

St. Patrick's Church Restoration Society
2263 Brunswick St. 902-429-4170
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St. Patrick's Parish Administration

Deacon Art Mitchell, Parochial Administrator, cell 902-410-3031

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Cheryl Delaney, Office Administrator, office hours Wed. & Fri. 9 am to 1 pm (office closed on holidays)

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Michele O'Neill, Assistant for the New Evangelization and Parish Council Chair

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Caring For Your Soul

Come, pause, and relax where you can practice different forms of contemplative prayer as a way to help you more deeply notice the depth of God within you and around you .

Everyone is welcome. If you're simply curious, you are welcome to just drop in once, or come whenever you'd like. We are all companions on the spiritual journey seeking to be open to the Presence of God.

We meet in 2020 Jan7 -Feb 11th, Tuesdays 12:00- 1:00 in St Patrick's Church near the altar on the left side

St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi Parish 2020 Calendars are available at the back of the Church. Calendars are \$10 each and have beautiful pictures of the four churches. This was a shared project by the parish council leaders of each of our churches. A big thank you to NSCC students who designed and copied the calendars as a part of their class project. Thanks also to Adora Fernando for taking pictures of our beautiful church. The calendars would make a wonder Christmas gift and sales will support our church community.

Meals for Hope Cottage

Group 3 Mike Convey Mar. 25

Group 1 - Diane Sullivan Jan. 10

Group 2 Pam Gasparetto Feb 10

Over the Christmas Season St. Patrick's Church office will close at 1:00pm on Fri., Dec. 20 and re-open Friday Jan 3 to regular office hours. Phone messages and emails will be checked periodically.

**Merry Christmas Everyone. Please
enjoy your time with family and
friends!
See you in Church!**

Now that winter has arrived and inclement weather (storms) will come. For Parish storm closures (Sunday's) please listen to CBC or check their website online at www.cbc.ca.

Saint Patrick's



2263 Brunswick St. Halifax, NS B2V 1B5 902-429-1300

Website: www.saintpatrickschurch.ca

twitter at [@stpatrickshfx](https://twitter.com/stpatrickshfx)

Parish Vision

**To be a vibrant, welcoming faith community
that invites others to share in our Joy in the Gospel of Jesus Christ**

December 22, 2019, Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Bulletin

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.”

Do you hold on to the promises of God at all times, especially when you are faced with uncertainty or adversity?

We always seem to be searching for something in our lives; it seems there is always something we are missing. Everyone wants to feel they belong, they need to be affirmed. We often look in wrong places and look to wrong people; we search for someone to tell us what we want to hear. We hear in the gospel this week that Mary also had to face an enormous challenge to her faith and trust in God, and to the faith of her family and Joseph, the man she chose to marry. She was asked to assume a burden of tremendous responsibility and great risk. Mary was not yet married and pregnancy outside of wedlock was not tolerated in those days and punishable by death. Mary was only espoused to Joseph, and such an engagement had to last for a whole year. She could have been rejected by Joseph, by her family, by all her own people. Mary knew that Joseph and her family would not understand without revelation from God. She nonetheless believed and trusted in God's promises. Throughout history, God has prepared people to encounter him. Angels and prophets, small boys and queens. Moses, Esther and Jonah all resisted God's invitation so we are in good company if we find it hard to imagine what role God has planned for us.

When the angel Gabriel came to Mary with the news of her becoming the mother of Jesus he had you and me in mind. When the angels appeared to the shepherds with news of peace for the entire world, God had you and me in mind. When the star over Bethlehem led the wise men to the stable, God had you and me in mind. God had a plan. That plan was perfectly timed to include you and me, so that in “in the fullness of time,” we, too, came to be. It's all in accordance with God's plan. When we are faced with seemingly insurmountable problems God does not leave us alone. A baby is about to be born into our lives; we've spent the last number of weeks preparing, and preparing for the baby Jesus is like preparing for any other human babies in a way – we don't tell Jesus who he is. We don't define Jesus. We get to know him by listening and being in his presence. We hold him close and he tells us who he is. Blessings.

