



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!

A special welcome to new parishioners and visitors to our Parish!

January 5, 2025
Epiphany of the Lord



And there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising , until it stopped over the place where the child was. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother: and they knelt down and paid homage.

Matthew 1.9-11

Introduction to this Sunday's Liturgy

Introduction

Following both the bright star in the western sky and centuries of wisdom from their tradition, the magi traveled from distant lands to search for the newborn king. What had been revealed to only a few nearby shepherds had now been made manifest to people from foreign nations.

Today, two thousand years later, and here, many thousands of miles from Bethlehem, we celebrate that the Lord's birth has been made known all around the world for all time. O come, let us adore him!

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Chuck Boylan

Tuesday, 12:15- † Madeline Vautour; † Sarah Sack

Wednesday, 7:00pm-† Gordon Weatherby; † Barb Paul

Thursday, 7:00 pm- † Mark Yuri Stephens

Friday, 12:15pm -† Jordan Denny; † Dana Gloade

Saturday, 4:00 pm - † Sarah "Ting" Boutillier

Sunday, 9:00 am - Jim Johnson

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday

4:00 pm - Immaculate Conception, Truro

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

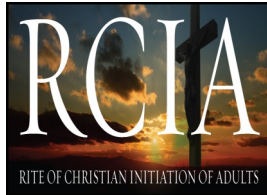
Sunday

9:00 am - Immaculate Conception, Truro

10:00 am - St. Kateri, Indian Brook

11:30 am - Sacred Heart, Millbrook

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



Becoming Catholic

Have you considered journeying into the Catholic Faith? RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a journey of learning about Jesus Christ and possibly formally joining the Church he founded. Consider having greater unity with your spouse and family, taking a step in your faith journey or celebrating missing sacraments, etc. Please contact our office or complete a Welcome Card and hand it in at any Mass.



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 31st** 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 = \$3945.75; St. Bridget's = \$594.00;

St. Michael's = \$215.00; Sacred Heart= \$1149.00 (Two Weeks)

Capital Projects=\$80.00 Christmas Collection totals by Church will be in next week's bulletin.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament : Thursdays from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and after the 7:00 pm Mass, ending with 8:00 pm Benediction.



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 and Fridays after the 12:15 Mass. Everyone is invited to join us.

Marriage Preparation : For those wishing to be married at the Immaculate Conception Parish, please contact the Parish Office at least one year in advance.

Veritas Catholic Books and Gifts, located at Immaculate Conception Church, Truro and is open on Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. or by appointment by calling 902 893-7188.



PAD - Preauthorized Deposit. We encourage use of this giving option and are grateful for those who currently use it. For regular giving it is so much easier than using envelopes. However, envelopes boxes still have special collection envelopes like: St Vincent de Paul, heating expenses, cemetery, etc. We really rely on your generosity for these items too. Forms are available in our office.

Resolutions Point to a Revival of Faith in the Eucharist

REFERENCE, CARDINAL TIMOTHY M. DOLAN

Have a blessed 2025!

With the Eucharistic Congress still on our mind, how about some very practical, down-to-earth resolutions for reviving the Eucharist as the “source and summit” of our life?



