

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](mailto:marywilliams@bellaliant.net) Bulletin notices must be in no later than Thursday evening.

**The Sunday Readings** Genesis 15, 17, 21 And he [Abraham] believed the Lord; and they reckoned it to him as righteous  
 Responsorial Psalm 105 R. The Lord is our God, mindful of his covenant forever.  
 Hebrew 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac.  
 Luke 2: 22-40 Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined For the falling and raising of many.

**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: Sunday, December 31 to Monday, January 7, 2024**

Sunday,	December 31,	pro populo	<b><u>Solemnity of Mary, mother of God:</u></b>	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
			<b>Walter Jellow</b>	4:00 p.m.	St. Francis
			<b>Dr. Lennie O’Neil</b>	6:00 p.m.	St. Lawrence
Monday,	January 1,	2024	<b>pro populo</b>	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
<i>(Note: The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is a holy day of obligation.)</i>					
Tuesday,	January 2,		<b>No Mass</b>		
Wednesday,	January 3,		<b>No Mass</b>		
Thursday,	January 4,		<b>Souls in Purgatory</b>	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
Friday,	January 5,		<b>William John &amp; Gertrude LeVangie</b>	9:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
Saturday,	January 6,		<b><u>Peter DeGruchy</u></b>	11:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s
			<b>pro populo</b>	4:00 p.m.	St. Francis
			<b>Clement Lee</b>	6:00 p.m.	St. Lawrence
Sunday,	January 7,		<b>Allan LeVangie</b>	10:00 a.m.	St. Paul’s

**No Bible Study** this Wednesday, January 3, 2024

<b><u>Collection,</u></b>	<b><u>St. Francis</u></b>	<b><u>St. Lawrence</u></b>	<b><u>St. Paul</u></b>
Sunday Collection Dec. 23, 23	\$255.00	\$1375.00	\$1800.00
Christmas Offering Dec. 24, 23	\$575.00	\$950.00	\$1890.00
Loose Dec. 23, / Dec 24	\$25.00 / 55.00	\$25.00 / \$26.50	\$44.00 / \$380.00
Pastors Dues			\$120.00
Christmas Flowers			\$155.00
Parish Donation	\$150.00		\$1100.00
Building Fund / Utility		\$3000.00	
Roof Fund			\$50.00 IMO Alphonse & Dolly Brow & Mary Jean & Billy Boucher
Cemetery	\$150.00		\$
Missals			\$90.00

**My sincere thanks** for the gifts this Christmas of money, gift cards, clothing, food, baked goods, preserves and other gifts. You are most generous. ~ *Fr. Allan*

**The Christmas Season** is not one day but a two-week period extending from the Christmas Eve Masses to Monday, January 8, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. (Christmas decorations should remain in our churches until the Masses are completed on the weekend of January 6 and 7, the Epiphany of the Lord).

**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.

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

**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.

There will be a meeting of the **Havre Boucher 50 Plus Club** on Jan 14, 2024 at 7PM at the Havre Boucher Community Centre.

*Happy New Year!*