



Spring Clean Up at our Cemeteries

It time once again for spring clean up at our cemeteries: Gate of Heaven, Holy Cross, and Mount Olivet. As the

weather warms we want to prepare our cemetery grounds for the spring and summer weather that will come. And we're asking for your help in this task. During April, as the snow clears, we ask families who have loved ones buried in any of our cemeteries to please remove flowers and other items that have been on the grave or the headstone over the winter. If you have bushes or flowers planted please trim or take out these as well. Over the coming week our staff will be remove such items to prepare the grounds for mowing and other landscaping maintenance. If you wish to keep the headstone saddles (arrangements) or other items please remove them very soon. Thank you.



April 11: Chrism Mass

A reminder that during Holy Week all are welcome to gather in prayer with Archbishop Mancini and the priests of our Archdiocese for the Chrism

Mass on April 11 at 12:00 noon at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica.

Please remember that parking spots at the Cathedral are very limited. Please consider carpooling or taking public transportation to the Chrism Mass. Saint Agnes Church on Mumford Rd. in Halifax and Saint Peter's Church on Maple St. in Dartmouth have generously made their parking lots available to people wanting to leave their car at one of these locations and carpool or bus to the Cathedral.

2017 National Catholic Mission: Our Final Gift and the Promise of Life Everlasting

Take some time over Holy Week to join the annually televised 2017 National Mission titled: Our

Final Gift and the Promise of Life Everlasting.

This year's reflections will focus on the works of Father Henri Nouwen.

Father Henri Nouwen was a Catholic priest, a University professor and one of the best known spiritual writers of the last 100 years. He died suddenly 20 years ago in September 1996.

In his last works, just before he died, Henri Nouwen began to speak of how the final task in life is to give one's death to others. We are meant, Nouwen says, to give our lives for others, but we are also meant, to give our deaths for them. Just as elders are meant to teach the young how to live they are also meant to teach them how to die. That's the final lesson we are meant to give the young, to die in such a way that our deaths are our final blessing to them.

Please join our Mission Leaders Sr. Sue Mosteller and Fr. Ron Rolheiser during Holy Week as they reflect on Our Final Gift and the Promise of Life Everlasting.

The mission will run during Holy Week on April 10-12. The broadcast schedule is:

Vision TV Part 1: Monday, April 10, 2017
4:00 pm PT / 7:00 pm ET / 8:00 pm AT
Rebroadcast - Tues, April 11 after Daily TV Mass

Vision TV Part 2: Tuesday, April 11, 2017
4:00 pm PT / 7:00 pm ET / 8:00 pm AT
Rebroadcast - Wed, April 12 after Daily TV Mass

Salt+Light TV Part 1: Tuesday, April 11, 2017
5:00 pm PT / 8:00 pm ET / 9:00 pm AT
Rebroadcast - Wed, April 12 after Daily TV Mass

Salt+Light TV Part 2: Wednesday, April 12, 2017
5:00 pm PT / 8:00 pm ET / 9:00 pm AT
Rebroadcast - Thurs, April 13 after Daily TV Mass

For more information visit the NCBC website at www.dailytvmass.com or call toll-free at 1-888-383-6277.

Repent, and believe in the Gospel!



Palm (Passion) Sunday



From the Desk of Fr. Paul :

Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum This week is different from any other. Over the next seven days, we will hear some of the Church's most ancient and solemn prayers, scriptures and music. Our presence at the liturgies of Holy Week is more than just an invitation – we are all needed here! Set these days aside for what they are: High Holy Days, our most sacred time as Church.

Sunday begins Holy Week with the celebration of **PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY** mass. The passion, death and resurrection of the Lord are the very themes that unite us as God's people. On this day we accompany Jesus at his triumphal entry into Jerusalem amidst the crowds crying out, "Hosanna, Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" We take our palms and join in welcoming Jesus to Jerusalem. We ask for the grace to journey with Jesus to the Cross.

On Tuesday (12 noon), the **Mass of Chrism** is celebrated at Saint Mary's Basilica, the Cathedral church of the Archdiocese. We gather around the Archbishop and priests of the diocesan church, who publicly renew their commitment to priestly ministry. During this mass, oils are blessed that will be used in the celebration of various sacraments: to welcome new members into the church (Oil of Catechumens, O.S.); to anoint during baptism, confirmation, and ordination (Oil of Chrism, S.C.); and to give strength in our suffering, sickness and dying (Oil of the Sick, O.I.).

HOLY THURSDAY (7:00 P.M.) ends Lent - the Sacred Triduum begins. The Triduum can be thought of as a single liturgy of the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection conducted over the course of three days. The **Mass of the Lord's Supper** is celebrated this night; the ancient discipline of the church states that this is the only mass permitted in a parish on this day. The scriptures of this night root us in our Jewish past leading to the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. Following the Liturgy of the Word, feet are washed.

Jesus' example and command gives us an image of what the church is supposed to look like, feel like, and act like. Following mass is a period of *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*, (until 9:30pm) where we heed Jesus' call to the disciples to "keep watch." Afterward, the altar is stripped of its linens. The Church is in mourning.

On GOOD FRIDAY (3:00 P.M.), we commemorate the **Passion and Death of the Lord**. There is no mass today – the only day of the year. Instead, there is an extended Liturgy of the Word, with Holy Communion distributed from the hosts consecrated the night before. The liturgy begins with the priest prostrating himself and the congregation kneeling in silence, signaling the grief and sorrow of the church. Saint John's hauntingly beautiful account of the Passion is the centerpiece of the entire liturgy, and extended prayers of intercession are offered. The Cross is held high in our midst, which we then venerate, reminding us that through the passion and death of Jesus, the Cross has been transformed from an instrument of shame, into the path to exaltation and glory.

