



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!

March 23, 2025
3rd Sunday of Lent



“But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

John 4.23-24

Introduction to this Sunday's Liturgy

Scripture today reminds us that we are fortunate to be alive for this blessed season of Lent. Why? Because it means we still have the opportunity to repent of our sins and to turn back to God with our whole hearts. We all sin; it is the human condition. But with hearts in the right place, we feel remorse for our sins and we promise God, others, and ourselves to do better. How lucky we are that we can! As we continue through this holy season, let us make the most of this opportunity.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Mark Yuri Stephens
Tuesday, 12:15 **Solemnity of the Annunciation**
† Martin Whelan; † Gordon Weatherby
Wednesday, 7:00pm- † Irma Delia & Eduardo Alvarez
Thursday, 7:00 pm- † Zeidan & Marie Zoghaib
Friday, 12:15pm -† Catherine White; † Jordan Denny
Saturday, 4:00 pm - † Vince Gillis
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

Annual Missals . Finally, we have received additional Missals to follow Sunday Mass each week. Whatever you'd like to donate.

Monthly Prayer Intentions



Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention for March: For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



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.



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

Friday 12:45 pm - Immaculate Conception (following Mass) Friday noon - St Bridget
Friday 6:00 pm - St Kateri Saturday 3 pm St Michael (prior to Mass)



Jubilee 2025 Pilgrimage Would a group at your parish be interested in making a pilgrimage to Rome during the Jubilee Year in 2025? Collette Tours has a series of faith-based tours (and many other types of tours!) and is offering a specific 2025 Jubilee: The Holy Year - A Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. If you want to explore what options are available contact Nick Levasseur at Collette to learn more. Nick can be reached at (613).301.7076 or nlevasseur@collette.com

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. While not always necessary, a year in advance is recommended.



COLLECTION UPDATE



Previous Week's Collection was: ICC = \$3670.50; St. Bridget's = \$570.00
St. Michael's = \$130.00; Sacred Heart= \$548.75; St. Kateri = \$288.00
Capital= \$733.00

Are you at least 16 years old? Are you or will you soon be fully installed in the RC Church?

Do you strive to live the Gospel message in your daily life? Have you ever thought about becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC)? We are all called to be in the presence of Christ, and your willingness to serve as an EMHC reflects not only a response to your baptismal call to serve the people of God, but a commitment to Christ as you share in the preaching, teaching and leading aspects of the church.



We are looking for volunteers as EMHCs, especially those who attend Saturday masses at 4 p.m. If you are interested, please call the EMHC Coordinator, Jane Allen at 902-843-0269. If no answer please leave a message and your call will be returned.

Marriage Enrichment: What if marriage is more than you think it is? What if God has woven into the very fabric of your humanity a purposeful need and desire that can only be fulfilled in your marriage? Bring your spouse on a date to experience firsthand the wonder, mystery, and joy behind that first "I do," whether you said it last year or many years ago. Uncover the mystery and meaning of the sacrament of marriage. On Friday evening, May 9, and Saturday, May 10, our parish presents "Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage," a series of videos and private discussions for married couples and those preparing for marriage. Meals and snacks are included. The cost is \$120 per couple. To reserve a spot, contact the parish office by April 25 at office@icctruro.org.



Bus for Chrism Mass, Tuesday, April 15 at Noon in St Mary's Cathedral Basilica. All are invited to this significant celebration with Archbishop Dunn and all Clergy. We are **open to organizing a bus** for parishioners to and from the Mass to ease the travel and parking arrangements. The subsidized fee is \$15.00 per person or \$35.00 for a family. Please advise Trish at our office by Tuesday, April 1.

"This trip is considered a Jubilee Year Pilgrimage"

Helping Senior parishioners. We have a few in need, one for a drive to weekly Mass and the other is a couple needing assistance with documents for marriage. For driving, it's to 4pm Saturday Mass from Bible Hill, near Don Smith Furnishings. Are you able to help? If so please contact Trish at our office.

Youth Events

Registration for Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference - July 11-13, 2025. Dalhousie University.

