

St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society
2263 Brunswick St. 902-429-4170
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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 TODAY 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 questions.

The 14th Wave of the Metro New Horizons band program will begin with an instrument demonstration and experimentation session on Sunday, January 15 from 1:00 until 2:00 above the Long & McQuade store at 124 Main Street in Dartmouth. This beginner band for seniors is open to anyone 50 years of age or older – no experience is necessary.

St. Thomas Aquinas Canadian Martyrs Parish is pleased to offer the Marriage Preparation Course, *Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage*. In 7 sessions couples will explore the profound importance, meaning, purpose, and beauty of the sacrament of matrimony. Couples will tackle various concerns of marriage from dealing with conflict to fostering intimacy. Guest speakers will speak on topics such as: communication, finances, and natural family planning. This course will run for 7 weeks beginning **Mon, Jan. 16 – Mar. 6, 2017, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm** at the St. Thomas Aquinas hall, 6350 Cornwall Street, Halifax. Registration fee is \$100.00. Registration is mandatory: please call our parish office (902) 423-3057. For more info. contact Mary Thérèse MacDonell, Director of Family and Adult Faith Formation: (902) 423-3057 or e-mail familyministries@stacm.ca

April 26-May 5: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje. Cost of \$2035 (+ \$675 airport taxes/security/fuel surcharges) includes airfare from the Maritimes, (twin or triple) accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner and professional local guide. INFO: Marie Desjardins at desjardinsmarie@outlook.com or (207) 868-5027.

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 8, 2017



St. Patrick's Church

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“We have come from the East to pay homage to the king.”

Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord so how do we pay homage to our King? Jesus was born in obscurity, in a barn or animal shelter; his mother was not celebrated or notable. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth and some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

Jesus gives each one of us the light of revelation to recognize and accept Him as our Lord and Savior. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, so that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. Jesus came so that all people might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that each one of us will find the Lord and Savior on our journey of life and pay homage to Him by bringing the light of Jesus Christ to those we meet through the witness of our life and testimony.

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 |

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|----------------------|-------------------|
| Dec. 25, 2016 | |
| Sun. Env. 73 | \$2,565.00 |
| Loose | \$ 232.50 |
| PAR 23 | \$ 375.38 |
| Total | \$3,172.88 |

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Christmas offering | |
| Sun. Env. 73 | \$ 5,525.00 |
| Loose | \$ 1,198.90 |
| PAR 23 | \$ 375.38 |
| Total | \$ 7,099.28 |

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| January 1, 2017 | |
| Sun. Env. 50 | \$ 1,137.00 |
| Loose | \$ 174.95 |
| PAR 23 | \$ 375.38 |
| Total | \$ 1,687.33 |

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|---|---------|
| Average Weekly PAR contribution | |
| | \$16.32 |
| Average Sunday Envelope contribution | |
| | \$22.74 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| New Year's Day Offering | |
| Env. 29 | \$695.00 |
| Initial Offering | \$255.00 |
| Total | \$950.00 |

January 15 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Isaiah 49.3,5-6
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1.1-3
Gospel: John 1.29-34

Confirmation Classes, will resume today Sunday, January 8th 2017.

Catechism Classes will resume on January 15th.

Meals for Hope Cottage

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Group 1 - Diane Sullivan | Jan. 13 |
| Group 2 - Pam Gasparetto | Feb. 23 |
| Group 3 - Mike Convey | Mar. 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 Saint Vincent de Paul News:

2016 was another busy year for our St. Vincent de Paul volunteers, over 700 visits were made to households in our Parish distributing \$40,000 + in food vouchers. Another \$5,000 in special assistance was provided. Over 400 families were helped in some way through our efforts. A request was made for support of the Milk and Breakfast Programs at Joseph Howe Elementary School, Maynard Street, Halifax. Halifax Particular Council responded favorably ensuring the Programs will be funded for the remainder of the School Year.

Salt & Light Magazine: Salt & Light TV have provided complimentary copies of their magazine. There is a listing of their TV schedule as well as articles including 5 Ways to Improve Your Prayer Life, Clarifying a Good Death and even a saintly recipe St. Gianna's Zuppa Inglese (Italian Trifle). Copies of the Magazine are available on the tables at the back of the Church. Please take one for your reading this week.

Thank you

Dear Friends: Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation for your support, prayers, and Christmas wishes and gifts. This outpouring of generosity and love is the visible sign of God's presence among us as we journey together. 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.

Parish Administration

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Welcome Archbishop Mancini; The Parish is honoured and most pleased to welcome Archbishop Mancini as our Celebrant for the Feast of the Epiphany. Archbishop Mancini is beginning his 10th Year as Archbishop of Halifax and 6th as Archbishop of the combined Diocese of Halifax-Yarmouth. We thank-you for your ongoing leadership in our Diocese and extend best wishes for health and peace throughout the coming year.

Key Teachings of the Church - What is Epiphany? Epiphany, or the 12th day of Christmas, falls on January 6 and marks the official end of the festive Season for many Christians. It also marks a visit to the baby Jesus by The Magi (the three Kings, or Wise Men)

The Visit of the Magi is depicted in one of our stained glass windows. The candles at that window have been lit for today's Mass. The window is in memory of Mary Horigan. First ordered in April 1901, destroyed in the Halifax Explosion, replacement window ordered January 1921.

Good Morning God Prayer

Good Morning God!
 You are ushering in another day,
 Untouched and freshly new.
 So here I am to ask you, God,
 If You'll renew me too.

Forgive the many errors that I made yesterday
 And let me try again dear God
 To walk closer in Your way.

But Lord, I am well aware,
 I can't make it on my own.
 So take my hand and hold it tight,
 For I cannot walk alone.

TODAY Chase the Ace TODAY

December 18th winner Doug O'Neill \$116.00 (20% of sales)
 The next Jackpot will be \$2174 plus 30% of that day sales. **Chase the Ace resumes today.** 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.

Saint of the Week:
Thursday, January 12
Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys (1620-1700)
Canonized 1982

Born the sixth of 12 children in Troyes, France, Marguerite at the age of 20 believed that she was called to religious life. Her applications to the Carmelites and Poor Clares were unsuccessful. A priest friend suggested that perhaps God had other plans for her.

In 1654, the Governor of the French settlement in Canada on a visit to France invited her to come to Canada and start a school in Ville-Marie (eventually the city of Montreal).

Soon after starting a school, she realized her need for coworkers. In 1667, they added classes at their school for Indian children.

The Congregation of Notre Dame was established in 1676 but its members did not make formal religious profession until 1698 when their Rule and Constitution were approved.