

Fifty years of abortion: Choice or coercion? - by LifeCanada

Ninety-two (92%) percent of Canadians want to see more help for pregnant women who feel pressured to abort, according to a new poll from Public Square Research. In addition, 80% say they would like doctors to verify, in person, that a woman seeking an abortion is not under pressure to abort.

The poll was conducted in the last week of April 2019 and released this week by [LifeCanada](#), an educational pro-life group, following the anniversary of the 1969 omnibus bill that legalized abortion, 50 years ago.

A study published in 2018 in the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons found that nearly three-quarters (73.8%) of the post-abortive women surveyed admitted that they were pressured to terminate their pregnancies. Over 50% said the pressure was great enough to significantly influence their decision.

Abortion is celebrated as giving reproductive choice' to women, but the unspoken truth is that **many women are pressured to abort by significant people in their lives.**

"This is a serious issue that receives little or no media attention, because it flies in the face of the rhetoric of choice," says Natalie Sonnen, executive director of [LifeCanada](#). "A woman who feels pressured at an extremely challenging time cannot be said to have made a free choice. This is a serious issue and Canadians overwhelmingly support women who want their babies."

Those who work in pregnancy support services agree. Samantha Williams, executive director of ALIES, a pregnancy support centre, knows first-hand how women are pressured. **"The women who come here have usually never thought of the options of parenting or making an adoption plan as realistic.** No one in their immediate circle supports any other options than abortion. How is this "choice'?"

The poll also found that most Canadians do not support Canada's current abortion policy which places no legal restrictions on abortion. Only 2% of Canadians support gender selection abortions, which usually target girls. This is consistent with previous polling data.

Only 8% of Canadians support late abortions after 6 months of pregnancy, also consistent with previous polling, and **only 16%** (fewer than 2 in 10 Canadians) **said all abortions are acceptable**, no matter what the reason, which is the current policy in Canada.

The data show that there is almost no statistically significant difference between men and women's views on these questions.

The poll was conducted by Public Square Research, using on-line sources from the Maru Voice Panel. There were 1515 respondents. [LifeCanada](#) was established in 2000 to operate as a national association of local and provincial educational pro-life groups across Canada in order to promote the value of human life, to serve our members, and to advocate for the most vulnerable members of society.

For media comment please contact: Natalie Sonnen, Phone: 604-442-4867, E-mail: [director@lifecanada.org](mailto:director@lifecanada.org), Website: [lifecollective.io/lifecanada](http://lifecollective.io/lifecanada)  
Circulated by Peter Ryan <[pgryan.nbrl@gmail.com](mailto:pgryan.nbrl@gmail.com)>

**BELONG - Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference: Steubenville Youth Conferences** bringing 50,000 teens (14-18) & their leaders closer to Christ every summer in Halifax, is presented in partnership with the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth & the Franciscan University of Steubenville on 5-7 July 2019. Cost: \$325. Contact Mary Alice Glasgow 653-6829, [sjreled@dioceseofsaintjohn.org](mailto:sjreled@dioceseofsaintjohn.org); [halifaxyarmouth.org/pastoral-services/steubenville-atlantic](http://halifaxyarmouth.org/pastoral-services/steubenville-atlantic)

# 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

26 May 2019

Jesus said to his disciples:

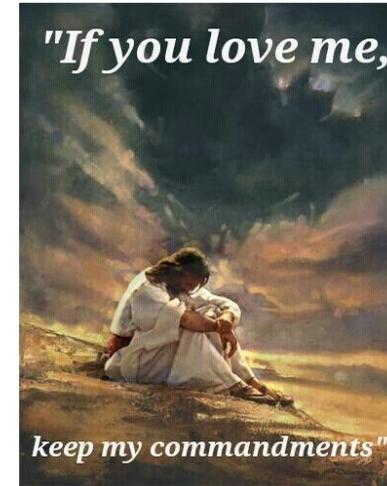
"Whoever loves me will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we will come to him and make  
our dwelling with him.

Whoever does not love me does not  
keep my words;  
yet the word you hear is not mine  
but that of the Father who sent me."

...

The **Advocate**, the **Holy Spirit**,  
whom the Father will send in my  
name,  
will teach you everything  
and remind you of all that I told you.

(John 14:23-24,26)



Church of St. Andrew - Parish of St. Croix

Pastor: **Fr. Suresh Savariraj**, HGN (Heralds of Good News)

e-mail [sureshsavariraj82@gmail.com](mailto:sureshsavariraj82@gmail.com)

St. Stephen office - (506) 466-6043 - hours: Mon, Wed & Fri (8 am - 12:30 pm), Thu (8 am - 2 pm)

212 Parr Street, St. Andrews, NB - E5B 1M3

Parish Center (Church Basement) 466-6043

Bulletin Entries: Don Menton by Thu pm 529-4778 ([donmenton@hotmail.com](mailto:donmenton@hotmail.com)) (entries may be edited)

