

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



# Happy New Year!!

## Mass Schedule

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 next 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

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, January 1st, 2017



## St. Patrick's Church

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# HAPPY NEW YEAR

**“And Mary kept all these things,  
reflecting on them in her heart.”**

We have all heard the expression “time flies” or “time and tide wait for no one” and indeed, sometimes the years seem to hurtle by. There are those days when I, and I’m sure everyone else wonders: How did I let it all get away so fast? How can I hold on to it better? How can I see it better?

It is our celebration of Mary, the mother of God, who “treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart,” that starts our new year. And the Gospel tells us of shepherds who took time to approach the mystery and wondrously saw Mary and Joseph and the child. “Once they saw, they understood.”

A sense of how God “shows” in each day, how grace is manifest in every numbered year, allows us to take possession of our moments gently as time flashes by. We develop a richer taste for life itself, and our thanksgiving reaches deeper into our being. If we fully enter into the revelation of Christmas, if we truly savor it and thereby savor the lives we’ve been gifted with, we may find ourselves joining the long march of witnesses, sent to all times and nations, to bestow the blessing of God that the Book of Numbers gave to us:

**“The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace!”**

**My prayer and wish is that you have a safe, peaceful, and healthy New Year.**

**God Bless.**

**Deacon Art**

**Parish Financial Information**

Dec. 4, 2016		Dec. 11, 2016	
ENV. 55	\$1,939.13	ENV. 50	\$1,195.00
Loose	232.45	Loose	219.95
PAR 24	389.23	PAR 24	389.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,560.81</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,804.18</b>

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**Parochial Administrator**  
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 Mon-Fri. 9 am to 1 pm  
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**Michele O’Neill,** Assistant for the New Evangeliza-  
 tion and Parish Council Chair  
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**David O’Connor,** Assistant for  
**Financial Affairs**  
**Sr. Bernadette Cool, FoH.**  
 Religious Education Coordinator *PT*  
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**January 8 Epiphany of the Lord 10:00 am**  
**1st Reading:** Isa. 60.1-6  
**2nd Reading:** Eph. 3.2-3A, 5-6  
**Gospel:** Matthew 2.1-12

**Please welcome Fr. Francesco Pirisi, FoH**  
**who will be celebrating with us today. Next**  
**Sunday our celebrant will be Archbishop**  
**Anthony Mancini.**

**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.

**Dec. 18, 2016**

ENV. 38	\$ 905.00
Loose	238.00
PAR 24	389.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,532.23</b>

**Average Weekly PAR contribution \$16.22**  
**Average Sunday Envelope contribution \$35.13**

**Dec. 25, 2016**

Sun. Env. 73	\$2,565.00
Loose	\$ 232.50
Christmas Env. 64	\$4,800.00
Loose	\$1,208.90
PAR 24	\$ 389.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,195.63</b>

**Confirmation Classes, Catechism Classes, Children's Liturgy** will resume next Sunday, January 8th 2017.

**Key Teachings of the Church**  
**LORD**—The title of Jesus indicates his divine sovereignty, or power.

**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.

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul** next meeting will be held in the Hall on Wednesday, January 4th at 7:00 pm.

**Pastoral Council Meeting** of January 5th cancelled and reschedule for February 2nd at 7:00pm.

**January 1, 2017—Mary, Mother of God**  
*(Shepherds were tending their flocks. Suddenly God’s glory shone about them. An angel appeared and told them of Jesus’ birth.)*  
**They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. Luke 2:16**

Columnist D.L. Stewart writes:  
 “Mothers are the ones who carry children for nine months. They are the ones who learn to sleep on their backs... They are the ones who sweat, push, and cry out for pain in the labor room. Dads pass out cigars. Mothers are the ones who spend hours spooning out jars of strained apricots... Dads lunch at the Racquet Club. Joseph never passed out cigars or lunched at the Nazareth Racquet Club, But you can be sure he appreciated what Mary went through as a mother.”

How deeply do we appreciate our spouses and what they go through?

**Thank You**  
**Thank you to all for Christmas,!!** Altar Servers, Lectors, Counters, Eucharistic Ministers, Prayers of the Faithful, Readers, Music Ministry and Hospitality. Thank you for all you do well done!

**2017 Parish Envelopes: are on the table at the back of the Church. This will be the last weekend to pick them up.**


**Chase the Ace**  
 December 18th 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.*



**“Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!” Luke 1:45**

I can’t think of a better example of a steadfast faith in God than that of Elizabeth and Mary. “Two pregnant women, two miracle mothers. One is old, married for many years, childless and barren. The other is young, having never been married and a virgin. Interestingly enough they are relatives. They have both been chosen by God to be the human instruments for the birth of two very, very unusual men: John the Baptist, the greatest prophet who ever lived up until his time, and Jesus Christ, Son of Man, Son of God, Savior of the world.” (www.gtycanada.org) The strength of both women is very inspiring. Take some time this Christmas to celebrate the mothers in your lives — and don’t forget those who act as spiritual mothers too! May we pass on their grace and strength of faith to all we meet throughout this blessed New Year!