

04 JANUARY, 2015—THE EPIPHANY



St. Patrick's Church

Office: 2267 Brunswick St. ♦ Halifax NS ♦ B3K 2Y9
(902) 429-1300 ♦ st.pats@ns.sympatico.ca



Priest-in-Charge: **Father Jean-Marc Laporte, SJ**
(422-8841 or jmlaporte@jesuits.ca)
Secretary: **Betty Vaughan** (9 am to 1 pm)
Mass time Sundays: 10:00 a.m.
Reconciliation by Appointment



THE EPIPHANY: *Commemorates the visitation of the Magi and Christ's manifestation of His glory to them. The word from the Greek means "manifestation", making Christ known to the world as the Messiah, the divine Son of God.*

The three Magi traveled hundreds of miles in search of a child king. Even finding him, as they did, in humble surroundings with no regal trappings or attendants, they recognized him immediately and paid him homage. Jesus often surprises us by showing up in unassuming and unexpected ways. *Do we recognize Him when his majesty isn't apparent?*

Baptism of the Lord (January 11)

Read 1: Isaiah 42.1-4, 6-7

Read 2: Acts 10.34-38

Gospel: Mark 1.7-11

Un-decorating the Church of Christmas

Volunteers are needed to help un-decorate the Church TODAY after Mass. If you can help, please see Michele O'Neill.

THIS WEEK

SVDP MEETING:

Wednesday, January 7 (7pm) at the Rectory.

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Thursday, January 8 (7pm) at the Rectory.

FROM FATHER LAPORTE

The transition from the old year, often represented as an old man with a cane, battered and bruised, to the new year, depicted as a pink-cheeked baby full of life and hope, is upon us again. 2014 has been a challenging year for us. An increasing number of disruptive floods, earthquakes, dry spells, hurricanes has affected the lives of many. Violence and forced migration and crime make the headlines every day. Our political leaders are often intransigent, defensive, and given to posturing. But at the same time many good things have happened as well, for instance in our Church. The struggle to build a better place for all of us continues.

My wish and prayer for all of you, for all of us, is that 2015 will be a year of peace, one in which our desires and our efforts will bear much fruit. May this be especially true of our families and of our parish community. May the Lord to whom we have entrusted our lives envelop us with his grace and prosper the work of our hands. *Jean-Marc*

SALT & LIGHT Complimentary copies of Salt & Light Publications are on the table at the back of the church. Please take a copy.

Every person has a choice: to obey God or to do his/her own thing. In this sense, each individual determines where he/she will spend eternity—with God or without Him. Those are the only two choices. ☺

Jesuit Centre of Spirituality

2287 Brunswick St.—902-429-7344

The Parish is blessed to have the Jesuit Centre just down the street. Under the direction of Father Jean-Marc Laporte, S.J. who is also Priest-in-Charge of our Parish, the Centre welcomes people of all faiths into their home for day retreats, residential retreats, workshops and programs. Father Trevor Scott, S.J. arrived this Fall to offer programs in spirituality and in areas where faith, spirituality and contemporary culture intersect.

The Centre is also supported by a number of staff associates who are available to give individual spiritual direction.

Upcoming Activities in the New Year

NEXT SILENT RETREAT will be in the new year: Sat, Jan. 24 titled: *Winter: Warmth from within for a cold season.*

NEXT SEMINAR SERIES: March 4, 18, April 8 (7—9 pm)
The Joy of Pope Francis: Gentle breeze and powerful wind.
Conducted by Fr. Jean-Marc Laporte, S.J.

Brochures outlining the Centre's programs are available at the back of the church.

PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCES (PAR). With the New Year upon us, you may want to give prayerful thought on signing up for PAR, whereby your donations can be withdrawn (once a month) directly from your bank account. You still receive Special Collections envelopes. Monthly PAR is very helpful to the Parish, especially for those storm days when the collection drops.

Did you pick up your 2015 envelopes ???

As we embark on a New Year, let us remember, with heartfelt appreciation, those who make every holiday special.

- Our singers and musician who have made this Christmas season's celebration so joyful;
- Saint Vincent de Paul volunteers who help so many people in need, and to the parishioners' great generosity in providing for that assistance;
- Those who decorate the Church and Crèche so nicely.
- Those who contribute to our liturgical celebrations all year, who give of their time, talent and treasure;
- Those who continually give to our Poor Box and Food Basket for the needy.

Wishing everyone a safe, joyful, and faith-filled new Year. *Father Jean-Marc*

Restoration Society

2263 Brunswick St. ♦ (902) 429-4170
givesaintpatrickahand@ns.aliantzinc.ca

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

*new year
new beginnings*



The Restoration Society directors wish all our friends, who are supporting us in preserving one of the most beautiful church buildings in Nova Scotia, a prosperous New Year filled with faith, peace and contentment. May God Bless you all!

Happy New Year 2015

Other Events

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta Parish,
6032 Normandy Drive hosts weekly:

Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Group Friday Mornings
9:30 am—Marian Room.

K of C Card Social — Tues. evenings at 7:00 pm—Hall.
Knitters/Crafters—Tues. mornings at 9:30 am—Hall.

Jan19-Mar 2 (6:30-9:00 pm) STACM Parish is pleased to offer a *Marriage Preparation Course* called "God's Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage" to run for 7 weeks at Saint Thomas Aquinas hall. Registration is \$80.00. Please call Tracy at the parish office (902) 423-3057 to register.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. Are you up to charity work and ministry in a hospital setting at the Camp Hill Veterans' Building in Halifax. They are seeking volunteers as Eucharistic ministers to bring Holy Communion to the veterans and as escorts to bring the veterans to the Chapel for Mass on Sunday mornings and weekdays. Contact Fr. Bruno Schema, chaplain (902) 473-2401, or e-mail bruno.schema@cdha.nshealth.ca