

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

**Greetings from The Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society.**

As the Society looks ahead and prepares for 2016, we would like to take the time to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation for your interest and generous support in helping the Society in its mission to raise the necessary funds to restore historic Saint Patrick's Church. We would also like to share with you some of the accomplishments of the Society and Saint Patrick's Parish in 2014-2015.

- \* The Society's annual fundraising dinner was held in November 2014 at the World Trade & Convention Centre.
- \* The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in December 2014, including the Society Treasurer's financial reporting to June 30, 2014 and the Society Chairman's/Directors' report to June 30, 2014.
- \* New agreements were formulated and approved between the Society and Parish, and the Society and Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth.
- \* A contract was established between the Society and architect Graham Duffus of G.F. Duffus Co. Ltd. for preparing construction tender documents for Phase I of the Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Project.
- \* A contract was established between the Society and Ms. Elizabeth MacDonald of Acappella Communications Inc, producing a Case for Support entitled *Rising Up Again: The Campaign to Restore Saint Patrick's Church* and a report *Campaign Readiness Findings: June 2015*.
- \* The Society's annual fundraising dinner has been rescheduled from the Fall of 2015 to the Spring of 2016. **Please mark your calendar; the date has been set for Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the World Trade & Convention Center.** Mr. Pat Crowley and Mr. Greg Murphy will once again offer their leadership in co-chairing the Dinner Committee.
- \* After much dedicated effort by Fr. Jean-Marc Laporte, Blair Beed and Rick Butler of Saint Patrick's Parish, we are pleased to announce that the Rectory property of the parish, adjacent to the church, was sold to Brunswick Street Developments Ltd. in late November 2015. The purchaser has commenced work to convert the Rectory to residential units. Later work will see additional units in the back of the Rectory. Parish offices are now located in the lower level of the church.
- \* **The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place on Sunday, December 13, 2015, 2:30 pm in the church hall.** New members are invited and most welcome.

Thank you again for your ongoing support in helping the Society in their work to save and restore Saint Patrick's Church. We look forward to another busy year ahead. Please contact us by phone or email if you have any questions or would like further information.

On behalf of the Society, I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2016.



Mr. Justice D. Merlin Nunn (Ret'd)

Co-Chair, Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society

3rd Sunday of Advent, December 13, 2015



## St. Patrick's Church

2263 Brunswick St. ♦ Halifax DS ♦ B3K 2Y9  
902-429-1300 ♦ st.pats@ns.sympatico.ca



**Father Jean-Marc Laporte, SJ, Priest-in-Charge**  
phone 902-422-8841 or email: [jmlaporte@jesuits.ca](mailto:jmlaporte@jesuits.ca)

**Cheryl Delaney**, Secretary  
Mon-Fri. 9 am to 1 pm  
phone 902-429-1300

**email** [st.pats@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:st.pats@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Rick Butler**, Parish Council Chair

**email** [rc.butler@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:rc.butler@ns.sympatico.ca)

**Sr. Bernadette Cool, FoH**, Religious Education Coordinator (*part time*) email address:  
[qubertcool@gmail.com](mailto:qubertcool@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.stpatricks.halifax.ns.ca](http://www.stpatricks.halifax.ns.ca)

**Mass time Sundays: 10:00 a.m.**

**Reconciliation by Appointment**

**4th Sunday of Advent (Dec. 20, 2015)**

**Read 1:** Zephaniah 3.14-18a

**Read 2:** Philippians 4.4-7

**Gospel:** Luke 3.10-18

### Jesuit Centre of Spirituality

2287 Brunswick St.—902-429-7344:

The Centre welcomes people of all faiths into their home for day retreats, workshops and programs. Individual spiritual direction is available.

#### Programs:

#### ***St. Ignatius' Rules for Discernment: How to Make Wise and Prayerful Decisions***

So often we are faced with big and seemingly impossible decisions to make in our lives. How do we make such decisions in our lives: St. Ignatius reminds us that all created things are to help us, by living meaningful & fulfilling lives, to pursue the end for which we were created. To do this we need to make a sound prayerful decisions in our lives. These two evenings of meditation upon St. Ignatius' Rules for Discernment will reveal the spiritual gift he gave to us in helping us make prayerful decisions that are in harmony with God's will for us. Suggested offering \$25 per session, \$40. for both sessions. Thursday, Jan. 28 & Feb. 4 7-9pm Trevor Scott, S.J.

