2nd Sunday of Advent (C) December 7/8, 2024

St. Paul's Parish, Havre Boucher
St. Lawrence Parish, Mulgrave
Francis of Assisi Parish, St. Francis Harbour
Fr. Allan MacPhie, Pastor Rectory: 902- 234-2387 / Church: 902-234-3505
Mary Williams, Religious Ed. Coordinator, Home: 902-234-3118, cell 902-870-2168, or Church 902-234 3118 Email: marywilliams@bellaliant.net Bulletin notices must be in no later than Thursday evening

This Sunday Readings

Baruch 5:1-9 Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east…rejoicing…
Responsorial Psalm 126 R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11 …the one who began a good work in you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ**.**
Luke3:1-6 Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is celebrated every Saturday, 1:00-2:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church (unless it is cancelled for a funeral, etc.) and before Mass on Saturdays at St. Francis and St. Lawrence Churches. If you would like to receive Reconciliation at a different time, please phone Fr. Allan at 902-234-2387 to set up an appointment

Masses: Tuesday, December 10, to Sunday, December 15, 2024

Tuesday	**December 10**	**Lillian, Joseph & Francis Boucher**	**6:00 pm**	**St. Paul's**
Wednesday	**December 11**	**Thomas Anderson**	**6:00 pm**	**St. Paul's**
Thursday	**December 12**	**Emyline DeCoste**	**9:00 am**	**St. Paul's**
Friday	**December 13**	**Carrie Kea**	**9:00 am**	**St. Paul's**
Saturday	**December 14**	**Damien DeCoste**	**11:00 am**	**St. Paul's**
Saturday		**Opal Leet**	**4:00 pm**	**St. Francis**
Saturday		**pro populo**	**6:00 pm**	**St. Lawrence**
Sunday	**December 15**	**Amanda B. Ryan-Delorey**	**10:00 am**	**St. Paul's**

Collection, Nov. 30 /Dec. 1, 2024	St. Francis	St. Lawrence	St. Paul's
Sunday Collection	**$200.00**	**$715.00**	**$1790.00**
Loose		**$12.50**	**$34.00**
Pastor's Dues			**$575.00**
		$215.00 IMO Moira Keeping Cemetery Fund	**$500.00** IMO Nelson Melong **Roof Fund**

Bible Study, Wednesday, Dec 11, **6:30 pm**, St. Paul's Church (wakeroom). We look at the Sunday Mass readings and discuss their meaning. All are welcome.

For Pastor's Visits at St. Martha's Hospital: New privacy regulations at St. Martha's Hospital do not permit clergy to see a list of their parishioners who are patients in the hospital. Therefore, I will need to be informed by the family or patient **themselves if the patient wishes me to visit them in hospital. My usual day for visiting is Tuesday, so please inform me by** phone before Sunday Mass (234-2387, Glebe house) if someone wants me to visit them. ***~ Fr. Allan***

St. Lawrence CWL is selling tickets on a "Christmas Socking" filled with gift cards. Approximate value of $600. Second prize is a lovely cloth "Ginger Bread Man Wreath" from Ada's Wreaths and Things. $2 each or 3 for $5. CWL Members will be selling tickets following mass or contact any CWL Member. The winners will be drawn following mass on Dec.14, 2024.
St. Lawrence CWL will also be doing our "Angel Tree" again this year. Angels will be ready to purchase on December 14, 2024 before and following masses. This is an opportunity to honor our deceased loved ones. They will be remembered at all masses during the Christmas Season. There will be an Angel Tree for you to hang your Angel on. Angels are $5 and proceeds from this project will go to St. Lawrence Building Fund with the CWL matching funds raised.
St. Lawrence CWL is reminded of our **Christmas Supper** at Papa's Pub on Thursday, December 12th at 5:30 pm.

St. Francis Harbour we will once again be collecting non perishable items for the food bank, in support of less fortunate families in our area for Christmas. There will be a container at the entrance of the church where your items can be dropped off Monetary donations can be made as well. Thank you!

Envelope at St. Paul's whoever has envelope **number 127** could you please put your name and address on the next **envelope you use so it can be entered in the database. Thank you!**

Envelope at St. Francis: #26, who is using 2023 envelopes, please address your envelope in order to get credit for your donations and numbers have changed since 2023 therefore your number has changed.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel: **St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the** wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly **hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen**

St. Paul's Liturgy Meeting Tuesday, December **10**, 6:30 pm in wake room

St. Paul's "Forever in Our Hearts Tree" is on again with proceeds going to our Religious Ed. program. $5.00 per angel in memory of someone deceased or not, a mass will be said for those who have their name on an angel, in January.
Christmas Flowers at St. Paul's: anyone who would like to donate flowers in memory of a loved one(s) please write Christmas Flowers on an envelope and include name of person it is in memory of and who is making the donation, names will be attached to bulletins sometime in January if possible.

St. Lawrence Graveyard will not do burials after Dec. 1, 2024 to prevent damage to the graveyard. Burials will resume in the spring of 2025.