1. Return to Sunday Mass! No excuses—OK, if you’re in fragile health—just get back. Rates of attendance at Sunday Mass were scary pre-Covid—about 24 percent of Catholics in this archdiocese were faithful—and now it’s more frightening. Sunday Mass is a constant, an essential, of Catholic life.
2. Remember the Eucharistic fast! It’s simple, especially when compared to the strict fasts many of us old-timers recall. All we have to do now is cut out food and drink for an hour prior to receiving our Lord at Mass. A practical way to prepare....
3. Genuflect to the tabernacle as we enter the pew. Catholics used to be teased as “knee benders” because we automatically “bent the knee” to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle. Let’s earn that nickname again.
4. Make a good confession, if we’re aware of serious mortal sin, before we receive Holy Communion. The Bible tells us not to receive unworthily! Listen to the Good Book.
5. Mean it when you say Amen! before you receive the Sacred Host. That word means “I agree!” We whisper it when the priest or deacon presents us Holy Communion with the words “The Body of Christ.” With our sincere “Amen!” we profess our faith that it indeed is.
6. Dress modestly. I’m afraid “Sunday best” has gone into the vocabulary museum. I’m not saying we all need to “gussy up” in lavish or expensive clothes, but the way we dress does show our reverence. (And boys, please, no ball hats, or hats of any kind, in church!)
7. Participate at Mass! Pray hard those beautiful prayers; sing; listen to God’s Word and the sermon; arrive on time and do not duck out early; think about volunteering as a lector, usher, choir member, or server.
8. Invite—encourage but don’t pester—others to get back to Mass. I love it when I see our grandparents bringing their grandkids to Mass. Invite neighbors, family, and friends. Let them be inspired by your example of fidelity to Mass.
9. Visit Jesus, really and truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament, often. Many of our parishes have Eucharistic Adoration; many keep the church open so folks can stop in and visit their friend Jesus. Great resolutions.
10. Let’s recover a sense of silence and awe while in church.

I can’t think of a more helpful or fruitful resolution for 2025 than to renew the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist as the anchor, the center of our lives.

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."

All Family Faith Formation Classes (Grades 1 - 5 and parents) - Classes resume **Sunday, 5 January.**

Grade 6’s, 7’s, 8’s, 9 - 10’s -

Classes will resume on **Monday, 6 January.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS CALENDAR:

(Jan 6) Bible Study Re commences On Thursday January 6th at 10am Bible study will be in the Kinsella room. We are studying the book of Daniel and the letter to the Hebrews. All are welcome. For more information you can contact Tony Harvey at 902-977-0808.

(Jan 12) ICLA Annual General Meeting The ICLA AGM will be held on January 12th at 2:00pm. followed by a potluck meal.



(Jan 17) Alpha Series starts! Friday January 17th we will start our next Alpha series. We hope you'll join us in this opportunity to discover the meaning of life and how Jesus fits into it through discussions and video. You can also enjoy a meal and have a chance to make new friends! The series runs on Friday nights from 6-8 until March 28th. You can register online at www.icctruro.org/alpha or fill out a registration form that are located at the church entrances. Come join us and bring a friend!

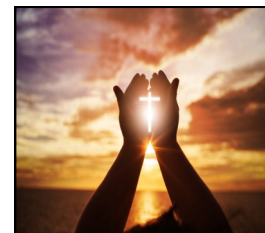
(Jan 18) Prison Ministry Presentation Fr. Jim would like to start a prison ministry at Nova Institution for Women located on James St. in Truro. He will need six volunteers to join him to celebrate Mass followed by a social gathering once a month. On Saturday January 18th at 9:30am there will be a presentation by the prison chaplain at ICC. Anyone that is interested in working with this important ministry please come to this presentation.

Prayer Ministries in our Parish. Listed are the times and locations. Please join us at any of them throughout the year:

St. Michael Wednesday 7pm
St. Bridget Friday 11:00
St. Kateri meet in homes
Sacred Heart meet in homes

Immaculate Conception has the following:

Daily Masses
Sunday Rosary 8:20
Tuesday for Parish Intercessory Prayers 12:45
Thursday 10am-noon and 7:30pm to 8pm for silent adoration
Thursday 2pm for men
Friday Rosary 12:45pm



Pastor: Fr. Jim O'Connor Telephone: 902-893-7188 Ext: 5001 Email: fatherjim@eastlink.ca

Associate Pastor: Fr. Andrew Rembarczyk Telephone: 902-893-7188 Ext: 5004 Email: arembarczyk@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Trish Maynard Telephone: 902-893-7188 Email: office@icctruro.org

Adult Evangelization : Coordinator Carol Matthews Email: adult.outreach.icp@gmail.com

Interim Volunteer Family Faith Formation Coordinator : Ann Huntley Email: icp.familyfaithformation@gmail.com

Saint Vincent De Paul Society Help Line: 902-897-0222

Chalice Share (Truro) is 902-252-3917 ext. 108