



# *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

**March 3rd , 2024**

**3rd Sunday of Lent**



*Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”*

*John 2:19*

**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

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Patricio Lumapat

Tuesday, 12:15 pm - † Catherine Bresolin; † Dianne Dionne

Wednesday, 7:00 pm- †Gerald Gower ; † Anita Gower

Thursday, 7:00 pm - † Catherine Carpentier

Friday, 12:15 pm - † Ernest Falkenham ; † Ron Vautour

Saturday, 4:00 pm - † Sarah "Tiny" Boutilier

Sunday, 9:00 am - † Jordan Denny

## 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

**First Friday and Saturday Masses** will not be held during Lent. They will resume with Ordinary Time.

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

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**: 30 mins prior to weekday Masses or by appointment (Please see Day of Reconciliation Announcement at the end of the Bulletin)

**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 \$ 3793.30 : ICC = \$3016.00; St. Michael's = No Mass; Sacred Heart = \$290.00; St. Bridget's = \$366.00; St. Kateri \$121.30 and Capital Campaign = \$105.00

## 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.

## TAX RECEIPTS:

All uncollected 2023 Tax Receipts have been mailed out. We apologize for some incorrect amounts on the 2023 tax returns. Those who have been impacted will be notified to bring in the old receipt and a new receipt will be issued to you. If you feel yours is incorrect please notify our parish office. The diocese and parish offices are correcting the procedures to ensure no repeat of this mistake.

## RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

Please pray for our Candidate (for Confirmation), Stephen Gillis and our four Catechumens (The Elect for Baptism), Amber Innocente, Paul Jebailey, Ranjan Kadka, Jacob Tufts. Pray also for those who are discerning these Sacraments for a later Easter.

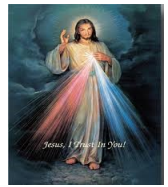
On this **3rd Sunday of Lent** the Elect come forward for the Presentation of the Creed and for the First Scrutiny. This begins the period of Purification and Enlightenment with our prayers and blessings on their final leg of the journey to the waters of Baptism.

On the **4th Sunday of Lent** we celebrate our Second Scrutiny of the Elect.

## Lenten Devotions:

In addition to the Devotion of Daily Mass, the following devotions 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)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**(8 Mar) "A Touch of the Irish"** St. Andrew's United Church in Truro is hosting a coffee house with our own Ron and Anne Marie Fougere and local musicians Ken and Chella Henderson who will lead us in a wonderful array of Irish songs. Please join us on **Friday, March 8th** from **7:00 - 8:00 pm**. A light lunch will be provided. Free will offerings at the door are accepted.

**(10 Apr) 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, 7:00 PM** at Immaculate Conception Church. You can also call or Text A. Kennedy at (902)956-1793

**(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](mailto:worksrandy99@gmail.com)

**TAX Receipts:** All uncollected 2023 Tax Receipts have been mailed out.

**ICLA:** The linen schedule is now ready and can be found in the ICLA mail slot.

**Financial Statement:** Attached to this bulletin is our 2023 Income and Expense Statement. Our Financial Council has worked hard over the past few years to understand and present our financial situation. Despite an unusual 2022 year loss, thanks be to God 2023 is in a positive position. For your information we also provide the 2024 budget, also predicted to be positive.

## Adult Faith Formation:



We ask that you pray for a true experience of the **Holy Spirit** for all of our **Alpha** participants. For those who did not register this Alpha session, please stay tuned for more information on our next Alpha season.

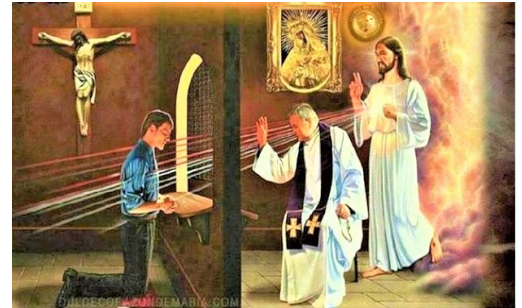


### Introduction to this Sunday's Liturgy:

Today we hear God deliver the ten commandments to Moses and the Chosen People. The commandments provide a way for them to live up to their part of the covenant. We face the same challenge today. Lent is a wonderful opportunity to examine our consciences and recall times when we have failed to follow one of God's commands and determine which commandments we find difficult to obey consistently. Particularly during this penitential season, let us repent of our sins, reconcile with God and those we've wronged, and pray for the grace to do better.

### 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 3rd** and **10th**, or by appointment.



### Family Faith Formation (FFF) News:

**Congratulations Athena, Connor, George, Levi, Ruby and Sophia**, who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation last Saturday, 24 February with their families at the Reconciliation Retreat. Your journey of faith continues and your church community supports you and prays for you as you go forth in preparation to receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Praise Him from whom all blessings flow! Pictures soon to be posted on the Family Faith Formation bulletin board at the parking lot entrance of the church.

**High School Hunt is On** – Newly Confirmed Youth from 2023 and 2022! Where have you gone? Please come back and join us on Monday Nights. Your journey of faith in the Church has just begun and as you embrace the Gifts of the Spirit in your life, come share them with others. We have something especially for you on Monday Nights and we miss you!! If you are a parent, a grandparent, a friend, a sponsor to a youth who has been confirmed in the faith in the last couple of years, please contact your youth and support them in coming to Monday Youth Night:)

**Family Faith Formation (FFF) Assembly and Classes** this Sunday.

**Lenten Companion Series** – offered this Sunday in Kinsella I&II after Mass – all are welcome! Includes a video and sharing session.