TAX RECEIPT DEADLINE FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR 2024: To receive a charitable donation receipt for the year 2024 from St. Paul's Parish, St. Lawrence Parish and St. Francis of Assisi Mission, for all donations including your Sunday offerings, special collections, donations IMO, etc., funds **must** be received by the Parish on or before December 31, 2024. Tax receipts for Income Tax purposes for the year 2024 will be issued on or before February 28, 2025. This is a requirement from the Revenue Canada Agency. Any funds received in the month of January 2025 will be recorded as a 2025 donation.
CHURCH ENVELOPES: St. Paul's Parish Church Envelopes for 2025 will be made available December 15th, 2024. For those parishioners who have contributed to your respective Parish using the 2024 church envelopes provided, your name will be shown on the 2025 box of envelopes. If your name does not appear on an envelope box, **please** take a box of envelopes that does not have a name on it (8 extra boxes) and for the first couple of weeks make sure your name and address are shown on your Sunday Offering envelopes. **PLEASE do not use your 2025 envelopes during the month of December 2024** or use your 2024 envelopes in the year 2025.
Every parishioner has both a duty and obligation to support their Parish. Sunday Offering envelopes are made specifically for the collection of monetary donations to your Parish for the purpose of collecting funds necessary for the operations of the Parish. The use of remittance envelopes is **crucial** to the financial succeed the operations of the church. With the exception of "Special Collections" and the "Diocesan Levy", the majority of funds collected stay in your Parish to pay for operating expenses (heat/electricity/insurance/mtce./repairs) of the church, glebe house , office expenses including wages and benefits, snow removal, religious education/administration, grounds and cemetery upkeep, just to name a few of the expenditures.
TAX RECEIPT FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR 2024: Please note that receipts **will not** be issued for the following: Religious Education registration fees Purchase of missals and Purchase of Angels for the St. Paul's Angel Tree Angels, "Forever in our Hearts ornaments".

Sanitary Policies for St. Paul, St. Lawrence, and St. Francis of Assisi Parishes: We strongly recommend the wearing of masks during cold, flu and COVID outbreaks; hand sanitizing and mask for Eucharistic Ministers at all times; bowing, not hand shaking, for the sign of peace; and being the last to receive Communion for those receiving on the tongue.

Conscience Protection of Nova Scotia Doctors: Imagine a healthcare system where death is considered a therapeutic treatment. *Imagine being a Christian doctor in that system.* Imagine being told by your medical regulator that you are abandoning your patient if you don't make arrangements for them to get an assessment for euthanasia. That healthcare system is in Nova Scotia today. The Nova Scotia medical regulator has a policy that forces physicians to refer patients for euthanasia and other controversial procedures. *Forty courageous Christian physicians* have told Nova Scotia's medical regulator that they cannot abide by this policy. When they are at their most vulnerable, people may choose euthanasia if they don't have suitable options to live. We need physicians who will go the extra mile to ensure their patients are connected with the support and services they need. Nova Scotia physicians are too important to patient care to be sacrificed for the sake of an unnecessary policy. Write Nova Scotia regulator today to tell them you want this policy to be changed**:**
https://bit.Iy/NSRegulator24. **(Copies of a draft letter to the Nova Scotia Government are also available at the Church entrance**

SAVE THE DATE - Three Night Advent Mission at Our Lady of Grace Monastery with Father Bill Burke, OSA on December 9th 10th, 11th - 2024. Mission will begin with Holy Mass at 7:00 pm each evening followed by light refreshments in the Retreat House

Christmas & New Year's (Mary, Mother of God) Mass Schedules

Tuesday, Dec. 24, **(Christmas Eve)**

Betty Kavanaugh	4:00 pm	St. Francis
pro populo	5:30 pm	St. Lawrence
Elizabeth Breen	7:00 pm	St. Paul's

Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) Donna Marie & Rita Munroe 10:00 am St. Paul's

Tuesday, Dec. 31 (Mary, Mother of God) Mary Wood 6:00 pm St. Lawrence
pro populo 4:00 pm St. Francis

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 (Mary, Mother of God) Marion Melong 10:00 am St. Paul's

Please Note: Christmas, Dec. 25 and **Mary, the Mother of God,** Jan. 1 are holy days of obligation. A faithful Catholic is obligated to celebrate Mass on these days (like all Sundays of the year) if physically able.

Sunday Missals, $6.00 each. We were not able to get as many of these as in previous years – so perhaps we should limit ourselves to one per household. (If you took one, did you remember to pay for it?)

Cemetery Rules: We remind everyone that our cemeteries are owned by the Church, the Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Antigonish, and laws for cemeteries are made by the parishes. Cemetery plots are **not** owned by the families of the deceased. Therefore, no one is permitted to plant trees or bushes or flowers on a cemetery plot. No one is allowed to place statues on plots, or ornaments that interfere with mowing. Gravestones are to be installed only in consultation with cemetery representatives (Clem Munroe, St. Paul's; Jack Hoben, St. Lawrence; Dannie Grady St. Francis). And if there is already a grave stone (or stones on s double plot), no one is permitted to place another gravestone on the same plot to mark the burial of cremains in that plot. Please respect and follow our laws for the order and beauty of our cemeteries.
Cemetery Fees: Parishioners are reminded of the following policies passed by parish councils, and approved by the pastor regarding cemetery fees

St. Paul's: For Parishioners No cost. (A parishioner is a Catholic who lives within the boundaries of the parish, **or** who lives close and attends Mass here faithfully and supports the parish using church envelopes).

Non-parishioners $400.00 payable to St. Paul's Cemetery Fund for a new plot; $100.00 for burial of cremains in an existing plot.

St. Lawrence: **For parishioners and non-parishioners:** $200.00 payable to St. Lawrence Cemetery Fund, for burial in a new plot. There is no fee for burial of ashes in an existing plot. **$200, 00 payable to St. Francis of Assisi Cemetery Fund for burial in a new plot;** $100.00 for burial of cremains in an existing plot. **For Non-Parishioners** $300.00 for burial in a new plot; $100.00 for burial of cremains in an existing plot.

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