



# *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!

*February 16 ,2025*  
*6th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.”

Luke 6.20-22

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

Jeremiah warms us up for the Gospel today by speaking of whom God blesses and whom God curses. Using imagery from nature, he drives home his message: trust in the LORD. Jesus' message echoes Jeremiah's, blessing those whom society treats as outcasts and warning those who have it made by social standards. During this Jubilee Year of Hope, let us put our hope in he who has power over death itself, a hope rejected by those who live life, as Paul wrote, “for this life only.”

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Doreen Knockwood

Tuesday, 12:15- † John & † Kay Brennan

Wednesday, 7:00pm- † Jileen Julien; † Edward S Phillips

Thursday, 7:00 pm- † Sarah "Ting" Boutilier

Friday, 12:15pm - † Marie-Catherine Saulnier; † Barb Paul

Saturday, 4:00 pm - † JBF

Sunday, 9:00 am - † Bill Lake

## WEEKEND MASSES

### Saturday

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

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

### Sunday

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

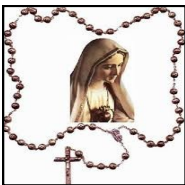
**10:00 am** - St. Kateri, Indian Brook

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

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



**Each month the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention.** You are invited to answer Pope Francis' request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention. From time to time, the Holy Father may add a second prayer intention related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The second prayer request will help mobilize prayer and action related to the urgent situation. His February Intention is: For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.



**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.



Our **Parish Prayer Committee** was recently formed to ensure that each of our churches is able to participate in a variety of Catholic prayer traditions and to continue enhancing them. Having also formed church prayer ministries in the past year, fruit of their prayers and other ministries have led to a renewed interest in completing sacraments and becoming Catholic, resulting in slight growth in the parish and in establishment of new initiatives to welcome and support these individuals. We ask for your prayer as the committee focuses on expanding intercessory prayer by this March with the following:

- 1. Including shut-ins in our prayer ministry:** This ensures that those who are unable to attend church services due to illness or other reasons are still able to participate in the parish's ministries.
- 2. Presentation of the Intercessory Prayer Book at each weekend Mass:** This book will be placed beside the Altar in each church, allowing us greater consciousness of our reliance and blessings from these prayers.
- 3. Presentation of Oral and Silent Intercessory Prayers during adoration:** This helps to focus parishioners on our specific needs during times of adoration.
- 4. Sharing the Holy Father's Monthly Prayer Intentions:** This connects our parish's prayer activities with the broader intentions of the Catholic Church.



**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 28** 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.

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



## COLLECTION UPDATE

Previous Week's Collection was: ICC = \$4373.20; St. Bridget's = \$134.00  
St. Michael's = \$105.00; Sacred Heart= \$141.75; St.Kateri = \$51.10 Capital= \$115.00



**Tax Receipts are ready for pick up!** Tax receipts can be picked up at the office Monday - Thursday 10-1:30pm or by appointment. If you would like it mailed please contact the office at [office@icctruro.org](mailto:office@icctruro.org) or 902-893-7188.



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

**Family Faith Formation Coordinator.** We are hiring a part time position to form young families. Do you feel the Holy Spirit is steering you to this great opportunity? Contact our office for the job description, then please email us a resume and cover letter outlining and explaining your qualifications and experience to [fatherjim@eastlink.ca](mailto:fatherjim@eastlink.ca). We will begin reviewing in February.



The State scholarship is now available along with the Bishop Colin Campbell scholarship. The State scholarship is due March 3rd and the Bishop Colin Campbell is due May 1st. They can be found on the Parish website [icctruro.org/knights-of-Columbus](http://icctruro.org/knights-of-Columbus) or email Randy at [worksrandy99@gmail.com](mailto:worksrandy99@gmail.com). or 895 0489.



**Ashes** Please bring in your old palms so we can burn them and have the ashes available for Ash Wednesday Mass. Kindly have the palms in by **no later than Sunday, March 2**. Container provided in the vestibule of the church.

## 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."*

## **Youth Events**

**!! Confirmation Holy Spirit Retreat Day !!** - For those youth preparing to be Confirmation in May 2025 – Monday, 17 February – 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm (including Mass @ 7 pm – families are encouraged to attend Mass). Parents are asked to send 1 snack item (fruit, veggies, chips, etc) and 1 sweet (dessert) item with your youth.

