



# St. Mary Magdalene Parish

St. Columba † # Fredericton Junction      Sts. John & Paul † # New Maryland      St. Dunstan's † # Fredericton

Father Suresh Savariraj, HGN

Father Peter Osborne

Phone 506-444-6001      Email: [office@stmarymagdaleneparish.ca](mailto:office@stmarymagdaleneparish.ca)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarymagdaleneparishfredericton/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stmarymagdaleneparishfreddy/>

Livestream link for Mass: <https://www.stmarymagdaleneparish.ca>

Diocesan Newsletter: <https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/email-newsletter-sign-up>.

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:30am-5:30pm (Closed for lunch 12-1pm)

Weekends: Saturday 2 pm – 6 pm / Sunday 8 am – 1 pm

Address: 120 Regent Street, Fredericton NB E3B 4Y9

Faith Formation: Contact Patty Cameron 506-444-6018 or

email [Faithformation@stmarymagdaleneparish.ca](mailto:Faithformation@stmarymagdaleneparish.ca)

**August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation:</i>	<i>Saturdays @ 2:30-3:30 pm, St. Dunstan's. (For appt. call the office)</i>
<i>Rosary and Divine Mercy:</i>	<i>Tuesdays @ 2 pm, St Dunstan's</i>
<i>Rosary before Mass:</i>	<i>Sundays @ 10:15am – 10:30am, Sts. John and Paul</i>
<i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:</i>	<i>Thursdays @ 1-5 pm, Sts. John and Paul</i>
	<i>Wednesdays @ 6 pm (before Mass), St. Dunstan's</i>
<i>FIRST Friday</i>	<i>Mass @ 6:30 pm, Adoration 7pm, Confessions 7:15pm</i>
<i>FIRST Saturday</i>	<i>Mass @ 9am, St. Dunstan's, Rosary 9:30am, Confessions 2:30pm</i>
	<i>Preparation for RCIA, Sacrament of Marriage and Baptism, please call the office at (506) 444-6001.</i>

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## Land Acknowledgement for St. Mary Magdalene Parish

This is to acknowledge that the land on which we gather to pray is the traditional territory of the Wolastoqiyik whose ancestors along with the Mi'kmaq and Passamaquoddy Tribes / Nations signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the British Crown in the 1700s.

**We welcome to the Catholic Community:**

**Neo Anthony L. Sales, baptized August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**There will be no masses from August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 due to vacation.**

The name of the sick person you wish to be added to the Prayers of the Faithful list should be called in at the office. The name will be added to the list for a period of four (4) Sundays. If you wish to have the name remain on the list, you will have to call the office on the fourth week otherwise the name will be removed.

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

**St. Columba Church**

Sun, August 25 9:00 AM Cynthia Mccarron  
 Sun, Sept 1 9:00 AM Fred McCarthy

**Sts. John & Paul Church**

Sun, August 25 11:00 AM Noreen Harrison  
 Mon, August 26 9:00 AM The Doucet & Dugas  
 Family  
 Sun, Sept 1 11:00 AM Julienne Séguin

**St. Dunstan’s Church**

Sat, August 24 4:00 PM Camille Theriault  
 Sun, August 25 9:00 AM Josie Mazucca  
 11:30 AM Katheleen Hogan  
 Wed, August 28 6:30 PM No Mass  
 Thu, August 29 12:05PM No Mass  
 Fri, August 30 6:30 PM No Mass  
 Sat, August 31 4:00 PM Lucia Contreras Castro  
 Sun, Sept 1 9:00 AM Joseph Ing  
 11:30 AM Clayton Claric Flores

**Readings for September 1<sup>st</sup>**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 6-8  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: James 1.17-18, 21-22, 27  
 Gospel: Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**All those who would like to prepare for funeral receptions, please call the office and leave your contact details.**

**To Parents in Our Parish:**

A few parishioners have expressed an interest in having a Catholic school within the Monsignor Boyd Family Centre, rather than having their child(ren) educated in the public school system. The Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council have considered that a private school might be permitted to operate in the basement of the MBFC, if sufficient interest and capability exists. But please note that the school would not be supported by St. Mary Magdalene Parish and thus, undoubtedly, would require financial support from parents. If you as a parent are interested, please respond to Rodney Savidge (a member of the Pastoral Council) by emailing ‘savi@unb.ca’. If sufficient interest exists, a meeting of all respondents will be called.