FRANCISCAN LEAD Each year before Steubenville Atlantic we run Franciscan LEAD – a 1 week retreat focused on Leadership, Evangelization, and Discipleship. Our leadership philosophy is based on the foundation that youth leadership flows from a personal relationship with Christ. First we give teens the tools to grow closer in their relationship with Jesus and then give them the essentials for servant leadership and evangelization. For more information about Franciscan LEAD visit <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/franciscan-lead/> or email Sarah at smorrison@halifaxyarmouth.org. The deadline for First Round of LEAD applications is **April 1, 2025!**

Catechism Classes

FFF Classes - will resume Sunday, 23 March after 9 am Mass

Youth Night - will resume Monday, 24 March - 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Mary's Way of the Cross Good Friday Drama - Looking for children/youth to participate in the prayerful dramatization of *The Stations of the Cross* from Mary's perspective as part of the 10 am Good Friday service. Practice details will be forthcoming.

Children's Liturgy of the Word during – will resume on Sunday, 23 March during 9 am Mass.

Family-Centered Mass (1st Sunday of the month) - Sunday, 6 April. 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:

(Mar 5-April 16) 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.



(Mar 25) Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord occurs on Tuesday this year. We'll celebrate with our regular weekday 12:15 Mass time at Immaculate Conception. All are invited to celebrate with us.

(Mar 26) St Kateri Church Mass for reconciliation and for inner healing and for the healing of life's hurts, 6:00pm on the following remaining Wednesdays of Lent: March 19, 26, April 9 and 16. Each Wednesday will have an opportunity to venerate and be blessed with a "First Class Relic" of Saint Mother Teresa of Kolkata. And please note that there are Stations of the Cross every Friday evening of Lent.

(March 30), 4th Sunday of Lent Catechumens celebrate the Second Scrutiny.

(Mar 30) Praise and Worship Event at St. Michael's Church. Please join us Sunday, March 30th from 2 - 3.30 PM for an afternoon of traditional and contemporary music by several North Shore musicians. This will be followed by a light reception in the church hall. Everyone is welcome.

(Apr 2) Day of Reconciliation On Tuesday, April 2nd, 2025 at 6:30pm at Immaculate Conception Church. Visiting priests will be present. As well, either Fr Jim or Fr Andrew will be available from 1 to 4pm. Come and be reconciled with God through forgiveness of our sins. Experience peace and serenity of conscience and spiritual consolation and an increase of spiritual strength for the struggle of Christian living. For those not able to attend, we'll offer the Sacrament one hour prior to Weekend Masses on the weekends of March 30 and April 6, or by appointment. The regular schedule of 30 minutes prior to weekday Masses is also available.

(6 - 7 Apr) ICLA Annual Monsignor Martin Bake Sale: Will be held **Saturday, April 5th and Sunday April 6th**, after each Mass. Donations of Baked goods will be gratefully accepted on **Saturday April 5th** starting at 12pm. Monetary donations will also be gratefully accepted. Money raised will go towards the Bursary to a student from our parish.

(Apr 9) St. Bridget's Church will be hosting an Alpha Series Starting Wednesday April 9 at 6pm. 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 Wednesday nights from 6-8 until June 25. You can register online at www.icctruro.org/alpha or fill out a registration form that are located at the church entrance. For more information you can contact Michael Isenor mc.isenor@gmail.com or Deacon Wilfred wilfboudreau@gmail.com Come join us and bring a friend!



(June 4) Pilgrimage to St Anne de Beaupre and St Joseph's Oratory, Quebec from June 4 - 7, organized by St .Andre Bessette Parish. Of two buses (premium road coaches with an on-board toilet), 12 or so seats are still available for pick up at Immaculate Conception, Truro. Accommodation is at the Delta Marriott in Beaupre for 3 nights. There will be a private Mass, time for Adoration and also a visit to Old Quebec City and (Notre Dame Cathedral where the Holy Door is located. Cost is \$804 double occupancy, \$1222 single occupancy. Contact Dave Lewis 902-452-2502 for questions or payment information.
Email: dslewis827@gmail.com

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