

St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society
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TODAY Annual General meeting of Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society will take place Sun., 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.

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

March 19th winner was Wayne Duffy won \$152. The card drawn was the Queen of S.
The next Jackpot will be \$4688. 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.

The Vesuvius Chamber Choir performs in Holy Week: On **Tuesday April 11th at 8 PM the HMC returns to Saint Patrick's Church** to present early music masterworks. The Lamentations of Jeremiah by the French Baroque composer Jean Gillis and the Tenebrae Responsories by Tomás Luis de Victoria will soar through the rafters of Saint Patrick's. Accompanied by John Overton and the Vesuvius Consort, this new Vesuvius Chamber Choir will pierce your heart with the beauty of this music in preparation for the darkest time of the church year. Join us as we look forward into the darkness towards rebirth on Easter morning.
Tickets can be bought at the church office for \$10.00. They will be \$15.00 (student/senior/underemployed) and \$20.00 at the door. Tickets are also available online at thehmc.ca.

April 2, 2017 5th Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37.12-14
2nd Reading: Romans 8.8-11
Gospel: John 11.1-45

Meals for Hope Cottage

Group 1 - Diane Sullivan	Apr. 25
Group 2 - Pam Gasparetto	May 19
Group 3 - Mike Convey	June 16

The faithful are invited to gather with the priests of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth for this year's Mass of Chrism on **Apr. 11 at 12:00 noon at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica, Halifax.** The Chrism Mass is celebrated during Holy Week in every Catholic diocese. During this Mass, the priests, deacons, and representatives of the entire diocesan community gather around their bishop, who blesses the Holy Oils for use in the coming year. These oils are: Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens, and Sacred Chrism.

4th Sunday of Lent March 26, 2017



St. Patrick's Church

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"I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.

In today's Gospel, Jesus, the light of the world, takes away the man's blindness. This wonderful story challenges us to "live as children of light."

We continue our Lenten journey and try to remain focused on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. There are always distractions and it seems we are always pressed for time to do things. We recently celebrated the time change to "daylight saving time," which gives us daylight for a longer period of time; but does that help to take away our darkness and our blindness? God's word in Genesis announces that all men and women are created in God's image. There should be no races or racial types, no discrimination or segregation, no rich or poor. All humans bear the imprint of God, our creator, and are enlivened by the breath of His one Spirit. As we reflect on our readings today let us pray that our Lenten prayer and sacrifice will serve to take away our blindness so that we can look into the hearts of others and love them as brothers and sisters. It "should turn hatred to love, conflict to peace, death to eternal life." It should enable us to say with the blind man: I can see and "I do believe, Lord."

God Bless.

Deacon Art



Parish Financial Information

March 5, 2017

Sun.	54 Env.	\$1,566.60
Loose		\$ 159.00
PAR 25		\$ 424.85
Total		\$2,150.45

March 12, 2017

Sun.	49 Env.	\$1,510.00
Loose		\$ 208.00
PAR 25		\$ 424.85
Total		\$2,142.85

March 19, 2017

Sun.	46 Env.	\$1,010.00
Loose		\$ 97.65
PAR 25		\$ 424.85
Total		\$1,533.50

Average Weekly
PAR contribution
\$17.00.
Average Sunday
Envelope contribu-
tion \$21.96

Our Celebrant for this week will be Father Francisco Pirisi, FoH.

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. **Copies of *The Way of the Cross* are at the back of the church.**

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.

Parish Administration

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Parochial Administrator**

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Sr. Bernadette Cool, FoH.

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Key Teachings of the Church: Stewardship is the actions of responsibly caring for what God has given in service to others.

Catechism & Confirmation classes resume today.



2017 Lenten Video Series - Equip the Saints. TODAY - Part 2 of 4 of the series will resume today at 11:15 am in the parish boardroom. These video presentations will help us prepare for Easter and to continue in our parish pastoral planning process. The four-part series focuses on **formation**, one of the three pastoral themes of the New Evangelization and the presenter is our Bishop Anthony Mancini. Dates for the 3rd and 4th videos are: April 2nd and April 23rd. Please consider joining us for these presentations on **formation** as a part of your Lenten preparation for Easter. For more info. see Michele O'Neill.

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

Websites

The Archdiocesan website has been updated with a new look and structure www.halifaxarmouth.org. **The Sisters of Charity—Halifax** have launched a new website. You can check it out at www.schalifax.ca.

The Parish has engaged Maria Gallagher to undertake and update our website. The work is expected to be completed over the next six (6) weeks.

Parish Lay Ministry Workshop

Saturday, April 29th, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Liturgy is what happens when Christians gather to celebrate the mystery of Christ – when they gather as Church to worship. This communal worship requires the “full, active and conscious participation” (Sacrosanctum Concilium 14) of all member of the worshipping community.

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 prayer 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.

Last week we presented the Outreach ministries of our parish. This week and next we will present the Liturgical ministries of our parish.

Liturgy Committee: The Liturgy Committee is primarily responsible for coordinating our parish's liturgical celebrations throughout the church year. In an effort to enhance the meaningfulness of the Liturgy, the committee works to educate and train liturgical ministers as well as offering opportunities for the entire parish to learn more about the liturgy and to contribute to the liturgical life of the parish. Dean Art Mitchell and Sr. Cecilia McNeil co-chair the Liturgy Committee.

Music: Music is an integral part of our communal worship. Music serves as an expression of our faith and assists the assembly in participating in and expressing the corporate faith of the community and church through sacred music and song.

Hospitality: The ministry of hospitality has its origins in scripture -- “welcoming the stranger.” This ministry includes Greeters, Ushers, and Refreshment Prep & Clean-up. Greeters, ushers, and servers of refreshment welcome the gathering community as Christ would, provide for the comfort of all who gather, take up collections, and organise refreshments and a space where the community can gather after worship to socialise with one another.

Environment and Sacristy: Ministers of the environment and sacristans enhance the worship space of our church for prayer and celebration. These ministers work behind the scenes to ensure that the sacristy is organised; vestments, linens and vessels are clean and ready for use; and the church is decorated for the liturgical seasons and celebrations throughout the year.

Laetare Sunday

Laetare Sunday is the popular name for the fourth Sunday in Lent. (*Laetare* means "Rejoice" in Latin, and the Introit (entrance antiphon) in both the Traditional Latin Mass and the Novus Ordo is Isaiah 66:10-11, which begins "*Laetare, Jerusalem*" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem").

Because the midpoint of Lent is the Thursday of the third week of Lent, Laetare Sunday has traditionally been viewed as a day of celebration, on which the austerity of Lent is briefly lessened. The passage from Isaiah continues, "rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow," and on Laetare Sunday, the purple vestments and altar cloths of Lent are set aside, and rose ones are used instead. Flowers, which are normally forbidden during Lent, may be placed on the altar. Traditionally, the organ was never played during Lent, except on Laetare Sunday. Laetare Sunday is also known as Rose Sunday or Refreshment Sunday. It has a counterpart in Advent called Gaudete Sunday, which is the Third Sunday of Advent when purple vestments are exchanged for rose ones. The point of both days is to provide us encouragement as we progress toward the end of each respective penitential season.

Forgiveness saves the expense of anger; the high cost of hatred, and the waste of energy.

E.C, McKenzie