

St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society
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St. Patrick's Church

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Website: www.stpatrickshalifax.ns.ca

twitter at [@stpatrickshfx](https://twitter.com/stpatrickshfx)



Donations for the Restoration Society accepted in Green Box at the back of the Church/Church Hall & by VISA and MASTERCARD, by calling 902-429-4170 or mailing to Saint Patrick's Restoration Society, 2263 Brunswick St., Halifax, NS B3K 2Y9

Discipleship Journal: We hope you enjoy what you read and please spread the word! The journal is currently available by subscription only so encourage those you know to subscribe by going to: www.halifaxyarmouth.org

Saint Catherine of Siena, Halifax Annual Christmas Bingo Sun. December 04, 2016 Turkeys, hams, baskets and door prizes!! Each game is for a turkey with the final game and four specials being played for baskets filled with lots of Christmas goodies and a ham. Doors open at 12:30 pm. Fun for all ages!!

St. Agnes Church (Chebucto/Mumford) Tues., Dec. 6, 2016 Halifax Concert Band, Traditional Christmas Concert and Sing –A-Long. Donations at the door to cover expenses.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, marks the 5th Anniversary of the creation of the Archdiocese of Halifax –Yarmouth. Archbishop Mancini will celebrate the Mass on Thursday, Dec. 8 at 5:15 pm Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica, Halifax.

Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception, Thurs., Dec. 8 at 7:00 pm Caritas Residence on the grounds of Mt. St. Vincent University. Top of the hill on the right.

WITH MY ANGEL AT THE MANGER This gentle pre-Christmas gathering for those who have lost a dear baby before birth, gives each of us who is grieving this loss, the opportunity to honor the memory of our dear child and invite this child to be part of our Christmas celebrations. This child of ours who is now in the presence of Jesus wants us to know the peace and love He announces each Christmas. Come join us on this Christmas reunion of mom and baby, of dad and baby, grandparent and baby. **Sat., Dec. 10th 10:00 am – Noon, St. Theresa's Catholic Church, 6351 North Street, Halifax, Pius X Room RSVP to projectrachel.hfx@gmail.com 902-423-9955**

Weekend of Grace for Women - Register now for the 11th Annual Weekend of Grace for Women, with Keynote Speaker Michelle Moran, to be held April 28th, 29th, and 30th, 2017, at the Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia "...You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses..." - Acts 1:8 Attendance through pre-registration only and registration is now open (\$165 early bird deadline December 31, 2016 or \$185 after Dec 31) Visit www.weekendofgrace.com or call (902) 405-9613 for more information.

“Soon I'll return to my Father's house, in your good time Lord I'll depart;

Please accept and bless my take home gift; it is only a grateful heart.”

These lines are taken from a poem written by my grandmother shortly before she died in 1978. She was a truly faith-filled woman, with a positive attitude who loved her God and was always grateful for the gifts God bestowed on her. So what things make you grateful in these troubled times? Maybe there aren't any, but maybe Advent is a time to rummage around in your mind and look for some. You don't have to solve all the problems, just get some balance.

How about a woman in a hospital bed, beautiful, and waiting calmly for tomorrow's diagnosis? Waiting calmly! What about your family, the dog, and your own life in its wonder and mystery, even with all its losses and tangles?

You do not have to control everything. You can rest in God's everlasting arms and act when you can to help others. You and I do very little to “deserve” the mysterious goodness around us and in us. We are not required to be worthy of that mysterious goodness because God gives everything out of pure generosity and love. God takes joy in small things. He does not erase trouble, he loves us within it. If you cannot catch a glimpse of God's intimate love “for each hair on your head,” then you must wait. God labors to give each creature the gift of a lifetime. It is well worth it.

I know, I know, with all the catastrophes in our world, how could any of this be possible? The answer? Wait. Clean your lenses. Open your eyes. Wait to see. Advent is here; Christmas is nigh!

God Bless. Deacon Art

Deacon Art Mitchell,
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David O'Connor, Assistant for
Financial Affairs
Sr. Bernadette Cool, FoH.
Religious Education Coordinator *PT*
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**Today is the
2nd Sunday of
Advent**

Next Sunday December 11, 2016

3rd Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 35.1-6a, 10

2nd Reading: James 5.7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11.2-11

**Please welcome the following who will be
celebrating Mass with us:**

Christmas Season —Fr. Francesco Pirisi,
FoH

Parish Financial Information

Nov. 6, 2016

ENV. 43	\$1,355.00
Loose	125.35
PAR 24	389.23
Total	\$1,869.58

Nov. 13, 2016

ENV. 42	\$ 919.00
Loose	96.60
PAR 24	389.23
Total	\$1,404.83

Nov. 20, 2016

ENV. 58	\$1,407.25
Loose	88.70
PAR 24	389.23
Total	\$ 1,885.18

Nov. 27, 2016

ENV. 33	\$945.00
Loose	143.00
PAR 24	389.23
Total	1,477.23

Average Weekly PAR contribution \$16.22.
Average Sunday Envelope contribution \$28.64

Meals for Hope Cottage

Group 1 - Diane Sullivan - Jan. 13
 Group 2 - Pam Gasparetto - February 23
 Group 3 - Mike Convey - March 24
 Volunteers are always welcomed. The commitment is for 4 meals a year based on a set recipe which is provided. If you would like to join this ministry, please contact Cheryl at the office.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to remind parishioners that envelopes for donations are available on the Giving Tree at the back of the Church. Donations will be used to provide children in need in our community with gift cards for Christmas. We hope to have all of the envelopes returned in the regular collection on or before December 4, 2016. Thank you for your support.