**Youth Conference - Steubenville Atlantic Night of Worship** - Monday, 4 March @ Holy Trinity Church in Lower Sackville from 6:30-7:45 pm. If you are interested in going, let Ann know asap.

**Steubenville Conference** -- This summer in Halifax - July 5-7 – more info every Monday at Youth Night.

**Youth Night** - Continues on Monday Nights -- 7pm start time -- come early for ping pong, cards or puzzles! Bring your Bible!!

**30-Day Bible Reading Challenge** – Youth have started a 30-Day (or however long it takes) Bible Reading Challenge. If you haven't received the Scripture Reference List, it's hanging on the white door at the bottom of the stairs to the right of Veritas. Get your copy and get started!!

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** every Sunday @ the 9 am Mass (except the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month) after the opening prayer returning for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

**Parents' Prayer** – every Monday night. Parents are encouraged to attend Mass @ 7pm to offer intentions for our youth, children and families. Come any time! A sign up schedule is posted on the white doors at the bottom of the stairs to the left of Veritas for those who wish to put it on the calendar! Feel free to join Youth Night after Mass :)



## HOLY WEEK & EASTER OCTAVE SCHEDULE

**Holy Week** is *March 24th to 31st*. It begins on Palm Sunday with our regular weekend Mass schedule. The remaining Holy Week has celebrations scheduled at each of our churches and at our Cathedral. This is the most holy time of year for Christians. Our participation in this week and the Lenten practices well prepare us for the glorious celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus.

**Monday 7:00 pm -** Immaculate Conception

**Tuesday, March 26th -** Annual Chrism Mass is Tuesday, March 26 at 12 noon in St Mary's Cathedral Basilica. There is no Mass in our Parish. You are invited to join Archbishop Dunn and all clergy for this celebration and blessing of our Holy Oils. ***Join us on our Bus Transportation to and from Truro (\$15.00 per person)***

**Wednesday 7:00 pm -** Immaculate Conception

**Holy Thursday 7:00 pm -** Immaculate Conception

**Good Friday 10:00 am -** Youth Mary's Way of the Cross at Immaculate Conception  
**Good Friday 3:00 pm -** at the churches of St Kateri, St Michael, St Bridget and Immaculate Conception

**Good Friday 7:00 pm -** Stations at Sacred Heart, St Kateri and Immaculate Conception

**Easter Vigil 8:00 pm -** Immaculate Conception with those in our RCIA program

**Easter Sunday 9:00 am -** Immaculate Conception and St. Michael

**Easter Sunday 10:00 am -** St Kateri

**Easter Sunday 11:30am -** St Bridget and Sacred Heart

**Easter Octave**, beginning Easter Sunday, *March 31st* and ending on the Second Sunday of Easter, *April 7th* is celebrated at our regular Mass times through the week at Immaculate Conception

**Divine Mercy Sunday**, the Second Sunday of Easter, *April 7th* has our regular Mass Schedule and a special prayer service beginning with Confessions at 2:00 pm and prayers at 3:00 pm.



# 2023 Year End Finance Report

Issued March 01, 2024

## Immaculate Conception Parish Finance Committee

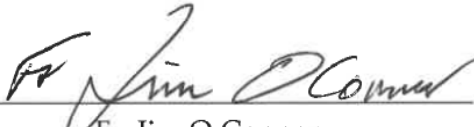
Dear Fellow Parishioners:

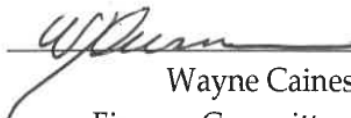
On behalf of the Finance Committee, we are pleased to present to you our year-end report that includes all churches. With gratefulness, we report that our income is steadily growing. We would like to thank everyone for their contributions. While not normal, we had predicted a negative budget for 2023 given the prior year and many people staying away because of Covid. It was the worst-case scenario. However, with increased people and revenue, we will be able to meet our commitments and invest in our mission.

Income/Expense	TOTAL	2023 Budget	Over/Under Budget	2024 Budget
<b>Income</b>				
1 - ORDINARY REVENUE	379,095	307,424	71,671	358,224
2 - EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE	142,714	108,900	33,814	110,367
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>521,809</b>	<b>416,324</b>	<b>105,485</b>	<b>468,591</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
3 - CHURCH EXPENSES	127,909	110,139	17,770	97,599
4 - HALL EXPENSES	289	6,550	-6,261	6,000
5 - RESIDENCE EXPENSES	43,754	41,420	2,334	46,908
6 - SHARED EXPENSES	292,959	263,750	29,209	253,097
7 - DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	42,863	44,000	-1,137	61,000
8 - CEMETERY	2,159	1,500	659	1,250
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>509,934</b>	<b>467,359</b>	<b>42,574</b>	<b>465,854</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>11,875</b>	<b>-51,035</b>	<b>62,911</b>	<b>2,737</b>

We have also included the 2024 Budget above. We are predicting a breakeven budget. Our works committee is working hard to reduce our operational cost. We are looking at options to reduce our heat budget which continues to be our largest expense next to Salaries.

Together in Christ,

  
Fr. Jim O'Connor  
Parish Priest

  
Wayne Caines  
Finance Committee Chair