Presentation of the Lord (C) February 1/2, 2025

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
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This Sunday Readings

Malachi 3:1-4 "See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple."
Responsorial Psalm 24 R. The Lord of hosts, he is king of glory.
Hebrews 2; 10-11, 13b-18 Because Jesus himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those wh0 are being tested.
Luke 2; 22-40 "This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, - and a sword will pierce [his mother's] soul too."

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.

Holy Hour, Friday, Feb. 7, 11:00 am, Wakeroom. All are welcome.

Communion Calls, Thursday, Feb. 6 and Friday 7.

Masses: Tuesday, February 4, to Sunday, February 9, 2025

Tuesday,	**February 4**	**Berky Fougere**	**St. Paul's**	**6:00 pm**
Wednesday,	**February 5**	**Margaret & Adrian Breen**	**St. Paul's**	**6:00 pm**
Thursday,	**February 6**	**Elizabeth Breen**	**St. Paul's**	**9:00 am**
Friday,	**February 7**	**Mary Theresa DeCoste**	**St. Paul's**	**9:00 am**
Saturday,	**February 8**	**Edward & Cecilia O'Neill & deceased family mem.**	**St. Paul's**	**11:00 am**
Saturday		**pro populo**	**St. Francis**	**4:00 pm**
Saturday,		**Anthony O'Neil**	**St. Lawrence**	**6:00 pm**
Sunday,	**February 9**	**Ernest & Emma DeCoste & deceased family mem.**	**St. Paul's**	**10:00 am**

Collection, Jan.12 & Jan. 25, 2025	**St. Francis**	**St. Lawrence**	**St. Paul's**
Sunday Collection Jan. 12 / Jan. 25	**$207.00**	**$1035**	**$1425.00 / $1470.00**
Loose			**$15.00 / $66.00**
Pastor's Dues			**$135.00 / $60.00**
Christmas Collection			**$ 50.00**
Solemnity of Mary		**$20.00**	**$30.00 /$20.00**
Initial		**$25.00**	**$25.00 / $10.00**

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**

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***

Winter/ Spring square set/ceilidh will be held at St. Ninians Place on Feb. 16, 2025 from 1.30 to 4 p.m. Featured performers are Shelly Campbell and Allan Dewar. Adults $10.00, students by donation, children under 12 free. Light lunch provided!

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**

Euthanasia (From the Catechism of the Catholic Church) 466

2276 Those whose lives are diminished or weakened deserve special respect. Sick or handicapped persons should be helped to lead lives as normal as possible.

2277 Whatever its motives and means, direct euthanasia consists in putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick or dying persons. It is morally unacceptable.

Thus an act or omission which, of itself or by intention, causes death in order to eliminate suffering constitutes a murder gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and to the respect due to the living God, his Creator. The error of judgment into which one can fall in good faith does not change the nature of this murderous act, which must always be forbidden and excluded.

2278 Discontinuing medical procedures that are burdensome, dangerous, extraordinary, or disproportionate to the expected outcome can be legitimate; it is the refusal of "overzealous" treatment. Here one does not will to cause death; one's inability to impede merely accepted. The decisions should be made by the patient if he is competent and able or, if not, by those legally entitled to act for the patient, whose reasonable will and legitimate interests must always, be respected.

2279 Even if death is thought imminent, the ordinary care owed to a sick person cannot be legitimately interrupted. The use of painkillers to alleviate the sufferings of the dying, even at the risk of shortening their days, can be morally in conformity with human dignity if death is not willed as either an end or a means, but only foreseen and tolerated as inevitable. Palliative care is a special form of disinterested charity. As such it should be encouraged.

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.

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.

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.