

Choir News : Do you enjoy the “sound of music”?



Have you noticed how more reverent Mass is when accompanied by music! If so, please join us in the choir! We are actively looking for voices to “ Lift up your voice

to the Lord” and enhance the Liturgical experience for everyone . If interested please contact Greg Doyle at 902-488-0794.



Annual Fall Turkey

Dinner!

Mark Your Calendars !

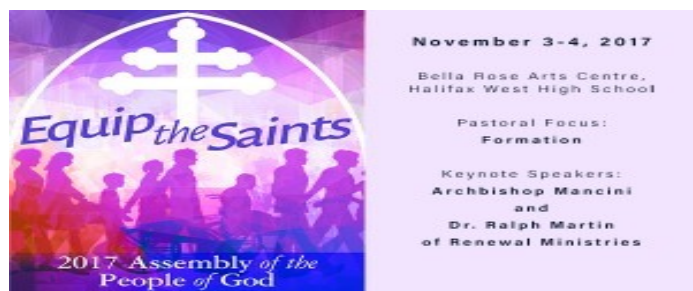
Saturday October 29th from 4-6pm we will be putting on our Famous Gobbler dinner. Our dedicated Daddy Gobbler will be cooking up a Delicious Turkey Feast with all the fixins. Tickets \$15 ea. Pre sold only. You can reserve or pickup your tickets either through the office 902-454-8200x2 or through Tanya Thomson or Greg Doyle. Come on out and enjoy a great meal!



Tickets are now available for the **5th Annual Archbishop's Dinner & Auction on October 11** at the Cunard Centre. Guest Speaker is Mr. Wadih Fares. Funds raised from this year's Dinner will once again support The Ministry of Care and Companionship.

Tickets 125.00 ea.

As we did last year, St. Agnes has reserved 2 tables (20 seats). If you would like to attend, you can reserve your tickets through Marlene at the office and your purchase price will be tax receipted on your parish receipt. For more information or to purchased tickets, visit www.halifaxymouth.org/dinner or contact Lydia at (902) 429-9800 ext 401 or lhood@halifaxymouth.org



Register now! 2017 Assembly of the People of God

Registration is now open for our 2017 Assembly of the People of God!

Come out on November 3 and 4 to celebrate the people and parishes of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth! Gather with Archbishop Antony Mancini and active leaders from parishes across our diocese as we continue our efforts to equip the saints for the work of ministry. Through communal prayer, engaging keynotes, and interactive workshops we focus on our diocesan pastoral theme: **formation**.

When: November 3-4

• **Where:** Bella Rose Arts Centre, 283 Thomas Raddall Dr., Halifax

• **Cost:** \$20.00 (EARLY REGISTRATION! Before September 30) \$25.00 (after September 30)

New this year! On that Saturday night we will host our this year's Steubenville Launch Party in the same location. Stick around after the Assembly to experience a taste of the largest youth conference in Eastern Canada. Or better yet – bring some young people with you!

PS: What do we mean by formation? Simply put it is about how we continue to grow and develop our faith. In last year's Lenten Video Series Archbishop Mancini shared what formation is, what tools we need to form one another in the faith, and what role the community plays in formation



FROM THE DESK OF FR. PAUL

As I did in last week's bulletin, I would like to use this opportunity to welcome new parishioners who have joined the parish since summertime. Please take a moment to fill out the parish registration sheet and to sign up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) as your way of financially supporting the parish.

I warmly welcome everyone back to St. Agnes' after the summer! Be assured that I will always try and help you if you think I can. Never make any hesitation to contact me through the parish office.

In the summer of 2016 I travelled to a few countries in Western Europe with another priest, and on Sunday we went to Mass, of course, but we did not concelebrate the Mass as priests. Instead, we attended by joining the congregation dressed in “civvies” just like everyone else. Judging from the long and constant stares we received from the moment we walked into the church, it was obvious to all in the church that we were visitors. Yet not once during our entire time there – neither before, during or after Mass – did a single person come up to us to welcome us. This from a congregation of around 175 persons.

