

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 902-234-3505
 Email: marywilliams@bellaliant.net Bulletin notices must be in no later than Thursday evening.

The Sunday Readings Isaiah : 40: 1-5, 9-11 In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Responsorial Psalm 85 R. Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

2Peter 3:8-14 Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace.

Mark 1:1-8 See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way.

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 12, to Sunday, December 17, 2023

Tuesday,	December 12,	Emyline DeCoste	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul’s
Wednesday,	December 13,	Tommy Pettipas	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul’s
Thursday,	December 14,	Ronald LeVangie	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
Friday,	December 15,	Cyril & Charlie LeVangie	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
Saturday,	December 16,	Damien DeCoste	11:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
		Richard Hayden	4:00 p.m.	St. Francis
		Leo MacKinnon	6:00 p.m.	St. Lawrence
Sunday,	December 17,	pro populo	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s

<u>Collection, December 2/3, 2023</u>	<u>St. Francis</u>	<u>St. Lawrence</u>	<u>St. Paul</u>
Sunday Collection	\$420.00	\$945.00	\$1470.00
Loose	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$50.00
Pastors Dues			\$395.00
Christmas			\$20.00
IMO Wayne DeCoste			\$60.00 Parish \$40.00 Roof \$260.00 Luncheon \$190.00 Cemetery
Religious Ed.			\$25.00
IMO Larry Ryan		\$10.00	
Christmas Flowers			\$115.00
Evangelization			\$20.00
Missals			\$80.00

Changes 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*

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 masks 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.

St. Lawrence CWL will be selling angels again this year to remember loved ones or people that want our prayers. They will be remembered in the prayers of the faithful during all Masses from Christmas until Epiphany. Angels are \$5 each and will be available before Mass until Christmas. Proceeds will go to St Lawrence building fund.

Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) is looking for volunteers in Port Hawkesbury. If interested call/text 902-456-5982 or email jeff.deville@cnib.ca (And for more information visit www.cnib.ca)

Bible Study: No Bible study this Wednesday, Dec. 13.

St. Paul’s Angel Tree Angels will be available for purchase for the “**Forever in Our Hearts**” tree, next Sunday Dec. 3. for \$5.00. Proceeds go towards the Religious Ed. Program. A Mass for all those on the tree will be offered in January 2024.

Christmas Flowers for St. Paul Church: Anyone wishing to donate money in memory of someone either deceased or living relative or friend may do so by placing donation in an envelope marked “Christmas Flowers” with the person name it is in memory of, and who it is from. A list of donations will be available in January.

Notice to St. Francis Parish: the owners of envelopes numbered #26, and # 29, could you please put your name and address on the next couple envelopes, so you are able to receive credit for income tax purposes. Thank you.

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). **For 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.

St. Francis of Assisi: For Parishioners: \$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.

Thank you! We, the family of Wayne DeCoste, would like to send our sincere gratitude to our whole community for the generous outpouring of prayers, sympathy and support to our family at this most difficult time. A special thanks to Father Allan MacPhie, Mary Williams, Ty Wallace and Haverstock’s funeral home. Your help and guidance got us through this sorrow filled week. We so appreciated all the food, visits, calls and messages. The attendance at mass showed just how much he meant to so many people. In this time of grieving, we have taken solace in knowing Wayne not only touched our lives, but also the lives of the people he met. We will miss him forever. *Dianne and family*

Christmas Mass Schedule: Sunday, December 24 St. Francis 4:00 p.m.
St. Lawrence 5:30 p.m.
St. Paul’s 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 25, St. Paul’s 10:00 p.m.

(Note: The regular Sunday Masses for the Fourth Sunday of Advent take place at the usual times on Saturday December 23 at 4:00 & 6:00 p.m. and on Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m. We are obligated to celebrate one of the regular Sunday Masses and one of the Christmas Masses. **two Masses, two separate obligations.**)

Lectors: I was uncertain about two questions, (1) if only a deacon is allowed to carry the Book of the Gospels in the opening procession and (2) if the book of the Gospels should remain in the Church or be carried out in the closing procession. The rubrics in the Book of the Gospels tells us that (1) the Book may be carried by a layperson in the absence of a deacon, and (2) The Book remains in the church and is not carried out during the closing procession.

There will be an **Advent Mission at our Lady of Grace, Monastery.** The mission is 3 evenings starting on **Monday, December 11th, Tuesday, December 12th and Wednesday the 13th. Starting time 6:30 each evening.** All are welcome. A free-will offering will be taken up each evening in support of the mission. Presented by Fr. Mark Cherry

TAX RECEIPT DEADLINE FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR 2023: To receive a charitable donation receipt for the year 2023 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, 2023. Tax receipts for Income Tax purposes for the year 2023 will be issued on or before February 29, 2024. This is a requirement from the Revenue Canada Agency. Any funds received in the month of January 2024 will be recorded as a 2024 donation.

CHURCH ENVELOPES: St. Paul’s Church Envelopes for 2024 will be made available December 17th, 2023. For those parishioners who have contributed to your respective Parish using 2023 church envelopes provided, your name will be shown on the 2024 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 (30 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 2024 envelopes during the month of December 2023 or use your 2023 envelopes in the year 2024.

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 success of 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.