

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 Job 7: 1-4, 6-7 “Does not the human being have a hard service on earth?”
 Responsorial Psalm 147 R. Sing praises to the Lord who heals the broken hearted.
 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19, 22-23 Brothers and sisters:…woe to me if I do not proclaim the Gospel!
 Mark 1: 29-39 And Jesus went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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, February 6 – Sunday, February 11, 2024

Tuesday 6,	Anna White	6.00 p.m.	St. Paul’s
Wednesday 7,	Eugene DeCoste	6:00 p.m.	St. Paul’s
Thursday 8,	Karen Breen-Welton	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
Friday 9,	Keith MacAskill	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
Saturday 10,	Agatha Brow	11:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
	Bernice Haywood	4:00 p.m.	St. Francis
	pro populo	6:00 p.m.	St. Lawrence
Sunday 11,	Those Named on the Angel Tree	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s

Bible Study, Wednesday, February 7, 10:30 a.m. St. Paul’s Church. We discuss the Mass readings for the coming Sunday, and whatever arises from them. All are welcome.

<u>Collection, Epiphany of the Lord</u>	<u>St. Francis</u>	<u>St. Lawrence</u>	<u>St. Paul’s</u>
Sunday Collection January 27/28	\$290.00	\$510.00	\$1200.00
Loose		\$11.00	\$57.30
Initial Offering	\$10.00		\$20.00
Solemnity of Mary			\$20.00
Pastors Dues			\$65.00
IMO Opal Leet Cemetery Fund	\$20.00		
IMO Ron Chisholm	\$50.00		

On behalf of the **Antigonish Diocesan Society**, a sincere thank you to parishioners for your financial donations in support of vocations. As you may be aware, the Diocese of Antigonish currently has two seminarians who are studying at St. Augustine’s Seminary in Toronto, one of whom will be ordained in 2024. The Diocesan Society has provided funding to fully cover costs of their education, and your annual donations are very much appreciated! The Vocations Sunday collection occurs each year on Good Shepherd Sunday. If you do not have a Vocations Sunday envelope, I invite you to place your donation in a plain envelope marked “Antigonish Diocesan Society” and drop it in your church collection basket. I hope we can count on your continued support and prayers for this most important cause.

St. Lawrence CWL would like to thank all those who supported our fundraiser. The Christmas Stocking filled with gift cards was won by Charlene Burton and the painting of Goose Harbour was won by Jamie Wood. The Angel Tree was well supported with funds going to St. Lawrence Building Fund. This was a great way to remember love ones while also supporting our parish of St. Lawrence.

World Day of the Sick, February 11: The ministry of Jesus to the sick is central to the life of the Church. February 11 (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to the afflicted with illness and disease. (From the Ordo, 2023-2024, p. 62)

At the end of the Sunday (Weekend) Masses we will be saying the **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel** (just before the closing hymn) This Prayer is as follows: St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard 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, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Choir Practice: takes place 9:30 a.m. each Sunday prior to Mass time. We go over the music for that day and new music if need be. As you have noticed our choir has dwindled since Covid, if anyone is available to join us, please do so, we would love to have you.

2023 Parish Statistics:	<u>Baptisms</u>	<u>First Communion</u>	<u>Confirmation</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Death</u>
St. Paul	4	6	0	0	16
St. Lawrence	1	0	0	0	14
St. Francis	0	0	0	0	4
Total	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34</u>

The Diocese of Antigonish requires the **emails** of all people who deal with children, vulnerable adults, and church collections, and deposits, and anyone with keys to our churches to participate in a free, online course for Responsible Ministry offered by Ecclesiastical mandatory for the pastor, religion teachers, choir directors who deal with youth, anyone who brings communion to persons in their homes or in nursing homes or hospitals, collection counters, money depositors, treasurers of any church committee or ministry and anyone with keys to our buildings, as soon as possible. The online course is only 49 minutes long. Thank you.

A plastic bag filled with **church blueprints** was left in St. Lawrence Church last summer. These documents are important. If you know their whereabouts, please speak to Fr. Allan.

TAX RECEIPT FOR CHARITABLE DONATIONS FOR 2023: Tax receipts for 2023 will be made available during the month of February, 2024. Please note that receipts will not be issued for the following: Religious Education registration fees, Purchase of missals, Purchase of Angels for the St. Paul's Angel Tree, "Forever in our Hearts ornaments".

St. Paul's Eucharistic Ministers: we are in need of Eucharistic Ministers at St. Paul's Church, if you are in good standing with the church please consider this important ministry. If you are available please see Fr. Allan.

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.

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.

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 are now available 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.