A smile is pretty universal language but even this most basic gesture of hospitality and welcome was seemingly withheld. How ironic that after Mass, the parish was celebrating some kind of pancake breakfast, but needless to say, no one cared as we slipped by the others going into the area for this – they simply let us walk out the door. It was a good experience for me inasmuch as I learned firsthand what it can feel like to feel “the outsider”, the stranger – overlooked and even excluded. The parish seemed to be about “us” and not “you” – that is, anyone who was a visitor/stranger. That is how a social club operates, not a parish!

For many who risk and take the bold step of pulling open the church doors - perhaps after a long

St. Agnes Parish September 17, 2017 24rd Sunday Ordinary Time

absence or maybe even for the first time in their life – I want them to feel that their risk has been worth it. The danger with a parish like St. Agnes' is that because many families have a long practice of being here, we can easily overlook those who are new. Let's try and deepen our sense of welcome and formation of our parish family by being deliberate and mindful about welcoming those who we recognize as (possibly) new, as well as meeting those we see but have never introduced ourselves to.

Forming a deeper sense of parish community will help everyone see the presence of Christ in our midst. But to do this requires from each of us a deliberate intention. It takes us out of our comfort zone, true, but like many things in the spiritual life, that is when the real growth begins! The “job” of welcoming the community is neither the sole responsibility of myself, not the ushers, or other hospitality ministers. It is all of us **together** that creates a culture. So let's create one that is known for its sincerity and genuine sense of welcome.

EXTRA TIME FOR CONFESSION



Beginning on **Thursday, September 28** and on every last Thursday of the month (December excluded) Fr. Paul will now offer an evening time slot for confessions.

The time will be from 6:30-7:30 pm and will coincide with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the church to help aid us in preparing for confession. The Saturday time will continue as is. Please spread the word to others, including those from other parishes.

FUNERAL PLANNING

A PRESENTATION BY FR. PAUL

It is estimated that 50% of Canadians do not have a will. If that is true, I can certainly say by experience that 95% of people do not have a well-formed set of funeral plans.

Although the subject of death is never entirely easy to address, our Christian faith and the hope that comes from the Resurrection means it cannot be entirely taboo either.

Although sometimes circumstances do not allow, for too many others, funeral planning is simply a subject that is deferred, which can create anxiety and stress for those left with the task of planning a Catholic funeral for us when we die. Many people would benefit from having a prepared document distinct from their will that gives clear instruction regarding your wishes for your Catholic funeral. To help with all of this, Fr. Paul is presenting an evening for the parish on this subject: "Planning Your Catholic Funeral." The evening will look at the theological and practical questions regarding choosing music and readings for a funeral Mass, as well as looking at the role of the vigils, cremation, burial, receptions, etc. There will be lots of time for question and answer. **Tuesday, October 17, 7:00 in the auditorium (finishing no later than 9:00 pm).** Mark this date now and bring your spouse, friend or family members. The evening will be informative but not dour – promise! I think many will find the information useful and lead to informed planning.

Blessing of the Animals

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



In honour of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Fr. Paul will bless animals on **Sunday, October 8, at 12:30.** This event grows every year in number and is a lot of fun! Please gather in the area in front of the rectory. Mark this date now and invite a friend.



Religious Education News:

Religious Education Classes begin Sunday Sept. 17th

– Elementary Grades Preschool to Grade 5 will meet in the gym at 9:30am. Junior High Grades 6 to 9 / Confirmation will meet in the gym at 11:30am.

Class Times are: Preschool 9:30am – 10:10am, Primary to Grade 5 9:30am – 10:20am, Grade 6 to Grade 9/Confirmation 11:30am-12:20pm.

