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This Sunday's Readings *Isaiah 60: 1-6 The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
 Responsorial Psalm 72 R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Now the mystery has been revealed: now the Gentiles have become
 Fellow heirs of the promise.
 Matthew 2:1-12 We have come from the East to pay homage to the King.*

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, January 4-Sunday, January 9

Tuesday,	January 4,	Marge & Tom Haley	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul's
Wednesday,	January 5,	Tommy Pettipas	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul's
Thursday,	January 6,	Philip Cotie	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul's
Friday,	January 7,	Mary Cameron	4:00 p.m.	St. Francis
Saturday,	January 8,	Hilda Ester Kenny	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul's
		pro populo	4:00 p.m.	St. Francis
		pro populo	6:00 p.m.	St. Lawrence
Sunday,	January 9,	pro populo	8:30 a.m.	St. Paul's
		David & Catherine DeCoste	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul's

Thank you to all who gave me Christmas cards, monetary gifts, gift cards, food, and other gifts. I am grateful for your generosity and kindness ~ *Fr. Allan.*

Weekly Collection December 25/26, 2021	St. Francis	St. Lawrence	St. Paul's
Christmas Offering December 24/25	\$470.00	\$1405.00	\$1510.00
Sunday Offering December 26	\$240.00		\$1515.00
Loose	\$49.00	\$20.00	\$95.00
Pastor's Dues			\$40.00
Cemetery Fund		\$200.00 IMO Stanton Family	\$690.00
Missals			\$40.00
Fuel		\$100.00	
Christmas Flowers			\$25.00
Roof Fund			\$175.00
Initial Offering			\$20.00
Donations		\$1000.00	\$500.00 IMO Agatha Brow

St. Lawrence Parishioners: 1. Please consider nominating people for parish council. Nominees should be regular Church goers Forms at church entrance. Please give them to Fr. Allan.
 2. Please enter and exit by the side doors where you can hold the railings.
 3. We need able-bodied, healthy people to shovel the front steps before Saturday evening Mass, for funeral Masses and at other necessary times. Please speak to Fr. Allan or George Freer if you can help.

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.

Hospital Visitation: St. Martha's Hospital is not allowing any casual visits by anyone, including clergy unless it is an emergency. Clergy have to make an appointment through the pastoral care department to see a patient. I am unsure about the restrictions on visitation by clergy at the Strait Regional and Guysborough hospitals. ~*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

The New Sunday Missals 2021-2022 on sale at Church entrance. the cost is \$5.00 each.

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.

Church collection envelopes for the year **2022** are now available for pickup. **PLEASE** use these envelopes starting January 1, 2022. **DO NOT** use the 2022 envelopes in December 2021. If you do not see your name on a 2022 envelope collection package, please pick up a package that has no name on it. For receipting proposes, when using the 2022 church envelopes, please put your name on these envelopes for the first few weeks in January so that we can record your donations correctly on the financial records of the Parish. The COVID 19 pandemic has had a major financial impact on the collection of Sunday offerings, cemetery offerings, other offerings and donations throughout this year. These funds are needed to pay for the general operations of St. Paul’s Parish and with major expenditures made or committed during the year (furnace and roof repair), Parish funds are being depleted. In order to remain a viable Parish, St. Paul’s parish needs the support of all parishioners to remain financially viable and in good standing with the Diocese of Antigonish. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

COVID – 19 Laws (simplified) Some items have changed 2, 5, 7, and 9.

1. Masks are mandatory in our churches and Church halls. The mask must cover your mouth and nose. Readers are exempt
2. Singing is forbidden except for one soloist.
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 **10** persons plus officiant and funeral home staff.
 - b. all present must **wear a mask** indoors and outdoors, and must **social distance**.
 - 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, everyone must receive the Host in the hand or in a pyx. There is no receiving on the tongue until further notice. .
8. We will not be sharing the Chalice or the Sign of Peace for the foreseeable future, until it is safe.
9. Social distancing of 6 feet is in effect. The new limits on the number of people allowed are 50 people for St. Paul’s and St. Lawrence churches; 34 for St. Francis of Assisi.

Thank you to all for the overwhelming support of our Religious Ed. Fund raiser through the purchase of Angels in memory of loved ones and others who play an important role in our lives. We’ve raised \$715.00 and are very grateful for your generosity. A Mass Intention will be requested in the New Year for all those whose names are on the tree.



Happy New Year!