## Liturgical Ministers

	26	May	2
Greeters	Ainslie Bradford		Bud Clarke
Servers	Jeannie Matheson Margaret Obermeier		Geordie Doon Liam Bradford
Lectors	Jane Lauzier Sandra Bryant		Don Menton Eva Frost
Gifts	Kay Mennie & Hans Obermeier		Menton family
Eucharistic Ministers	Dale & Dixie Lively Don Menton	Aline Saulnier, Alice Fulton, Rosemary Spires	
Collection	John Akagi & Bill Mallory		Dale Lively & Bill Eagan
Coordinator	Carol Jones		Louise M <sup>ac</sup> Farlane

May	Mass Intentions	Collection	St. Croix Parish	
		May 18 - 19	St. Andrews	St. Stephen
Sun 26	11:30 am Joanne Fulton	Envelopes	600.00	647.00
Mon 27		Loose	137.32	70.20
Tue 28	12 noon No Mass in Saint Andrews	Fuel		360.00
Wed 29		Papal Charities		5.00
Thu 30		Hall		
Fri 31		Building		
Sat 1		PAD	331.00	826.00
Sun 2	11:30 am All Parishioners Living & Deceased	Total	1,068.32	1,908.20

Please pray for our sick & all in need. Also remember our recently deceased, together with our elderly unable to join us at Mass, together with our parish & its people. Thank you!

## Calendar of Events

### Parish of Saint Croix

**Can we pray for YOU?** Everyone is invited to drop off prayer requests at the prayer station at the back. Our team would love to pray for your intention.

**Confessions** are 20 minutes before all Masses & available on request.

**New Freeman** weekly Saint John diocesan newspaper: FREE at the church entrance.

**ALANON** meets every Tuesday @ 6:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's Church, 407 Milltown Blvd. Please use back, side entrance of building next to church.

**St. Patrick's Hall Bingo** on Sunday nights - doors open at 5 pm, games start at 6:45

May **Birthdays:** Ainslie Bradford, Ray Brennan, Aidan Embeault-Brooking, Clayton Dickson, Gaven & Trystan England, John Findlay, Greg Goff, Zachary & David Groom, Ed Hurley, Bruce & Leona Monaghan, Dave Ridgway, Clair McDonald-Tidd  
**Wedding Anniversaries:** Bob & Kelly Lord.

### Community of Saint Andrew

**Sunday Youth Ministry:** summer holidays start next Sun 02 Jun until the autumn. Thanks to Aline Saulnier for caring for this ministry and reaching out into the spiritual life of our youth.

**St. Croix Catholic Parish CWL \$300 Bursary** for a graduating Catholic high school student - applications submitted to: Mrs. Darlene Aker, 146 Pleasant Street, St. Stephen, N.B. E3L 1B3 (466-4598) **no later** than **June 11**. Forms available at the Church entrance or Parish Office.

Mon 6 May Father Suresh Savariraj departing for **vacation** to India & will return 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Please pray for his safe journey.

Sat 1 Jun **Mountview Singers** spring concert in All Saints Church @ 4 pm.

Sat 8 Jun 9-12 am **Mini-Seminar:** Theme from the Lord's Prayer "**Your Will be Done**". Church of St. Andrew parish hall.

### Diocese of Saint John

Sun 26 May "**Hear Our Voice**" Fundraiser in support of Sophia Recovery Centre, a free, non-profit, registered charity that has been providing hope and healing since 2008 to women in Saint John areas who struggle with addictions. Tickets \$20, see <https://hearourvoice2019.eventbrite.ca> or call 633-8783.

Mon 27 May 6:30 pm **Those Living with Cancer** monthly Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with an anointing of the sick.

Mon 10 Jun - Fri 14 Jun **AASEA: Atlantic Association of the Spiritual Exercises Apostolate:** at Villa Madonna, silent directed Ignatian retreats for groups of 20 - 30 with most of the day in silence & periods of guided input, simply listening to God; the only conversation in scheduled meetings with a spiritual director to listen to the Spirit of God leading in prayer & life. See [www.villamadonna.ca](http://www.villamadonna.ca)

Thu 13 Jun King Square (StJ) **Rosary Rally in Commemoration of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima & Miracle of the Sun:** monthly meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of each month from May → Oct 2019 for a Rosary Rally and a special Prayer Program. Bring a chair or blanket, and if possible a refreshment to share. A time of fellowship will follow. Each Rosary Rally lasts for about one hour.

Mon-Sun 8-14 Jul Villa Madonna **Exploring the Inner Landscape of Love:** Six (6) Day Retreat with Facilitator Sr. Joan Atkinson using a contemplative approach, explore how God is active in your life today. Learn from the past & be drawn forward. This retreat includes two input sessions daily, time for personal reflection, prayer & time for personal direction. Contact Doreen or Sandy at 506-849-5125.



**"Precious Feet"** lapel pin is available at the foot of the statue of our Lady of Guadalupe, a symbol of Pro-Life for all people, from the moment of conception. The pin is the exact size & shape of a baby's feet 10 weeks after conception, inspired by this picture in a full page ad of the San Diego, California newspaper (22 Jan 1974), Virginia & Ellis Evers created the "Precious Feet" lapel pin.