**Prayer line Ministry**

The Prayer’s Line is a Ministry involving members available to pray for all parishioners. Anyone can request a special intention to be prayed over. Whether it is for a job interview, school exams, medical tests/surgeries, for a sick person, accident etc. We will pray over these special intentions for a period of one week. You don’t need to leave your name, simply the intention. All you have to do is call the office.

**Twilight Retreat**

Everyone is welcome to attend the Twilight Retreat, hosted by St. Theresa’s CWL, on Monday, September 9th, in the church hall. First session begins at 4:30 pm, followed by a pot luck, second session and closing prayer at 8 pm. Presenter, Jim Anderson, is the Director of Missionary Discipleship Formation for the Diocese of Saint John. Topic: “The Saints Next Door: Being Extraordinary Ordinary People of Faith”.

**Men’s Night**

On Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, ten men gathered at Saint Dunstan’s Monsignor Boyd Family Centre for an evening of fellowship and prayer. We invite all men to join us for our next gathering on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Come be a part of this meaningful experience.



***Rest in Peace to  
 Melba Crawford, Sylvia Herron,  
 Anne MacDougal and Mary McIllwraith.  
 May their souls through the Mercy of God  
 Rest in Peace. May God console the family  
 and friends.***

**Funeral details of the following:**

**Sylvia Herron** - Funeral Mass will be this Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm, followed by Reception.

**Anne MacDougal** - Further details to come.

## Faith Formation Online Registration

Join us for Family Faith Formation (Catechism – Sunday School) as we explore and learn about the Mass together!

All families with children ages 5 to 12 (kindergarten to grade 7) are encouraged to participate in Family Faith Formation. Learn and share faith as a family at monthly sessions that are family-focused, inviting, and accessible. Children in grade 2 will receive preparation to receive 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist in the spring of 2025.

To register please visit

<https://www.stmarymagdalene-parish.ca/faith-formation-1>

Families attending St. Columba Church are invited to contact Patty Cameron for Family Faith Formation and 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist Preparation options.

### Confirmation Preparation

Youth in grade 8 and up, if not already Confirmed, are invited to begin Confirmation Preparation beginning this fall with the Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated the spring of 2026.

To register please visit:

<https://www.stmarymagdalene-parish.ca/faith-formation-1>

If you have any questions, please contact Patty Cameron at (506) 444-6018 or

[faithformation@stmarymagdalene-parish.ca](mailto:faithformation@stmarymagdalene-parish.ca)

### World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Please see the Message from His Holiness Pope Francis for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, which will be celebrated on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. The theme, *Hope and Act with Creation*, is inspired by the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans (Rom 8:19-25).

In preparation for the special day, the Dicastery has published a video and resources (Pope Francis' Message, an infographic, several press releases from the presentation, and a pastoral kit), which can be consulted and downloaded from its website at the following link:

In English:

<https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/2024/mes-saggio-papa-francesco-giornata-mondiale-di-preghiera-per-creato.html>

### Offertories Received

#### Week Ending Aug 18

Please call the Parish Office at 444-6001 if you have any questions

	<u>St C</u>	<u>Sts J&amp;P</u>	<u>St D</u>	<u>Total</u>
Regular offertories	\$490	\$1,509	\$7,256	\$9,255
Building fund	\$0	\$50	\$166	\$216

**Next Special Collection is Sep 1 for: Building Fund**

### New Kitchen Policy

St. Mary Magdalene Parish has implemented a new kitchen policy, effective immediately, that requires anyone planning to use kitchen facilities at any of our three church sites to complete a Kitchen Policy Form in advance of using the site.

The form may be obtained by contacting the office at 506-444-6001.

### Diocesan News

#### - Visioning Youth Ministry in our Parishes

A day of prayer, discernment, and discussion about Youth Ministry – Tuesday, August 27, 9:30-4:30, Villa Madonna. Do you feel a burden of spiritual concern for high school aged youth in your parish? Do you feel a nudge from the Holy Spirit to help address the needs for evangelizing young people? Patricia Lee and Jim Anderson will be facilitating a day of reflection and discernment for anyone interested in discussing the needs and initiatives for the evangelization of young people in our parishes. This is for current and new people drawn to building youth groups in your parish. The gathering will be held at the Villa Madonna Retreat House in Rothesay, Tuesday, August 27, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Snacks and lunch will be provided.

