



**Administrator:** Fr. Francesco Pirisi

**Office Administrator:**

Pat Belgrave (902) 454-8221  
(Open to the public: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings at St. Theresa)

**On-site Office Hours:**

Wednesdays 9:00am-5:00pm

*Saint Catherine of Siena Parish  
"Home of the Franciscans of Halifax"*

*2nd Sunday of Advent  
December 8, 2019*

**St. Catherine's Parish Address**  
6476 Bayers Rd.

**Parish Office**  
6466 Bayers Rd., Halifax, NS B3L 2B1

**email:** [office@saintcatherineofsiena.ca](mailto:office@saintcatherineofsiena.ca)  
[www.saintcatherineofsiena.ca](http://www.saintcatherineofsiena.ca)



**Pastoral Team**

Fr. Francesco Pirisi  
Sr. Rita Hanna  
Donna Noddin

**Religious Education Coordinator**

Donna Noddin (902) 455-1617  
Email: [donna.noddin@gmail.com](mailto:donna.noddin@gmail.com)

**Daily Mass Intentions**

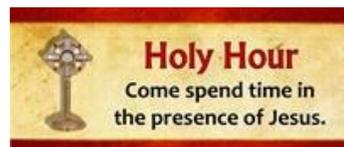
**St. Theresa's**

Tues. Dec. 10	9:00am	Gerry Upcott †
Wed. Dec. 11	9:00am	George and Bernice Doucette †
Thurs. Dec. 12	9:00am	All the Intentions in the Book
Fri. Dec. 13	9:00am	Duncan and Millie MacLellan †

**St. Catherine's**

Sat. Dec. 14 9:00am Special Intention

**Liturgy**



A **Holy Hour** is held each Thursday evening from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Church. During Advent, the hour will include some times of silence and times

of music led by the Franciscan Choir, under the direction of Sr. Ilaria. All are welcome.

**IT'S HAPPENING THIS AFTERNOON!!!!**

**ST. CATHERINE'S CHRISTMAS BINGO**

will be held this Sunday afternoon, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 pm (doors open after Mass). Each regular game is for a turkey with four specials being played for baskets filled with lots of Christmas goodies and a ham. The final game is for a turkey, ham, and the GRAND basket of Christmas goodies. Books (regular games) are \$5.00, and each special is \$1.00.

Fun for all ages. Everyone is welcome.

**THANK YOU** to members of the Community Life and Religious Education Committees for the wonderful gathering last Sunday. And, thank you, to all who attended after the 11:00 am and 7:00 pm Masses. In all, **49** wreaths were made!! The Advent Wreath is a wonderful way to bring a little reminder home of this special season of the Church. Let us pray that the Lord will help us prepare for His coming.



**MASS TIMES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON:**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
– REGULAR SUNDAY LITURGIES AT 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

**CHRISTMAS EVE MASS** – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> - 8:00 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS** – WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> - 11:00 AM  
(NO 7:00 PM EVENING MASS)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup> – FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY** - 11:00 AM  
(NO 7:00 PM EVENING MASS)

**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS** – WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> - 11:00 AM  
(NO 7:00 PM EVENING MASS)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> - FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**  
– REGULAR SUNDAY LITURGIES AT 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

**Weekday Mass Times**

Tuesday–Friday 9:00am at St. Theresa's  
Saturday 9:00am at St. Catherine's

**Weekend Mass Times**

Sunday 11:00 am  
7:00pm (Rosary at 6:25pm)

**Confessions at St. Catherine's**

Saturday following the 9:00am Mass

**Praying the Rosary** (in Spanish)

Monday evenings 7:00pm  
St. Catherine's Church

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Thursday Evenings 7:00–8:00 pm  
St. Catherine's Church  
Monday–Friday 9:30 am–4:30 pm  
St. Theresa's Chapel



**Greetings at Christmas** – The Liturgy Committee would like to send greetings to parishioners who now find themselves housebound or reside in a nursing home. If you have a family member or know of a parishioner in this situation, please give their name and address to the Parish Office.



**Christmas Flowers**

If you wish to make a donation, or a donation in memory of a loved one, it may be placed in a plain envelope marked “Christmas Flowers” and placed in the regular collection. Please include your envelope number or name and full mailing address. The names of our remembered loved ones will be listed in the Christmas bulletin.

The **2019 St. Joseph’s Sunday Missal** is available for purchase at the back table. The cost is \$3.00 each.

Advent Folders can be found on the table at the back of the Church.



Throughout the years, **St. Vincent’s Nursing Home** (Windsor Street) has been the home for some of our parishioners when the frailty of their life no longer allowed them to stay in their own home. As well, parishioners from our church family have been very faithful volunteering at the Nursing Home, especially through the Auxiliary that had been in place for many years.

Recently, the Chapel Committee at St. Vincent’s put out a plea for a used Sacramentary, the prayer book used by the Priest to celebrate Mass, as theirs was in disrepair.

Unfortunately, no one had a used book to share. With our history with St. Vincent’s, it was an easy decision!! On behalf of all of YOU, a new Sacramentary was purchased for the Chapel. They were very appreciative.

**Parish News**

**St. Vincent de Paul’s Christmas Project**

This week, “Turkey Tags” appear on the Christmas Angel Tree. Parishioners who would like to give a monetary donation toward the cost of a full turkey dinner can take a “Turkey Tag” from the tree and place their donation in the regular collection sometime during the Advent and Christmas season.



Our dinner boxes include a gift card for a turkey (or meat of choice), along with carrots, potatoes, onions, peas, cookies, stuffing, gravy, apples, margarine, bread, tea, cranberries and yes, even a box of chocolates.

Parishioners who have taken a gift box ornament from the tree are reminded that unwrapped gifts should be returned by next Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The mission of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is to help those in need within our community. If you are experiencing a particularly difficult financial strain this Christmas season, please call the St. Vincent de Paul phone line (902-455-6525) if you need assistance with Christmas Dinner.

Delivery day is Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, following our 11:00 am Mass. If you can lend a hand, it would be appreciated!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul invites parishioners to participate in their annual project. The Christmas Project is not intended to be a burden on anyone. You are simply invited to do what you can if the spirit so moves you! From all who carry out this work, and from the families who will receive it, many thanks!

**Religious Education**



Our **LAST “Gathering”** before Christmas will take place next Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, from 10:15 - 10:45 am for students from grade primary to nine.

**St. Francis and St. Clare Parish**



**2020 Calendars** of the soon-to-be established Parish of the St. Frances and St. Clare of Assisi are now available for the cost of \$10. This has been a

combined effort of the four communities with the calendar containing pictures of the four churches. A big thank you to the students of NSCC who designed and copied the calendars as part of their class project, and to Adora Fernando, a student at Citadel High and a parishioner of St. Theresa’s, who came to the four churches and took the beautiful photographs.

**Diocesan News**

December 12<sup>th</sup>: National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples - On the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12<sup>th</sup>, we recognize a National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. Canadian Catholics are invited to take time that day to prayer in unity with our indigenous communities and the challenges they face. In October, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) released a document highlighting this day and the importance of prayer for and preservation of indigenous languages – visit: [www.cccb.ca](http://www.cccb.ca). Let us pray for the healing and reconciliation needed as we strive to strengthen the relationship between our indigenous communities and the Catholic Church.