

St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society
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Annual General meeting of Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society will take place Sunday, March 26, at 2pm in the Church Hall.

The 10th Annual Restoration Society Dinner will take place Thursday, May 25 at the World Trade and Convention Centre 6:00pm for 7:00 pm.

TODAY—March 5th there will be an Archdiocesan collection to support the pastoral priority of Formation. Money raised will go towards Adult Faith Formation, Catechetical Formation, Staff Development, and Pastoral Personnel (Priest, Deacons and Lay Leaders). For more information, visit www.halifaxarmouth.org. Please give as you are able and thank you for your continued generosity.

TODAY Chase the Ace TODAY
License No. AGD—107126-16

Feb. 26th winner was Noreen Meade \$203.00. The card drawn was the 2 of Spades.
The next Jackpot will be \$4067. plus 30% of that day sales. The owner of the winning ticket will get 20% of the days sales plus the chance to pick the card for the jackpot.
Tickets 1 for \$5; 3 for \$10; 7 for \$20. The Sunday ticket sale times are 11:00am to 1:00pm with the ticket draw at 1:15pm.
You do not have to be present for the draw to still win. However only the winner can pick up the prize.
Next Sunday March 12 at Chase the Ace there will be some "Irish" souvenirs for sale, maybe even something to wear or carry in the parade later that day. For those staying downtown to go to the parade, you can still win the Chase the Ace we will draw the card for you and let you know what you have one.

March 12, 2017—2st Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Genesis 12.1-4
2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1.8b-10
Gospel: Matthew 17.1-9

Meals for Hope Cottage

Group 3 - Mike Convey	Mar. 24
Group 1 - Diane Sullivan	Apr. 25
Group 2 - Pam Gasparetto	May 19

Saint Catherine of Siena Halifax A Chowder Luncheon (Fish & Corn) will be held each Friday during Lent (except Good Friday) following the 12:00 noon Mass. Price of \$8 includes homemade tea biscuits and dessert. Everyone is welcome.

The Friends-of-L'Arche Halifax group will meet for their monthly gathering on Sunday, March 12th from 1:30 to 3:30 in St. Agnes Hall, Mumford Road, Halifax. All are welcome, especially those with intellectual disabilities, their families and friends, to come for prayer, song, fun and fellowship. Contact Kelly at 902-407-5512 if you have any questions.

1st Sunday of Lent March 5, 2017



ST. PATRICK'S Church

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“Jesus fasted and was tempted by the devil”

After Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist at the River Jordan, he withdrew into the wilderness of Judea - a vast and mostly uninhabitable wilderness full of danger. Why did Jesus choose such a barren, lonely place for an intense and long period of sustained prayer and fasting? Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell us in their Gospel accounts that Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness. Mark states it most emphatically: "The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness" (Mark 1:12).

On many occasions throughout history God tested the people of Israel to prove their faith. Abraham, Moses, and Elijah were all put to the test and God sustained them. Jesus was no exception to this pattern of testing and preparation with prayer and fasting. He was led into the wilderness for 40 days without food or shelter to seek the face of his heavenly Father. Jesus refuses food to show his dependence on the bread of heaven, the word of God; that it would sustain him not only in his physical hunger, but in his hour of temptation as well. When Satan tempts Jesus to turn stones into bread, Jesus replies with the words of Scripture, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" Where did Jesus find the strength to survive the desert's harsh conditions and Satan's temptation? He fed on God's word and found strength in doing his Father's will.

Satan will surely tempt us and he will try his best to get us to choose our will over God's will. So as we journey for the 40 days of Lent let us be mindful of God's great love for us, and know that Jesus is ever ready to pour out his Spirit upon us that we may have the strength and courage we need to embrace God's will in all things, and to renounce whatever is contrary to it.

God Bless.
Deacon Art



Parish Financial Information

Feb. 5, 2017	Feb. 12, 2017	Feb. 19, 2017	Feb. 26, 2017
Sun. Env. 52 \$1,366.00	Sun. Env. 44 \$1,137.00	Sun. Env. 44 \$1,209.30	Sun. Env. 47 \$1,145.00
Loose \$ 245.90	Loose \$ 207.75	Loose \$ 147.30	Loose \$ 260.25
PAR 23 \$ 375.38	PAR 23 \$ 375.38	PAR 23 \$ 375.38	PAR 25 \$ 464.17
Total \$1,987.28	Total \$1,720.13	Total \$1,731.98	Total \$1,869.42

Average Weekly PAR contribution \$18.56.
Average Sunday Envelope contribution \$24.36.

Key Teachings of the Church - Salvation
 Salvation is the deliverance of humanity from the power of sin and earth by God through Jesus Christ, who died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures.

Catechism or Confirmation classes continue this weekend.

Parish Draw—Sunday, March 19, 2017
NOON, as part of the St. Patrick's Day celebrations. 1st Prize—Hamper of Groceries value \$150.
2nd Prize—Cash of \$50.00
3rd Prize—\$25 Sobey's voucher
Tickets are \$1.00. each, 3 for \$2.00; 7 for \$5.00
Available on Sunday's March 5/12/19 at the back of the Church.

Our Celebrant for this week will be Father Francisco Pirisi.

