



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 30, 2025
4th Sunday of Lent



“Son you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.”

Luke 15.31-32

Introduction to this Sunday's Liturgy

Three and a half weeks into this forty-day journey through Lent, we may have become lost. Perhaps we have returned to our normal habits, chafing under the disciplines of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Perhaps we've slipped and found ourselves rationalizing our failures. The story of the prodigal son, which we hear today, reminds us that no matter what we have done or failed to do, God stands always ready to welcome us back. No matter how far we have strayed, rejoice! for we are never too far gone to return to God.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Monday, 7:00 pm - † Charlie Snell

Tuesday, 12:15 - † Barb Paul; † Doreen Knockwood

Wednesday, 12:15 - † Joan Sampson; † Sarah Sack
Reconciliation Evening. See Announcement Notes

Thursday, 7:00 pm- † Zeidan & Marie Zoghaib

Friday, 12:15pm - Louis MacDougal; † Jileen Julien

Saturday, 4:00 pm - † Richard Pettipas

Sunday, 9:00 am - † Mildred Pineau

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.



Lector Workshop- Thank you to all Lectors who were able to attend the workshop last Saturday. I appreciate the feedback I have received so far. A new Handbook for Lectors was given out to all those who attended. There are extra copies of this Handbook in the Sacristy. If you have not received one, please pick one up. It contains some important information for all Lectors going forward. Questions? Contact Debbie at demacneil1@gmail.com

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.

And on April 2nd. See Announcements notes.



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.

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)

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, May 30th** 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 = \$3735.40; St. Bridget's = \$405.00

St. Michael's = \$125.00; Sacred Heart= \$554.10; St. Kateri = \$131.15

Capital= \$333.60

Monsignor Martin Memorial Bursary - The Immaculate Conception Ladies Auxiliary - ICLA - is offering to graduating students of our parishes the \$1000.00 Monsignor Martin Memorial Bursary again this year. Graduating students going on to further their education can access the required forms on the Immaculate Conception Church website or check with student services at your school. **All submissions must be in by May 1st** with hardcopies mailed or handed in to the church office in Truro. Any questions call 902 895-7757.

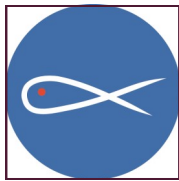


Ministry of the Altar Servers. This ministry is looking for young men and women willing to serve the Lord in his Holy Altar. Are you a Baptized Catholic aged 10 to 17? A resident of the parish? Willing to give time for serving and for scheduled meetings, recollections and parish based on-going formation programs? If interested, please contact our office to inquire or register .

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"**



Treasurer for the St. Vincent de Paul After several years of service the treasure for the St. Vincent de Paul in Immaculate Conception is stepping down and our conference is seeking the assistance of a volunteer to join our Executive in this capacity. Interested parishioners should contact Dave Mahoney at 902-956-0395 for details respecting this important position with the Society.

Youth Events

Registration for Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference - July 11-13, 2025. Dalhousie University. Register **NOW** online.

*"Because FAITH is best taught & lived out in the family,
the Church calls parents to be the first and foremost educators of their children.*"*

Catechism Classes

Family Mass - 9 am Sunday, 6 April. If you are interested in being involved, sign up at the parking lot entrance to the church.

FFF Classes - Next gathering is Sunday, 6 April

Youth Night - Mondays - 6:30 - 8:30 pm Bring your Ministries Journal, Bible and Chosen Book (for those who have it).

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 - Sundays during 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.



(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.

(April 1) Syro Malabar Catholic Rite Mass at 6pm on the First Saturday of each month. All are welcome to experience this different Rite of our Catholic family having its roots in India.

(April 2) Wednesday Mass moved from 7pm to 12:15pm this day only.

(Apr 2) Day of Reconciliation On Wednesday, 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.

(April 6) 5th Sunday of Lent and Solidarity Sunday, Catechumens celebrate the Third Scrutiny along with Presentation of the Our Father and Book of the Gospels.

(April 6&7) 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.



(April 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!



(April 13) ICLA meeting at 2pm in Campbell Hall. Don't forget your Birthday Cake kits!!

(May 22-25 & May 29-Jun 01) Cursillo Retreat There will be a Men's weekend - May 22-25, and Women's weekend - May 29-Jun 01 at St Michael's Basilica in Miramichi N.B. If anyone is interested please contact John Aubey 506-624-3431 or Gerry Newell 902-893-9733

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