Prayer for Catechists- We have a wonderful 2017/18 team supporting our families and passing on the Good News to our children and youth. **Please keep these disciples in your prayers!!** Preschool – Kathleen Sautiere (soon to be Sperdakes) & Ann Marie Sautiere. Primary – Molly Jane & Katie King. Grade 1 – Amanda Fitzgerald, Courtney & Jason Thomson. Grade 2 – Bernadine Halliday. Grade 3 – Brooke & Blake McNeil. Grade 4 – Robert Sapp. Grade 5 – Amanda O'Brien & Jacquelynn Furzeland-Gentiles. Grade 6 – Irisjade Ong & Michael Cuison. Grade 7 – Tricia Murray. Grade 8 – Carole Little. Grade 9 – Taylor Thomson. Substitutes and Assistants – Nikki Kressall, Janet Hodgson & Meaghan Speck.



Hey Quilters & Sewers You are invited to gather Friday mornings 10:00am – 12:00pm in the Campbell Center Room 101 to work on quilting & sewing projects. Bring your supplies

along and work in the company of others who love to create a variety of treasure. For more information please contact Debbie Laviolette at 902-240-8084 / laviolette94@eastlink.ca



Rosary Making Club

– We meet Mondays on a biweekly basis 6:30pm – 8:00pm in the Campbell Center Room 101. Next evening is Monday Sept. 25th. You don't have to know how to make the Rosaries, we have ladies on hand to teach you!

Little Church Mission – We Need Your Support!

Our Little Church is a Big Help towards our Parish Social Justice Campaigns. St. Agnes has reached out to support – **Josephine in Uganda, Joel in Uganda, Wilmer in Nicaragua and a village called Kamakwie in Serra Leone.** Our Parish goal is to maintain financial support for education, safe boarding, food and medicine. Please consider making donations to our Little Church – purchase a handmade Rosary, or a handmade quilted bag. These items are on display in the gym on Sundays after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses. Or drop into the office during the week and we can help you. As well, if you make a cash donation you can put it under your envelope number for tax purposes. *Please keep the children and families of our Mission in your prayers, we are so blessed to be able to help them and make a difference in their lives.*



MINISTRY APPRECIATION BBQ

Friday, Sept. 22, 5:30-7:30 pm.

It is always a nice event with a casual vibe that is meant to give thanks for the time and talent of so many women and men that make St. Agnes' the great parish it is! So that we make sure there is enough food for everyone, please RSVP the parish office or sign the sheets at the entrance to the church. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Poor Mans Supper:



Our annual Poor Man's supper of homemade baked beans, wieners and homemade brown bread with refreshment will be held on

Saturday September 23 from

5–7pm. Ticket price **\$10.00.** All proceeds will be going to Fr. Lloyd O'Neill's favorite charities. So come on out and have a simple meal with a simple goal of helping those who cannot help themselves. For tickets call the office 902-454-8200 x 2 or Ralph Henneberry @ 902-455-9313.

Week at a Glance

Sunday September 17

Religious Education Classes Resume
Children of Mary—St. Agnes Rm—2pm
Private function—Auditorium 7-9m

Monday September 18

Magnificat—Campbell Centre 1:30pm
Bingo—Auditorium 6:50pm

Tuesday September 19

Meditation—Campbell Centre 1:30pm
CWL—particular—Campbell Centre 7pm
Gym—Private Function -7pm

Wednesday September 20

NO MASS

Funeral—James Hudson 10am
Private function—Auditorium 12 -4pm
Playgroup—Gym—10—12

Thursday September 21

Praise Moves—Gym -12—1pm
Prayer Shawl Ministry—Campbell Centre 1:30pm
Liturgy Committee—St. Agnes Rm 7pm

Friday September 22

Quilting Group—Campbell Centre 10am.
Ministry appreciation BBQ—5-7pm

Saturday September 23

Poor Mans Supper—gym—5-7pm

Sunday September 24

Baptisms 10:30am
Private function—gym—7-9pm

Lunch time Christian Fitness - PraiseMoves, a faith and fitness program is being offered on Thursdays in the Auditorium from 12:10 to 1:00 beginning Sept 21. Registration for 6 classes is \$40; or drop in \$8. Contact Lia Thibault at livemovebfitness@gmail.com for more info.