#### - Spark your Communication

You'll discover new ways to love, listen, and share with each other on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. A weekend is scheduled for September 27, 28 and 29<sup>th</sup> 2024 at Villa Madonna in Rothesay, NB. Call Ron and Joanne Arsenault at (506) 451-8489 for more information, to apply prior to August 31 or email us at: [ron.joanne.arsenault@wwme.org](mailto:ron.joanne.arsenault@wwme.org)



## An Overview of the RCIA

### The Historical Development

The decision to become a member of the early Christian community bore serious ramifications. Becoming Christian meant a break with one's background and often required fracturing relationships with the non-Christian members of one's family. In many cases, this decision meant a willingness to suffer persecution or even death, as seen in the example of the martyrs Perpetua and Felicity. Perpetua, a noblewoman of Carthage and mother of an infant son, and Felicity, a pregnant slave woman, both refused to denounce Christianity and were subsequently martyred during the public games in the amphitheater around AD 200.

Just as the decision to become a Christian was not made lightly, the formation process wasn't quick or easy. Catechumens—those in the process of preparing for baptism—were invited into a step-by-step journey of three or more years with the community before achieving full membership. During this process, they were expected not only to begin to accept Christian beliefs but also to begin to live the Christian life. The community shared their faith with the catechumens and celebrated each step along with them.

One period of this preparation has remained throughout the centuries: the season of Lent. Originally this time was one of immediate preparation for baptism, which was celebrated at the Easter Vigil. During Lent, the entire Christian community, especially the catechumens, devoted themselves to prayer, fasting, and self-scrutiny. For those already baptized, it was a time to remember and renew their original commitment.

During the solemn Easter Vigil, the catechumens—now called the elect—received the sacraments of initiation (baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist) and were welcomed into the community. As a rule, this initiation was celebrated at the Easter Vigil only. Formation of the newly baptized did not end with the rites of Holy Saturday night, however, but continued with further instruction and daily living out of Christian values.

This process began to change in the fourth century, when periodic persecution of Christians was replaced by tolerance. Because of the favor many emperors showed toward it, Christianity became fashionable, and many people began entering the catechumenate

for social and political reasons. As a result, the pattern and standards for formation gradually transitioned to the point where, by the fifth century, the rites of initiation were separated into the three sacraments we know and celebrate today. Infant baptism became the norm, and the catechumenate vanished.

The Church published the first *Roman Catechism* in 1566, following the Council of Trent. This book of teachings was presented in question-and-answer form and was used for instruction of the faithful. Such catechisms later became the foundation for what came to be called "convert classes." Using a teacher-student model, the priest would meet with interested parties and assist them in memorizing certain prayers and learning the material in the catechism. The duration of the process, the material to be covered, and the format were left to the priest or parish custom, with few outside directives given.

Successful completion of these classes meant either baptism or formal reception into the Catholic Church. This event was usually celebrated in a private ceremony, with only close family in attendance. Those received into the Church would be confirmed by the bishop at the cathedral or would receive the sacrament in their local parish whenever the bishop came to confirm the schoolchildren. Follow-up for the new Catholics, if any, might consist of being sent to a formal course in liturgy, Scripture, dogma, or morality.

Following World War II, a call for a change in the formation of new Catholics came from the Church in Africa. They began to use the ancient form of the catechumenate to provide stability in formation and a period of time for faith to mature. The Second Vatican Council in the 1960s called for a thorough revision of all the rites (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [*Sacrosanctum Concilium*], 4), and a committee was formed that engaged in a formal study and revision of the methods leading to baptism or reception into the Catholic Church. This study resulted in the promulgation of the *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* (RCIA) in 1972.

Thus the catechumenate was restored: a process of formation, sanctified by various liturgical rites that mark progress in the journey of faith and culminate in full membership in the Catholic Christian community. An integral part of the revision is that the whole process and its rites are to be celebrated with and in the context of the local parish community and diocese.

**If you are interested in being initiated into the Roman Catholic Church, please consider attending Mass with us and contacting us at 506-444-6001 to enquire about the RCIA program.**