

St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society
2263 Brunswick St. 902-429-4170
givesaintpatrickahand@ns.aliantzinc.ca

The 10th Annual Restoration Society Dinner will take place Thursday, May 25 at the World Trade and Convention Centre 6:00 pm for 7:00 pm. Honouring Charitable Irish Society of Halifax. Tickets \$125 or table of ten \$1,250. Tickets are now available at the back of the Church or contact Michael Doherty 902-454-9199. The Silent Auction and the ever popular Shamrock Draw (\$20) will be held again this year. **It is helpful and necessary to know your intention of attending by May 18, 2017.**

**Chase the Ace, Sunday,
License No. AGD—107126-16**

**April 23rd winner was Patsy Thorn won \$202.00. The card drawn was the King of Spades
The next Jackpot will be \$5969.00. 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, Atlantic Lottery regulations requires that only the winner can pick up the prize.

The National Catholic Broadcasting Council (NCBC) is hosting a Week of Prayer for Vocations from May 6th - May 13th. Each Mass during that week will focus on the call to religious life. You can join the Vocations Prayer Circle by visiting the NCBC website at www.dailytvmass.com, by e-mail at info@ncbc.ca, or call toll-free at 1-888-383-6277 to have your name added to the Circle.

Meals for Hope Cottage

Group 2 - Pam Gasparetto May 19
Group 3 - Mike Convey June 16
Group 1 - Diane Sullivan July 13

We want to give our children what we didn't have; but let's make sure we give them what we did have: our faith. Anonymous

"Project Rachel Painting our Baby's Name on a Rock: Friday, June 2/17, 6:30 - 8:30 pm at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Dartmouth. As part of Project Rachel's tradition, we invite anyone who has lost a child before birth, to join us yearly as we paint our baby's name on a rock, and place this rock in the Healing Rock Garden. This garden provides a memorial place to visit at any time to tell baby how much we love them. Please bring your own rock; paint and refreshments are provided. Contact: Margo 902-423-9955, projectrachel.hfx@gmail.com."

The Atlantic Religious Congregations Associate Network (ARCAN) is hosting a conference Fri. June 2 (evening) & Sat. 3rd at Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax. It is open to everyone. You may register for the conference by May 1st Registration fee is \$80 per registrant. contact Cora Shebib cora.shebib@gmail.com or 902-794-4679, Sharon Jacquard sharonjacquard@hotmail.com or Mary MacLean (902-569-4308).

4th Sunday of Easter, May 7, 2017



St. Patrick's Church

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The most comforting of the Psalms begins with the line: "The Lord is my shepherd." It ends with this line: "Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

Goodness and mercy, in the person of the good Shepherd, have to *follow*, because the shepherd is heading out to seek the lost sheep. The sheep is leading the way, and that is why the sheep is lost. The shepherd is the one who knows the way and ought to be leading, but he has to follow because the sheep got out ahead of the shepherd and so got astray.

In our gospel this week Jesus says that His sheep *follow* Him.

Those who belong to him know his voice and so they are willing to follow him and let him lead the way.

Of course, a sheep doesn't know the voice of the shepherd unless it knows the shepherd. The difference, then, between being a lost sheep who has to be followed by the Shepherd, and being a faithful sheep who is led by the Shepherd is a matter of knowing the Shepherd.

Here is the good news, then. Whether persons are faithful or lost, they will be surrounded by the love of the good Shepherd. Either the Shepherd will lead them, or the Shepherd will follow after them to find them when they are astray.

And so St. Patrick's prayer is right: Christ before me, Christ behind me. And, either way, Christ with me.

God Bless

Deacon Art

Parish Financial Information

April 2, 2017	
Sun. Env. 39	\$1,081.25
Loose	\$ 137.15
PAR 25	\$ 424.85
Total	\$1,643.25

April 9, 2017	
Sun. Env. 53	\$1,295.00
Loose	\$ 332.85
PAR 25	\$ 424.85
Total	\$2,052.70

April 30, 2017	
Sun. Env. 47	\$1,361.00
Loose	\$ 257.10
PAR 25	\$ 424.85
Total	\$ 2,042.95

Average Weekly PAR contribution \$17.00.
Average Sunday Envelope contribution: \$22.55

April 17, 2017	
Sun. Env. 27	\$ 790.00
Loose	\$ 176.25
PAR 25	\$ 424.85
Total	\$1,391.10

April 23, 2017	
Sun. Env. 47	\$1,060.00
Loose	\$ 206.70
PAR 25	\$ 424.85
Total	\$1,691.55

Holy Thurs.	Good Fri.	Easter Collections
\$390.00	\$658.55	\$2,635.90
<i>The Good Friday collection was in support of the</i>		

Catechism/Confirmation classes will be held after Mass.