Deacon Art

Parish Financial Information

Report for December 15, 2019			
	Budget	Actual	Over (Short)
Sun. Env	\$1,600.	\$1,620.	\$20.
Loose	\$ 200.	\$ 250.	\$50.
PAR	\$ 567.	\$ 567.	— — —
Total	\$2,367.	\$2,437.	\$70.

The 2020 donation envelopes are available at the back of the Church for pick-up today. The new Parish name is **St. Francis and St. Clair of Assisi** and any cheques should be made payable in that manner. There is a check box to indicate what church you are contributing through. Please mark the appropriate church. There are boxes of envelopes for PAR contributors as well.

The envelope numbers were changed this year. Please note that beginning in January 2020 you should use the new number on all donations made. Also, if you attend Mass at any of the other three churches in our parish your contribution will be recorded as coming through St. Patrick's.

TAX RECEIPTS: Charitable contributions must be received by **December 31th** to be included in your 2019 receipt for tax purposes. Any contribution received **after Dec 31** will be re-cceipted in year **2020**.

Last but not least we give thanks to the ordained members of our community of St. Patrick's. A very big thank you to Father J.J., Father Francesco and Deacon Art for their oversight of our community of St. Patrick's. Their sacramental, spiritual and pastoral care of our community, in collaboration with the Laity, is sincerely appreciated.

Christmas & New Year's Day 2020
Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent -
Mass 10:00 am

Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Mass -
The Nativity of the Lord—Carols starting at 7:30
pm Mass 8:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day - The
Nativity of the Lord Mass—10:00 am


Sunday, December 29 - Feast of the Holy Family -
Mass 10:00 am

Wednesday January 1, 2020 - New Year's Day –
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God—Mass 10:00
am

Sunday, January 5, 2020 -Feast of the Epiphany -
Mass 10:00 am

Our Community Christmas Party was enjoyed by all who attended and if anyone has photos they would like to share please send a digital copy to the parish office and we will get them on our website to be added to our Event page. A big thank you goes out to all who attended, helped decorate, prepared food and helped with set up and clean up; as well thank you to Holly, Jed and Alan for their contribution of musical talent. Merry Christmas.

Congratulations to Felix, Shiah and Francoise who made their First Reconciliation before Mass to-day!



As we prepare for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Christ, each Sunday of Advent we will begin our Mass with a member of the choir singing the traditional O Antiphons. Antiphons are short psalm verses or sentences from Holy Scripture. The O Antiphons are the seven antiphons traditionally chanted during Evening Prayer. In the Roman tradition they are sung from December 17th to 23rd.

Each O Antiphon begins with a name of Christ taken from Scripture. They express the Church's longing and expectation for the coming Messiah.

O Sapientia (O Wisdom)
 O Adonai (O Lord)
 O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse)
 O Clavis David (O Key of David)
 O Oriens (O Rising Sun)
 O Rex Gentium (O King of the Nations) and
 O Emmanuel (God is with us).

The ordering of these antiphons is purposeful. Starting with the last O Antiphon and taking the first letter of each, the Latin words **ero cras** are formed meaning **Tomorrow I will be there**. This is the Good News of the Advent Season. The O Antiphons remind us of the joyful conclusion of our Advent preparation.

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Today—decorating the Church for Christmas.
If you can help, please stay after Mass.



**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



Joan MacNeil
Vicki Burrell
David Sullivan
Arthur & Kathleen Sullivan
David & Florence Hatch
Stuart Hatch
John & Mary Forbes
Donald Forbes
Veronica, Tom & David Doucette
Harry & Jessie Mara
Gloria Mara Walker
Wayne Keddy
O'Leary, Floganson & Cole Family
Henry & Marie Butt
Lillian, Leo, Doris, John, Sheila, Kevin
Butt
Vernon L. Hubley
Christina Hubley
Vernon A. Hubley
Shirley Hunt Parsons
In Memory of my Mother Jeannine
Theresa North

Vicki Burrell

Arthur & Kathleen Sullivan

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John & Mary Forbes

Veronica, Tom & David Doucette

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