Parish Event Planning Group: A meeting of the event planning group will take place **TODAY** after Mass in the church hall. The agenda will be a brief meeting to discuss future parish events. It will also be a gathering to help with the decoration of wreaths for our Christmas church decorations. All are welcome. Please see Michele O'Neil if you have any questions.

Chase the Ace: We have applied for our Second Chase the Ace license. We are hoping to restart soon on Sunday's with sales from 11 am—1pm draw at 1:15pm. Starting jackpot of \$2,000.

Co-chairs are John Murphy and Blair Beed

Do what you can with what you have, where you are.
Theodore Roosevelt

This week's Jesse Tree ornaments

Earth: God created the heavens and the earth *Genesis 1-2*

Sun and Moon: Let there be light *Genesis 1-2*

Adam and Eve: God made man *Genesis 2*

Snake and apple: First sin *Genesis 3*

The Ark: Noah *Genesis 6-8*

Rainbow: First Covenant *Genesis 8-9*

A Funeral Mass will be held for the late Clarence Stanley Pope (97) who passed away on November 29th. Mass will be held on Monday, December 5th at 10:30 am with Father Francesco Pirisi, FoH presiding.

May eternal rest be granted unto him and may perpetual light shine upon him.

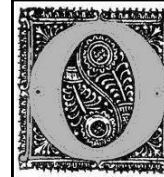
With Grateful Appreciation, The Sisters of Charity have had a physical presence on Brunswick St. for over 100 years. The Convent changed hands. The new owner happens to be the owner of our former Rectory. During the disposal of items in the Convent, the Sisters gave St. Patrick's an opportunity to consider what if any furniture, equipment etc. we might like. The most visible is the Altar that has been in the Convent for the past 50 plus years. It was felt that the Altar represented such an important part of Convent life and indeed our Parish's life that it would be appropriate for it to be housed here at St Patrick's. We are pleased to be the ongoing custodians of parts of the Sisters history in our Parish. We thank them for their donations, their services over the years to our Community of St. Patrick's. We pray for them in thanksgiving and welcome them always to our place of worship.



Are You Being Called to the Permanent Diaconate?

"the call to be a permanent Deacon in the Archdiocese of Halifax/Yarmouth is clearly the recognition that the individual has a deep and strong desire to serve the Church, especially among the poor and marginalized". If you are interested in hearing more information please contact Deacon David Hasler dave.hasler@investorsgroup.com or Deacon Tom Smith @ tesmith@ns.sympatico.ca or Deacon Brian Smith @ briank-smith@hotmail.com.

2017 Missals: The new Liturgical Year began last Sunday. A limited supply of Saint Joseph Sunday Missals are available, at the back of the Church. The Parish purchase price was \$4.15 each. Donations accepted!



As we prepare for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Christ, each Sunday of Advent we will begin our Mass with a member of the choir singing the traditional O Antiphons.

Antiphons are short psalm verses or sentences from Holy Scripture. The O Antiphons are the seven antiphons traditionally chanted during Evening Prayer. In the Roman tradition they are sung from December 17th to 23rd. Each O Antiphon begins with a name of Christ taken from Scripture. They express the Church's longing and expectation for the coming Messiah.

- O Sapientia (O Wisdom)
- O Adonai (O Lord)
- O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)
- O Clavis David (O Key of David)
- O Oriens (O Rising Sun)
- O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations) and
- O Emmanuel (God is with us).

The ordering of these antiphons is purposeful. Starting with the last O Antiphon and taking the first letter of each, the Latin words *ero cras* are formed meaning *Tomorrow I will be there*. This is the Good News of the Advent Season. The O Antiphons remind us of the joyful conclusion of our Advent preparation.

St. Patrick's Penitential Service will be held on Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 pm for confessions and Penitential Service at 7:00 pm with confessions following the Mass.

The November minutes of Pastoral Council are posted on the Bulletin boards at the back of the Church and in the green binder.

"Be strong and don't be afraid! God is coming to your rescue."
Isaiah 35:4

Key Teachings of the Church

Creed - A statement of beliefs, a profession of faith, a summary of the principal beliefs of the Church

Confirmation Classes—following Mass, please keep in your prayers those young people who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Catechism Classes—will be held following Mass.

Christmas Flowers: Would you like to make a donation towards Christmas Flowers in memory of loved ones? In an envelope marked "Flowers" on the outside, please list your name, mailing address, the name (s) of your loved one (s) and your donation. Then place the envelope in the collection basket. The names of our loved ones will be posted in the church entranceway or in the Church bulletin on Christmas Eve.

Condolence and Prayers:

Fabian Mitchell, 52, brother of Deacon Art passed away on Sunday, November 27. Funeral was held from Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Marystown, Newfoundland and Labrador on Thursday, December 1. Fabian leaves to mourn with fond and loving memories his 7 brothers and 5 sisters. Deacon Art will return to the Parish this coming Wednesday. Please remember the Mitchell Family in your prayers.

May eternal rest be granted unto him and may perpetual light shine upon him.

2017 Parish Envelopes: are on the table at the back of the Church. Please pick them up.