



Administrator: Fr. Francesco Pirisi

Office Administrator:

Pat Belgrave (902) 454-8221
(Monday morning, Tuesday–Thursday)

On-site Office Hours:

Wednesdays 9:00am-5:00pm

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

*The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2018*

St. Catherine's Parish Address
6476 Bayers Rd.

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

email: office@saintcatherineofsiena.ca
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

Daily Mass Intentions

St. Theresa's

Tues. Jan 9 9:00am Geraldine Brine †
Wed. Jan 10 9:00am The Sampson Family †
Thurs. Jan 11 9:00am All the intentions in the book
Fri. Jan 12 9:00am Giuseppe DiBacco †

St. Catherine's

Sat. Jan 13 9:00am Marg and Joseph Innocente †

Liturgy



Additional donations for **Christmas Flowers** have been received in memory of:

Margaret and Cornelius Power and Family
The MacDougall Family
Albert Romard
Nora Kempt
Adam Power

The Christmas Season concludes tomorrow



With the timing of the celebrations of Christmas and New Year's this year, we will miss celebrating the **Baptism of the Lord** during a regular Sunday liturgy. When the celebration of the Epiphany is celebrated on either January 7th or 8th, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is transferred to the next day. **It will be celebrated tomorrow (January 8th) at 9:00 am Mass at St. Theresa's.**

The celebration of the Baptism of Our Lord brings to an end the season of Christmas. In this short span of time, we have gone from Jesus being born as an infant in the manger, to him being baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan at the age of 30!

The baptism of Jesus is, on his part, the acceptance and beginning of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners and out of love for us, he consents to his future baptism of death for the forgiveness of our sins. The Father's voice responds to the Son's acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to "rest on him". At his baptism "the heavens were opened" - the heavens that Adam's sin had closed.

Jesus Christ had no need of the Sacrament of Baptism, as we do, for He was without sin. However, in submitting Himself humbly to the baptism of John the Baptist, Christ provided the example for the rest of us. If even He should be baptized, though He had no need of it, how much more should the rest of us be thankful for this sacrament, which frees us from the darkness of sin and allows us to enter into the life of the Church, the life of Christ on earth! His Baptism, therefore, was necessary--not for Him, but for us.

Ending Christmas with the Baptism of the Lord makes theological sense even though the two events (Jesus' birth and baptism) are separated by roughly 30 years. In a certain way, both events are about beginnings. At Christmas, we meet Jesus for the first time as a baby, the start of the hidden life of Christ. At His baptism, we meet Jesus for the first time as an adult, the start of the public ministry of Christ.



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 and
7:00 pm (Rosary at 6:30 pm)

Confessions at St. Catherine's:

Saturday following the 9:00am Mass

Lectio Divina: Will RESUME January 18, 2018
7:00pm in the Rectory Chapel

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday–Friday 9:30 am–4:30 pm
in St. Theresa's Chapel

Religious Education



Next Sunday, January 14th, a **Children's Liturgy** will be celebrated during the 11:00 am Mass.

Diocesan News



Start your year off with a visit from Saint Francis Xavier!

The Diocese encourages all to take part in this unique opportunity to encounter Christ through one of the most famous missionaries of all time. The relics of Saint Francis will make

a fourteen city, cross Canada tour from January 3rd to February 3rd. The project is a collaboration of the Archdiocese of Ottawa, the Jesuits of Canada, and Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO). For more information about the tour see: cco.ca/relic

Meetings

St. Catherine's Pastoral Council will meet on Tuesday, January 16th, at 6:45 pm in the Church Hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

The next **C.W.L.** meeting will be Tuesday the 9th of January at 1:00 PM in the Siena Room.



A New Year Can Begin Any Time

One November, a man ordered a new automobile, which did not arrive until the new year. As he cleaned out the old car, he muttered, "How did we accumulate so much junk?" He sorted through old maps, dried-up ballpoint pens, outdated addresses and loose coins.

He made unwavering resolutions about keeping his new car clean, orderly and functioning properly. Thinking about resolutions, he sensed a connection between a new car and a new year. The first order of business is to clear out the clutter, discard the useless, remove the dust and dirt. Begin fresh!

A new year can begin anytime in our lives. We can sort through old attitudes, clean our minds of envy, toss out the habits of gossip and carrying grudges. We can resolve to keep our promises and curb our anger.



As he stood back and surveyed the fresh, shiny car. Yes, a new year could begin anytime or any place. A lot of things from the past need discarding. Things we collect that are of no more value or usefulness need to be trashed. Paul wrote, "put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator." (Col. 3:10).

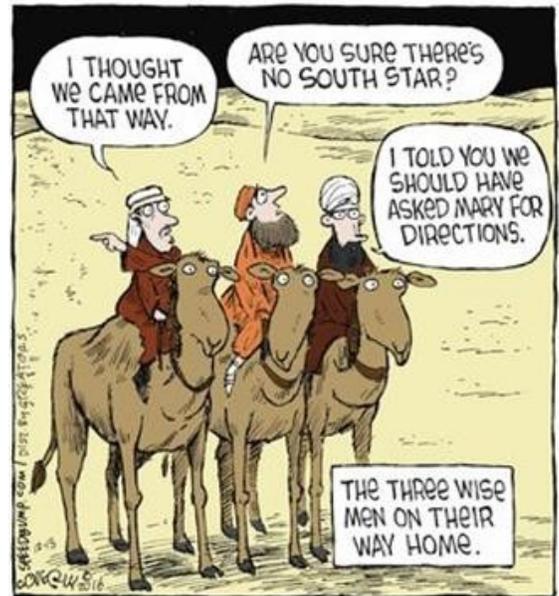
Franciscans of Halifax Contact Information

www.franciscansofhalifax.com

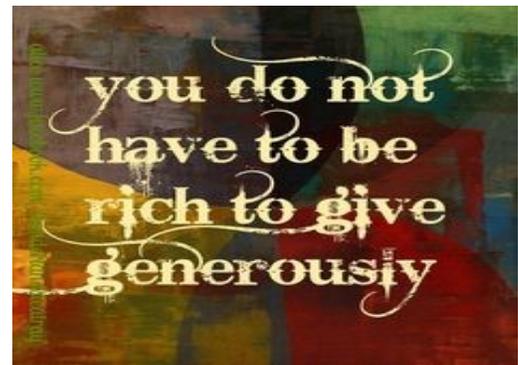
Moderator: fatherfrancesco@gmail.com

It is amazing how a brand new car changes your life. None of the old squeaks, rattles and knocks. Cruising down the road in a brand new auto is a delight. So is the journey ahead, if we can truly forget things in the past and press on to greater things.

A Joyful Heart is Good Medicine!



Stewardship—A Way of Life



2018 SUNDAY ENVELOPES - Parishioners are reminded to pick up their box of Sunday envelopes that may be found at the entrance to the Church. If you do not have Sunday envelopes and would like to begin, please fill out a registration card found at the entrance of the church and submit it in the collection basket. Using envelopes enable you to receive a tax receipt for your donations. **Please note that your envelope number may have changed from last year.**

Pre-Authorized Debit Giving Option (PAD) at St. Catherine's:

If you have automatic debits taken from your bank account to pay your bills, then you already understand the PAD concept. Did you know that you can give to the church in the same way? Using the PAD program for your offering allows you to give intentionally, proportionally and faithfully to the church, even when you are not able to be there in person. The PAD system replaces the need to write cheques or have cash on hand. You can still participate in the Sunday offertory by placing your numbered envelope in the regular collection basket and checking the PAD option which is pre-printed on each envelope. It's easy to get started. Forms and further information can be found at the back of the Church.