Parish Administration


Deacon Art Mitchell,
Parochial Administrator
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David O'Connor, Assistant for Financial Affairs
Sr. Bernadette Cool, FoH.
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Stations of the Cross - The Way of the Cross is a devotion that is practiced most commonly during Lent. The devotion consists of meditating on 14 events which form the 14 Stations of the Cross. The purpose of this devotion is to focus on the Passion of Jesus Christ. Saint Patrick's Parish has beautiful Stations of the Cross. They were designed by Mayer & Co. of Munich and New York (the same company that designed our beautiful stained glass windows) and installed in the church sometime around 1910. During Lent, you are invited to take time either before or after Mass to silently meditate on each of the stations as a part of your Lenten practice.

A very huge **"Thank You"** to all who contributed in any way to the Pancake Breakfast this past weekend. Your help and assistance is truly appreciated!! When many hands come together it makes light work and becomes more enjoyable.
Thanks again!! "The Pancake People"

After Mass TODAY Sunday March 5th

To celebrate our friend the late Dr. Mary Schaefer and her gifts to the parish there will be a display of photographs and a showing of a short film 'Women in Pastoral Office: The story of Santa Prassede, Rome.' After the film a light lunch will be served. A few copies of Mary's book on the subject will be available to purchase for \$60.00. A few religious items, rosaries, crosses and other books on women and religion will also be for sale. Proceeds to the Tower Fund as was Mary's wish.



2017 Lenten Video Series: We will present the Archdiocesan four part Lenten video series entitled *Equip the Saints* during Lent help us prepare for Easter and to continue in our parish pastoral planning process. This year's series will focus on **formation**, one of our three pastoral themes. The first three video presentations will take place during Lent after Mass on Sunday's, 11:15 am in the parish boardroom. The dates are: Mar. 12th, 26th and Apr. 2nd. We will skip Mar. 19th so that all can enjoy our St. Patrick's Day luncheon & festivities. The fourth video will be presented on Sunday, Apr. 23rd. Please consider joining us for these presentations on **formation** as a part of your Lenten preparation for Easter. For more info. please see Michele O'Neill.

Celebrating Irish Week
March 10 —March 19

Flag Raising Ceremony
Friday, March 10, 2017; 12 NOON
 Join the Grand Marshal, Mayor Mike Savage at the Irish flag raising Celebration of Saint Patrick's Day. Grand Parade Square, Halifax.

10th Annual Halifax Saint Patrick's Day Parade
Presented by the Charitable Irish Society Sunday, March 12th. Parade starts at Pier 20, travels down Lower Water Street ending at Historic Properties. Parade marshaling 12:30, Terminal Road at Pier 20. Parade starts at 1 pm Parade ends 1:30 (approx.) at Historic Properties
(Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank will be collecting donations of cash and non-perishable food items along the Parade route)

Sunday, March 12— 2pm St. Patrick's Church
Halifax Concert Band presents a Concert of Celtic Music with Sing-a-long of Traditional Irish Songs.
 Cost: **"Good will offering"**

Friday, March 17—12 Noon St. Patrick's Church
Liturgy of the Word and Eucharist. Tours of the church will be available.

Sunday, March 19—St. Patrick's Day Luncheon
Annual St. Patrick's Day luncheon of Irish stew, Irish soda bread, dessert, tea and coffee will be held on Sunday, March 19 following Mass from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 each (or \$25 for a family - 2 adults and their children) and will be available after **Mass today, and the next 2 Sundays.**

Looking for Assistance

There will be a short meeting immediately following Mass today to **plan the St. Patrick's Day luncheon.** We are looking for servers, bakers, cooks and clean up help. We will meet in the Sacristy behind the choir.

All committees and groups are reminded that bulletin notices must be received electronically to the office the Wednesday before you want your item placed in the bulletin. For more information contact the office. Thank you

Parish Lay Ministry Workshop -
Saturday, April 29th, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm
Through Baptism the lay faithful are made one body with Christ and are established among the People of God. They are in their own way made sharers in the priestly, prophetic and kingly office of Christ. They carry out their own part in the mission of the whole Christian people with respect to the Church and the world. (Lumen Gentium, 31)

Advancing the mission of our parish community and building a strong foundation for the future requires the generous and active participation of the people of St. Patrick's in the many ministries that make up our parish life. We are indeed blessed with generous parishioners who serve our parish in many ways and we are thankful for your service and contribution. During Lent you are invited to pray and reflect how you may be called to serve our parish community according to your particular gifts, talents and time available. To help with your pray and reflection, descriptions of the various ministries of our parish will be presented in the Sunday bulletins. This time of discernment will be a preparation for a parish lay ministries workshop to be held on Saturday, April 29th. The workshop will be a morning of prayer, presentation on Christian service and formation, along with ministry workshops and an opportunity to discuss the various ministries of our parish with current lay ministers. At any time in the weeks ahead, if you have questions, please see Michele O'Neill.

Share Lent 2017: For the last 50 years, Canadian Catholics have faithfully responded to the cry of the poor by giving generously to Development & Peace—Caritas Canada. We walked side by side with the women, men and children who experience the injustice of poverty, no matter where they may be. This Lent, Development & Peace will be joining its voice with that of Pope Francis who invited us to pray with him **"that in all countries of the world, women may be honoured, respected and valued for their essential contribution to society"**. The Development & Peace Collection will be taken up on Sunday, April 2, 2017. Various items, prayer cards, informational brochures are available at the table by the pieta at the rear of the Church outlining the 2017 Campaign. Please take one.