Celebrants for Saint Patrick's Lord's Day Mass

Sun., May 7th - Father JJ MacDonald
Sun. May 14th - Father JJ MacDonald
 - Father Jean-Marc Laporte, SJ
Sun. May 21st - Father JJ MacDonald
Sun. May 28th - Father JJ MacDonald

Key Teachings of the Church

Charity – one of the three Theological Virtues. Another word for charity is love. We practice the virtue of charity by loving God above all things, and by loving our neighbour as ourselves.

Message from Deacon Art

I will be away from May 3rd until June 1st, and with my dear wife Sharon, and will be visiting family and friends in Alberta and Saskatchewan. I will keep in touch via the weekly bulletin reflections and the electronic leash..
 Father JJ MacDonald has kindly agreed to look after the sacramental needs of St. Patrick's in conjunction with the leadership team while I'm away, and I promise to pray for all of you during my absence. Father Jean-Marc will be visiting Halifax from May 12th until May 17th and will celebrate Mass on Mother's Day, May 14th. Father JJ will con-celebrate with him so we will be doubly blessed on Mother's day this year. God willing, I will be back for the confirmation celebration on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th. Please be gentle with Father JJ and I know you will welcome Father Jean-Marc with open arms. Please pray for our safe return. God Bless, Deacon Art

Blue Nose Marathon will be held on the Victoria day weekend (May 21st). There will be some street closures, expect delays but hopefully all will arrive safely. Thank you for your patience.

DOORS OPEN HALIFAX 2017 St. Patrick's Parish will participate in this year's Doors Open Halifax scheduled for June 3rd and 4th. Our church will be open to the public on Saturday, June 3rd from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and on Sunday, June 4th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome visitors and showcase our beautiful church to the public. Volunteers are needed on both days. If you can offer a few hours on June 3rd or 4th that would be appreciated. A volunteer sign-up sheet is at the back of the church. For further information, please see Michele O'Neill.

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.

George P. Leach, SJ Scholarship Applications are available at the Parish Office. This scholarship is to provide financial assistance for students in a university or college diploma this coming Fall. The value is \$1,000.

Knights of Columbus, Halifax Council 1097, invite applications from Catholic students who plan to attend university or community college in the upcoming academic year for the Vincent & Eileen Coy Scholarship. This is a non-renewable scholarship. Application forms are available at the parish office. Deadline for application is by May 15th, 2017. Further information may be obtained by email kofchalifax1097@gmail.com

Important Reminder to all Parishioners Regarding Parking in the old Rectory!!
 If you park next door at 2267 Brunswick St. you stand a very good chance that your vehicle will be **TICKETED AND TOWED AT YOUR EXPENSE. This is for the tenants of that building only! We do not have any parking spaces there.**

Annual Mothers' Day Luncheon - Parent Resource Centre TODAY is the last day for collecting items and donations for the Annual Mother's Day Luncheon. Each year we support the Parent Resource Centre in their annual Mothers' Day Luncheon event by providing a collection of personal items to be placed in a gift bag and presented to the mothers at the luncheon. In preparation for this wonderful afternoon for the mothers of the neighbourhood, a basket will be placed at the back of the church until Sunday, May 7th to collect personal items (hand lotions, shampoos, bubble bath, sweets, etc.) for the gift bags. If you prefer to make a money donation, please place it in an envelope marked "Mothers' Day Luncheon" and place in the collection basket. This year we will be further supporting this annual event by preparing and serving the luncheon to the mothers. If you would like to help with preparing the meal and/or serving the meal, please see Michele O'Neill. Thank

Parish Lay Formation Gathering—Last Saturday 27 lay ministers of the parish and parishioners discerning parish ministry gathered to pray together, learn about Christian Formation, attend workshops and share their faith. The morning concluded with a lovely lunch and continued conversation. Special thanks to John Stevens, Pastoral Life and New Evangelization Manager of the Archdiocese of Halifax for generously offering his time to come to our gathering and share his faith and thoughts on Christian formation and our way forward as a parish community.

Archbishop Mancini wants to equip the saints and needs you to help him! Our bishop invites you join him as he launches **Equip the Saints**, our Archdiocesan pastoral plan. A webinar for parish leadership, is planned for **Thursday, May 18 at 7:00pm**. This is an opportunity for prayer, reflection, and information about the pastoral plan. Who should take part in this webinar? **If you are a member of parish ministry staff, pastoral council, finance council, or your parish's pastoral planning team please save the date and plan on attending.** Since this is being offered by webinar, you are able to join from anywhere you can access the internet. Directions on how to join the webinar will be sent out shortly.

Parish Administration

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