**Steubenville Atlantic Kick Off** – Friday, 21 February, Mark your calendar

**Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference** - July 11-13, 2025. Dalhousie University. Early registration is now open.

## **Catechism Classes**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation - Retreat Day - Saturday, 22 February** - 9:30 am to Noon (concluding with a Pizza Lunch). Children preparing and have completed the classes for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (along with their families) will experience a morning of prayer and celebration.

**Grades 1 - 5** - Classes and Family Gathering this Sunday – 16 February – after 9 am Mass. Children are to attend with their parents (or an adult).

**Grades 6 - 12** - Monday nights - 6:30 - 8:30 pm - weekly.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** - during 9 am Mass every Sunday except the 1st Sunday of the month. All children are welcome!

**Family-Centered Mass (1st Sunday of the month)** - Sunday, 2 March. Sign up for a ministry at the entrance of the Church (parking lot entrance) for the 9 am Mass.

**Mass Activity Booklets** - available at the parking lot entrance to the church.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CALENDAR:



**Jubilee 2025** Inserted with our bulletin is a letter from Archbishop Brian Dunn outlining various events and opportunities for celebration of Jubilee 2025. These include pilgrimage, holy door, reconciliation, prayer, liturgy, profession of faith and indulgences. As a parish, we will address each as the year progresses. Regarding pilgrimage, are you interested in our parish organizing one? It may be to St Mary's Cathedral Basilica in Halifax or St Anne de Beaupre in Quebec. Please discuss it among our parish family and advise our office or clergy. Let us become active Pilgrims of Hope.

**(Feb 16) The ICLA AGM (Annual General Meeting) We will not be having a potluck** . We will have our AGM meeting at 2pm to discuss among other things our Monsignor Martin bake sale. Please if you have been exposed to or have any symptoms of flu or cold please stay home or wear a mask.

**(Feb 17) Confirmation Holy Spirit Retreat Day** - Monday, from 12:00 pm - 7:30 pm (including Mass @ 7 pm – families are encouraged to attend). Also asking parents to help out in any way they can to make this day an amazing experience for those preparing for Confirmation.

**(Feb 17) Heritage Day** This year's honoree is Nora Bernard who was from our Millbrook community. She was a Canadian Mi'kmaq activist who sought compensation for survivors of the Canadian Indian residential school system. She was directly responsible for what became the largest class-action lawsuit in Canadian history, representing an estimated 79,000 survivors.



**(Feb 17) Parish Office is closed.** Monday February 17th the parish office will be closed for Heritage Day.

**February 19<sup>th</sup> - TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK!** The St. Vincent de Paul Society re-started Trivia Nights on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month from **7:30 to 9:00**, with the next event being held on **Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Individuals or teams can participate and compete for cash and other prizes. Admission is \$5 at the door, there will also be a 50/50 ticket draw and there will be a cash bar where beverages and snacks (\$1- \$5) are available. All proceeds raised will be used to help our neighbors in need in our community. Please come join us for these fun filled Wednesday evenings that had become popular before Christmas, and help us support the less fortunate members of our community.

**(Feb 20 & 27) Dying with Christ, Living with Hope Sessions** The Christian Medical and Dental Association of Canada (CMDA) has announced dates for their next session **February 20, 27, & March 6 at 12 PM ET**. This program presents a hope-filled perspective on a universal experience. Led by theologians and healthcare professionals, the series explores timeless insights into suffering, grief, dying, the duty to care, and how dying with Christ is attainable for everyone. In addition to experiencing this transformative course, you'll be equipped to bring the program to your own community settings, such as churches, community centers, or online platforms. Register at <https://cmdacanada.org/event/dying-with-christ-living-with-hope-winter-series/>

**(Feb 21) Youth Kick Off Gathering-Steubenville Atlantic** - In Halifax on Friday, 21 February 7pm at St Thomas Aquinas Church. Let's make this happen and plan to carpool for the event!

**(Mar 2) St. Michael's Pancake Brunch** Sunday March 2nd St. Michael's will be hosting a Pancake Brunch from 11am-1pm. \$10.00 Adult and \$5.00 child. The brunch includes pancakes with syrup, sausages, beans, buttermilk biscuit and tea or coffee.

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