://bit.ly/NSRegulator24>

**Nova Scotians at their  
most vulnerable **deserve**  
**doctors who are willing**  
**to advocate for them.****

**NO OPTIONS,  
NO CHOICE**





## **Pontifical Collection for the Church in the Holy Land on Good Friday, March 29, 2024**

---

The annual Good Friday Collection was first taken at Pope Paul VI's request fifty years ago. It is the only yearly request asked by the Holy See of diocese and parishioners throughout the world to assist the Church in the Holy Land. The monies collected support its pastoral, educational, and social works and help to maintain the Holy Places so important for the faith of Christians everywhere.

For the sake of our brothers and sisters enduring hardships, please give generously during your parish's Good Friday celebrations on March 29, 2024. If you are unable to attend the service, it is possible to contribute by Interact e-transfer to [terresainte@bellnet.ca](mailto:terresainte@bellnet.ca) or online at [Commissariat.ca](http://Commissariat.ca) - receipts will be issued.

On behalf of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, to whom the Holy See has entrusted this ministry for nearly 700 years, I sincerely thank you for your support.

Fr. Robert Mokry, OFM

*Commissary of the Holy Land in Canada*