On HOLY SATURDAY (8:00 P.M.), we celebrate the **Easter Vigil**, the most important liturgy of the entire year. We gather in darkness, light the new fire and great candle symbolizing the light of Christ in our midst. We hear some of the most beautiful readings of Scripture: creation, covenant, exodus, and most importantly, the empty tomb. *He Is Risen!* We renew our baptismal promises. Catechumens and candidates receive the Easter sacraments are made fully initiated members of the Catholic Church.

EASTER SUNDAY (usual mass times) must be a day of great joy! We hear the story of the empty tomb, reminding us that Resurrection ultimately triumphs over suffering and death. The Paschal (Easter) candle burns brightly in our midst, and we are sprinkled with the newly blessed Easter water, as a symbol of our baptism. We renew our baptismal commitment to reject evil and follow the path of the Risen Lord.



Palm Sunday

April 9—8:30 & 10:30am

Monday April 10— No Mass

Blessing of Holy Oils—Mass of Chrism

Tuesday, April 11—12:00pm (St. Mary’s Basilica)

*No 8am Parish Mass this day

Wednesday April 12—12:10pm

Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Holy Thursday, April 13 —7:00pm*

Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

Good Friday, April 14—3:00pm*

The Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 15—8:00pm*

The Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday, April 16—8:30am & 10:30am

*By ancient tradition no other masses are permitted to be celebrated on these days. Holy communion may be brought to the sick at any time during these days.

** As in years past, we are looking for donations of sandwiches/sweets for the parish reception that takes place following the Saturday Easter Vigil here at St. Agnes. It would be appreciated if you could drop them off in the Auditorium on Saturday April 15th after 2pm. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Religious Education News

There will be no Religion Classes Sunday April 16th, Easter Sunday. Classes will resume on April 23rd.



Note: The palms have been blessed. They should never be thrown into the trash. Please bring them to the parish office when finished with them. Palms are burned and used as the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Good Friday: is a universal day of fasting and abstinence from meat. Think and plan ahead. Fasting meals are the main meal and 2 smaller (if needed). Abstinence from meat does not include eggs, cheese or yogurt.



Adult Faith Formation

Public Lecture: Catholic Education in Canada Today

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem - Canada Atlantic Lieutenancy will sponsor a public lecture titled: Catholic Education in Canada Today on April 25, 2017

This talk will focus on Catholic education in Canada, and some of the challenges to and for it. Beginning with some comments about the principles of Catholic education, Dr Sweet will point to a few areas in which there is promise for the future but also where there needs to be some significant practical change. Q & A will follow.

Dr. William Sweet is currently Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Centre for Philosophy, Theology, and Cultural Traditions, at St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Canada. He is also an adjunct professor of philosophy at Saint Paul University, Ottawa, and a member of the graduate faculty at the Dominican University College also in Ottawa.

The lecture will take place at St. Agnes Church Hall, 6903 Mumford Road, Halifax on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 from 7:30 - 8:30 PM.



St. Agnes Annual Mothers Day Lobster Dinner Sunday May 14th from 11:30 to 1pm. Take out Available. Tickets are \$25.00 ea (alternate is baked ham) Your special luncheon includes a fully cooked lobster, potato salad & Cole slaw, roll and refreshment. With pie to finish up with .

For tickets or to reserve a ticket, call the office at 454-8200 # 2 or Tanya at 902-454-8281. There is also a chance to win a super special Mothers Day Basket chocked full of goodies. So whether you want to come in and relax and have your lobster served to you, or you would rather have it to go, come on out and join us for brunch.



Mancini Cup – Saturday April 29th – We need players for the Junior High Team, players for the High School Team and referees. If you are interested in playing, please contact Tanya Thomson at stagnes-dre@eastlink.ca or text / call 902-488-8054. *** Referees **** If you are a ref

or have soccer experience and can volunteer some time on Saturday April 29th please contact Tanya. The games are 25 minute no stop time, and all in good fun!



Easter Flowers for the Altar: Many Thanks to all who have participated in this special memorial. There are still special envelopes at the back of the church with a donor card inside. If interested please complete the information on the donor card and place them in the collection baskets, or drop the cards off at the parish office. Deadline is March 9th Palm Sunday. Donation cost \$10.



Many thanks for the excellent response to our parish reconciliation day. They were easily the biggest crowds for the Sacrament of Confession since I’ve come to St. Agnes.....Father Paul.

Week at a Glance

Sunday April 9th—Palm Sunday
L’Arche—auditorium 1-4pm

Tuesday April 11
No Mass

Atlantic Sewing Guild—Campell Centre—6:30pm c

Wednesday April 12

Mothers Morning Out—Auditorium —10:30am-
Private Function—Auditorium 9-10pm

Sunday April 16

No Religious Education classes

Monday April 17

No regular Parish Mass
Parish Office closed
Bingo—Auditorium—6:50pm
Ordinariate Mass 6pm . All are welcome

Rosary Making Club!! Join us Monday April 17th 6:30pm-8:30pm in the Campbell Center Room 101/102 as we continue to learn to make rosaries, pray and enjoy faithful fellowship. A one-time donation of \$5.00 to help cover materials would be appreciated . Bring a friend

2017 St. Agnes Youth Bursary Application – Are you a St. Agnes Parishioner, graduating from Grade 12 this June and obtaining post-secondary education this September? This opportunity might be for you! Applications may be found on the information tables at the entrance to the church and our website. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our St. Agnes Office. Deadline for Applications is May 1, 2017

