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This Sunday's Readings *Micah 5:2-5a From you , O Bethlehem, will come the ruler of Israel.*
Responsorial Psalm 80 R. Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
Hebrews 10:5-10 I come to do your will.
Luke 1:39-45 Why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?

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.

Extra Confession Times: St. Ninian's Cathedral, Saturday, **December 18**, 11:00 a.m.-2p.m, Various Priests; Saturday, **December 18**, before and after 4:00 p.m. (St. Francis) and 6:00 p.m. (St. Lawrence) Masses. Tuesday, **December 21**, 6:30 p.m. St. Paul's Church (Fr. Allan only)

Masses: Tuesday, December 21st - – Sunday, December 26th

Tuesday,	December 21, William John & Gertrude LeVangie	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul's
Wednesday,	December 22, Lavin & Joseph	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul's
Thursday,	December 23, Donald & Edward Pettipas	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul's
Friday,	December 24, pro populo		4:00 p.m. St. Francis
	pro populo		6:00 p.m. St. Lawrence
	Jerome & Steven Andreson; Yvonne & Norbert Brow	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul's
Saturday	December 25,		

Weekly Collection November 20/21, 2021	St. Francis	St. Lawrence	St. Paul's
Sunday Offering	\$195.00	\$470.00	\$1,590.00
Loose	\$20.00		\$60.00
Pastor's Dues			\$265.00
Cemetery Fund		\$500.00	
Missals			\$55.00
Initial Offering			\$5.00
Evangelization of Nations			\$25.00
Christmas Flowers			\$215.00

COVID – 19 Laws (simplified)

1. Masks are mandatory in our churches and Church halls. The mask must cover your mouth and nose. Readers are exempt
2. Singing is allowed but only while wearing a mask (soloist is exempted).
3. Proof of double vaccination for the COVID – 19 virus is not required for Sunday Masses and weekday Masses and weekday Masses. **Regular worship** is deemed **essential!**
4. Proof of double vaccination is required for funeral liturgies, weddings, baptisms, parish council and other meetings, bible study, Holy Hours, retreats or missions, community meals / potlucks and fundraisers. Rental of our parish halls, for events like wedding receptions, Christmas fairs and workshops, etc. require proof of vaccination.
5. **Funeral liturgies** without proof of double vaccination may take place under the following rules.
 - a. maximum of 25 persons (excluding officiant and funeral home staff.)
 - b. all present must wear a mask indoors and outdoors.
 - c. **no one** who is unwell may attend.
 - d. a reception after the funeral or wedding requires proof of double vaccination.

6. There are no exemptions from proof of vaccination for people entering Nova Scotia to attend a funeral or wedding. Anyone who is not fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arriving must self-isolate for at least 7 days and get 2 negative tests in Nova Scotia in order to stop self-isolating.

7. For Holy Communion, people receiving the Host on the hand should go first, followed by those bringing Communion home to the sick, and lastly, those receiving on the tongue.

8. We will not be sharing the Chalice or the Sign of Peace for the foreseeable future, until it is safe.

Christmas Mass and Sunday Schedule

Friday, December 24th (Christmas Eve)

4:00 p.m. St. Francis
6:00 p.m. St. Lawrence (Fr. Bill Crispo presiding)
6:00 p.m. St. Paul's

Saturday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

10:00 a.m. St. Paul's
No Masses on Saturday evening

Sunday, (The Holy Family), December 26th

8:30 a.m. St. Paul's
9:30 a.m. St. Lawrence
10:45 a.m. St. Francis

The St. Lawrence CWL will be sponsoring our annual project for the church building fund. It has been a wonderful project in past years **Angels will be sold** before Mass or from any CWL member for **\$5.00 each**, for the next two weeks. Your loved ones will be remembered in the prayers of the faithful, during Mass from Christmas Eve until The Baptism of the Lord. Thank You for your support.

Thank you! Words cannot express how grateful we, the family of the late Darrell DeCoste, are to our families (who travelled near & far), friends & neighbours for your great support during our difficult loss. Also for all the phone calls, messages, cards, & food. We truly appreciate it. Thank you ***Barb, Melissa, Daniel & Thomas***

Nomination Forms for 4 positions on St. Lawrence Parish Council are at the back of the Church. Once you nominate somebody, please give the form to Fr. Allan or drop it in the collection basket.

Funeral Receptions: St. Lawrence CWL had decided to postpone holding Funeral Receptions until April 1st, 2022, due to Covid restrictions and the lack of volunteers. We will reassess on April 1st, 2022. If anyone would like to go on a list of volunteers to assist us, please call Jessie Guthro at 902-625-1617.

Christmas Flowers: If anyone would like to donate money for Christmas Flowers in memory of a loved one, please place donation in an envelope with your name and church envelope number (if you have one), and who it is in memory of. A list of donations will be available after Christmas.

Fundraiser for Religious Ed. at St. Paul's Church: A Memory Tree called "**Forever in Our Hearts**" is placed in the Foyer of the Church. We have angels available for \$5.00 each with a tag where names will be written of a loved one who has passed away, is ill, people we love who live away or people just dear to our hearts. These angels will be placed on the advent tree in the Foyer. This is a special way to remember a loved one this Christmas.

Hospital Visitation: The present pandemic restrictions do not allow a pastor to visit any of his parishioners who are patients at St. Martha's Hospital without an appointment. Therefore, if you wish me to visit your relative, you must tell me they are in the hospital, that they want a visit, and then I can make an appointment to see them through the Pastoral Care Dept. ~ ***Fr. Allan***

St. Paul's Church Roof Fund: The cost of our new roof was \$33,206.25, a significant hit to our operating fund. If you wish to contribute above and beyond your usual contribution, please put your donation in an envelope with your **name, envelope number**, and marked **Roof Fund**. Thank you

Communion calls: With the lifting of COVID – 19 restrictions, I have resumed First Friday (or Thursday) Communion Calls. If you or someone you know would like to receive Communion monthly by the pastor, please call me at 902-234-2387. ~ ***Fr. Allan***

Church Volunteers for Church Synod Needed: Pope Francis has called for a Synod (meaning an assembly or gathering) of the Church. The purpose of this synod is to listen to one another and discern the will of the Holy Spirit for the Church. The name of the Synod is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission." The diocesan phase of the Synod begins Sunday,

October 17th, 2021. We need volunteers- “point persons” from each parish to oversee the volunteers who will be needed. If you are interested, please talk to Fr. Allan.

The New Sunday Missals 2021-2022 began selling on November 28th, 2021 The cost is \$5.00 per missal. Did you remember to pay for yours?

Doors in 2 of our Churches were left unlocked recently. Please make sure all doors are locked before you leave.

Glebe house Pledges: All pledges made through the pre-authorized payments for the construction of the Glebe House have now been processed and collected. We had nearly a 100% collection rate on all pledges made. Thank you for your generous donation towards this project.

The 2022 Respect Life Centre Calendars are now available for \$20 each at the Respect Life Centre, 27 St. Andrew’s St. Antigonish or by calling 902-863-6636, or 902-863-3873. They make good gifts, featuring pictures of local children, a monthly Scripture quote, and a Saint for every day, along with a chance at 16 cash prize draws of \$250 each - a total of \$4,000 in prizes. Support local pro-life efforts by purchasing at least one of these great calendars.