

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

New Year's Mass Schedule

Sun. Jan. 1 - 10 AM Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God & New Year
Sun. Jan. 8 - 10 AM Epiphany of the Lord

Construction - Update

For the information of Parishioners and visitors.

Over the summer and particularly during this past month, there have been a number of projects undertaken (some still in progress) to address security and safety issues on our property.

Outside lighting upgrades, installation of lightning protection, removal of trees at the back, dismantling the original home of Hope Blooms greenhouse, some rebricking work, gutters reattached, removal of pinnacles on Church Bell Tower and Steeple, removal of window frames in Bell Tower and Steeple. The pinnacles will be remounted along with new window framing as part of a full restoration of the Brunswick Street façade expected next summer after the completion of our fundraising drive.

Despite the best efforts of our Construction Contractors, our wheelchair ramp has not been fully completed. Our apologies for this inconvenience but we expect that work to be finished very early in January.

Please keep the efforts of the Parish and Restoration Society in your prayers and consider a financial contribution to saving this historic Church.

The Friends-of-L'Arche Halifax group will meet for their monthly gathering on Sunday, January 8th from 1:30 to 3:30 in St. Agnes Hall, Mumford Road, Halifax.

All are welcome, especially those with intellectual disabilities, their families and friends, to come for prayer, song, fun and fellowship. Contact Kelly at 902-407-5512 if you have any question

Christmas 2016



St. Patrick's Church

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Merry Christmas

“The Shepherds found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger”

Have you heard or read the news today - the "good news" of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and son of Mary who was born for us and for our salvation? The word *gospel* literally means *Good News*! You will note that the first to hear the good news of the savior's birth were not the rulers and religious leaders of the day who were in positions of wealth and power. Instead, the angels first came to shepherds, those who were humble and ready to receive the newborn king who was born in poverty and was now lying in a manger made for animals. Yes, when Jesus was born his mother Mary put him to bed on a mattress made of straw, laid in one of the animal feeding troughs. Jesus chose the path of humility and lowliness in becoming flesh, living among us and eventually giving up his life for our sake and salvation. God wants to fill our hearts anew with joy and gratitude for the greatest gift he could possibly give us - his beloved Son Jesus and that is indeed *Good News*. The joy of Christmas is not for a day or a season. It is an eternal joy, a joy that no one can take from us because it is the joy of Jesus Christ himself made present in our hearts. Today God gives us a supernatural joy which neither pain nor sorrow can diminish, and which neither life nor death can take away. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

So let us celebrate Christmas, the feast of the Incarnation - (when "the Word became flesh) - with joyful hearts. Let us renew our faith and hope in God, and give thanks for His work of redemption, and is that not the greatest gift we can receive? My wish is that you will experience this Christmas season as a time for rest and reflection that will lead you to “delight in the law of the Lord.” May you come to know Him more intimately, to love Him more dearly, to trust Him more fully, and to follow Him more closely. God Bless.

Deacon Art

Parish Financial Information

Dec. 4, 2016	
ENV. 55	\$1,939.13
Loose	232.45
PAR 24	389.23
Total	\$2,560.81

Dec. 11, 2016	
ENV. 50	\$1,195.00
Loose	219.95
PAR 24	389.23
Total	\$1,804.18

Dec. 18, 2016	
ENV. 38	\$ 905.00
Loose	238.00
PAR 24	389.23
Total	\$1,532.23

Average Weekly PAR contribution \$16.22.
Average Sunday Envelope contribution \$23.81

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David O'Connor, Assistant for Financial Affairs
Sr. Bernadette Cool, FoH.
 Religious Education Coordinator *PT*
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January 1, 2017 10:00 am
1st Reading: Numbers 6.22-27
2nd Reading: Galatians 4.4-7
Gospel: Luke 2.16-21

Please welcome Fr. Francesco Pirisi, FoH who will be celebrating with us today.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
 Thanks to over 15 Vincentians who distributed food vouchers and gift certificates for children in our area on Wednesday. This year we have been able to help 144 families 201 adults 56 children. Over \$10,750 of assistance was distributed. Thanks to Parishioners for supporting the Society's Giving Tree.

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

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.

Confirmation Classes/Catechism Classes—
 There will be no class today. Classes will resume January 8th 2017.

Key Teachings of the Church
 Christ—the title of Jesus identifies him as the Messiah, the Anointed One, whom God sent to save all of humanity.

Thank You
 Dear Friends: Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation of our family for your support and prayers during the very trying time in our lives. The outpouring of generosity and love is the visible sign of God's presence among us. The card, notes of condolence and the poinsettia were beautiful. May God continue to bless all your lives and may you continue to reflect God's love in all that you do.
 God Bless – Deacon Art

Flower Donations
Memory of William (Bill) LeBlanc
Memory of Alice & Allan Wilson
Memory of John & Sarah (Payne) O'Neill
Memory of John Thomas O'Neill
Memory of Peggy Frances O'Neill
Memory of The Baker Family
Memory of Doug & Edith Chrisian
Memory of Yvonne Walsh
Memory of Charles Lowther
Memory of Charles Davis
Memory of Lorne MacDonald
Memory of Art & Cassie Wilson
Memory of Micheal Davis
Memory of Jim & Ada Baker
Memory of Marg Baker Fillingham
Memory of Bev Baker Hiltz
Memory of Desmond Connolly
Memory of Angie Connolly Youden
Memory of Cathy Connolly
Memory of Shirley Parsons
Memory of David Sullivan
Memory of Dorothy Ryan
Memory of Meagher & Stewart Families
Memory of Gordie Barrett
Memory of Harry & Jessie Mara
Memory of Veronica Doucette
Memory of Ralph Ceccolini
Memory of the Sullivan Family
Memory of Joan Rankin

Chase the Ace
 Last weeks winner Doug O'Neill \$116.00 (20% of sales)
 The next Jackpot will be \$2174 plus 30% of that day sales. **The next Chase the Ace starts on January 8th.** 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. Tickets for sale in the hall Sunday's 11:00am to 1:00pm. 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.
We appreciate all your support.

Dear Members of St. Patrick's Parish,
(message received from Father Jean-Marc)
 Getting ready for Christmas last year seems like yesterday to me. But here I am in Montreal. I began as assistant to the novice director. The novice director is now preparing himself for his new position as superior of the French Canada province and then of the new province which will include both English and French Canada. So I have the responsibilities of both novice director and assistant to the novice director. It seems that I cannot get away from having two jobs to do. In addition I have a small Sunday parish, St. Raphael's, not far away from here. Their unoccupied church will soon become a palliative care centre.
 I get some news from St. Pat's, and I am delighted that things are moving well both pastorally and in terms of the urgent repairs that must be made to the building. Deacon Art has proved a godsend to the parish, I remember all of you fondly, and I hope and pray that you will continue to flourish both personally and as a community. May the Joy of Christmas touch the hearts of each one of you.
 Father Jean-Marc