#### **Silent Saturday Retreats, Saturday, Dec. 19th Leaving Advent, entering Christmas:**

Begins at 9 am with input ends by 5 pm. Lunch, nutritional breaks, Eucharist. *Suggested offering \$35*

#### Masses at Jesuit Centre

**Tues. Dec 15th @ 7:00 pm**

**Wed. Dec. 16th @ 7:00pm—Penitential Service**

## Parish Financial Information

### Sunday offerings

**Dec. 6, 2015**

|          |    |            |
|----------|----|------------|
| ENV 48   | \$ | \$1,288.00 |
| Loose    |    | 135.85     |
| PAR (23) |    | 370.00     |
| Flowers  |    | 45.00      |
| Fuel     |    | 335.00     |
| Total    |    | \$2,173.85 |

The October minutes of Parish Council are now posted at the entrance ways of the Church and in the green binder at the rear of the Church.

**Discipleship—Monthly Archdiocesan Journal** now available by logging into [www.halifaxyarmouth.or](http://www.halifaxyarmouth.or). Articles on the Family Summit in Philadelphia and the work of St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**Interfaith Homeless Memorial Service** (Affordable Housing Association of NS ) will be held here at St. Patrick's Parish on December 22nd at 11:00 am. This service provides an opportunity for the community to remember and honour those who have died homeless. The service will start at 11:00 am and will be followed by a reception at the back of the church. All are welcome to attend.



**P.A.R. Means Pre Authorized Remittance** and is a strongly recommended method of contributing to our parish. To make regular donations through P.A.R. please pick up an application form on the entry counter in the church or contact the parish office. Thank you.

**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 and mailing address, the name (s) of your loved one (s) and your donation.* Then place the envelop in the collection basket. *On Christmas Eve, the names of your loved one (s) will be posted in the Church entry.*

**Church Cleaning and Preparation for Christmas** – volunteers are asked to come to the church on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am to help clean the church and prepare the wreaths for decorating the church. We will work until 12:00 noon. If you can help out, please see Michele O'Neill.

### **Did you know?**

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal helps our parish directly. A portion of every contribution from our parish will be rebated for our use. As we approach the opening of the Jubilee Year of Mercy let us help one another to show mercy to our neighbours. Make your donation by December 31, 2015 to receive a tax receipt for the 2015 tax year. The Parish target is \$4,900. Returns have been very slow and low only \$300 to date!! Please give some further prayerful thought to the Archbishop's Appeal.

### **Message from Fr. Jean-Marc**

**As we prepare for the annual general meeting of the Restoration Society** after Mass today, let us reflect on the blessings it has brought upon us over the years and be grateful for all those who contributed their time and energy to its work. Often it must have felt for them like a steep uphill climb with many obstacles strewn across their path. But they persevered.

**In the first phase of the Society's existence,** when it was integrally responsible for the upkeep of the Church, it managed to keep our church open, made some needed repairs, and installed a new furnace. We are most grateful for this. But the cost all this involved prevented it from accumulating the money required to take on the major restoration of the front of the Church and the bell tower.

**In the second phase of the Society's existence,** the parish took over the upkeep of the church and, with security based on the sale of the glebe, helped the Society deal with its financial obligations. At that point the Restoration Society hired a firm to prepare a case for the restoration of the glebe, and a report on the level of support that this case might generate in the broader community. This was a very welcome step.

**We are getting excerpts from the case in the parish newsletter.** It is a very convincing and attractive case, and we gave it our best shot. But the report we received was very disappointing. The major donors we were hoping for are not willing to support us. A campaign would require strenuous work over a two year period, with no guarantee of success. Moreover safety issues are mounting, and no further restoration work could be done without the money in hand and the approval of the Archdiocese. *Cont. next column*

**In the short run the report** of the consultants is unwelcome news, but in the long run it is a blessing, because it gives us a realistic sense of what issues we are facing and where we might go from here. We are most grateful that the Restoration Society has brought us to this point in our life as a community, and we ask that the Lord bless our continued work to maintain our presence and our outreach.

**The Annual General Meeting for the Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society will take place TODAY Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 2:30 pm in church hall. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend.**

**NEW MEMBERS ARE  
WELCOME**

**The Simplification of the Marriage Nullity Procedures**  
Pope Francis has simplified the procedures for the declaration of nullity of a marriage. Effective December 8, 2015, as we begin the "Year of Mercy", the Halifax-Yarmouth Marriage Tribunal will reflect this desire to express God's mercy by the gradual implementation of the new procedural canons established by the Holy Father for the declaration of nullity of a marriage. Questions about the nullity of a marriage please contact Dorothy Hahn can be reached at [dhahn@halifaxyarmouth.org](mailto:dhahn@halifaxyarmouth.org), or (902) 429-9800 ext. 321.