

# Holy Family Parish

## January 15th 2017 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

WEEKEND MASS TIMES AT HOLY FAMILY - SATURDAY AT 6PM AND SUNDAY AT 11:15AM

~~Hail Mary Prayers totaling 242,631 since Dec 5th, 2016~~

### LOVE, LOVE and then LOVE AGAIN

This time of year is a tough time for many. January is the darkest, (longest at times) , month of the year and that affects many in different ways. For some it starts with the taking down of the colourful, bright decorations of the Christmas season, for others it is the dark weather and for others the sense of loneliness that happens when less are traveling out of their homes due to the unsafe ground cover. Whatever the reason, even the most positive person, can find themselves feeling a sense of lost hope. How do we as a community, respond to this? How do we as people of God, serve people who are facing this tough time? Do we consider the struggles that others, some possibly sitting right next to us, are feeling in their hearts? For many, this type of hardship is something that is with them everyday throughout the year, and for others this might be the first time they “ever had this feeling”. Either way, we are all part of the solution in being the disciples Jesus has asked us to be, in “loving one another”. This kind of love, though, is a verb, an action is required of us. Prayers are extremely important in helping to support each other, but that is just a starting point, this type of action requires something even more from us. It requires us to be uncomfortable, it requires us to stretch our comfort zone, it requires us to change some of our thinking about those in need. Mental illness, depression, is a real problem today for many reasons. I believe a huge component of this is due to the way we have become so alienated in our homes (and how computers and TV’s have taken over lives), away from the realities just outside our front doors (and sometimes in another room in our own homes). I understand this now...I didn’t always. Somewhat like John the Baptist’s “aha” moment in the Gospel today. Our searching for the “purpose of our lives” may be, being the love for someone who doesn’t have, or believe that they could be loved. It took a very loved family member facing the lowest of low points from mental illness, and listening to their words, seeing them where they were, verses where I wanted them to be in their lives; to really wake me up to the pain, loneliness, sadness and hurt of mental illness and depression. Right now someone is reading this who is feeling this loneliness and it is my hope that it will encourage a step towards help, towards love....reaching out to the person next to them, in the next aisle, at our office; to tell us so that we can be that love for them that Jesus asked of us. It isn’t pretty at times, but God’s love wasn’t meant to be only there for us in the good, “pretty” times...it must be there in the ugly times, we all must be there...that is when it matters the most. 1 in 5 people experience mental illness, 5 in 5 people are affected by it...so we are all responsible to make it better, one person at a time. Why not have lunch with someone this week who is home alone? Why not go for a walk at the rink with someone who is feeling low, sad? Many are away from extended families, so why not “adopt a senior, a person” and your family invite them for family meals and gatherings. Why not ask someone for help if you feel depressed? Reach out, touch a heart, reach up, ask for God’s guidance, reach inside, see what God is needing from you. This road we are on, we are on together, for each other. Not just for those who are in our immediate families, because everyone is

### January 22nd, 2017 Readings

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading	Isaiah	9.1-4
2nd Reading	1Corinthians	1:10-13, 17-18
Gospel	Matthew	4.12-23

our brother, sister, mother, father. It is my hope as a community we can begin to build a place for people to raise their voices when they are in need, for help, for love and for God. It is my hope that each of us decide to change the world from loneliness to “loveingness”! - Glenna :)

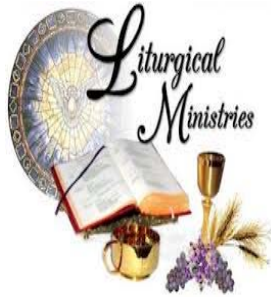
## Liturgy Committee Workshop—THANK YOU!!!

On Saturday the Liturgy Committee hosted a great workshop with all who serve in positions with our Mass. Thank you to all who attended this gathering and shared your time and talent in the process. We are a truly blessed community of faithful and dedicated volunteers that bring such life and joy to the Liturgy. Thank you! If you were not able to attend this workshop please contact the office and we will be arranging to have a follow-up. The Re-commissioning of all ministers will be at Masses on the weekend of January 21/22 (at the Mass you attend). Thank you to the Liturgy Committee for a great example of faithful leadership.

GOD IS GREAT!

### Ministry Months - Liturgy Committee

On the Weekend of Jan 14/15th the Liturgy Committee (and all it encompasses), will be hosting a table in the Gathering Area for parishioners to check out more about what this committee does for our parish community. If you are looking to share an hour or two of your time each month, this might be just the volunteering option for you.



Hope you will stop by!

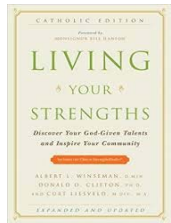
### CWL News

It's that time of year for new beginnings and new resolutions. It's time to renew our membership with CWL. Dues are \$25.00 Members can place their dues in the collection and write "CWL Dues" on the envelope as well as their name. Is this the year you have decided to do something extraordinary...why not try the CWL!! For women 18 yrs and older to be part of this wonderful group.

No General Meeting in January, next one is Feb 8th.



### Stewardship— "Living Your Strengths"



February 5, 12 and 19th, 2017, 2—4pm, is the next 3 part session for "Living Your Strengths" at Holy Family. StrengthsFinders helps parishioners learn and develop their God-given talents. When people discover and develop their talents, (*rather than trying to fix their weaknesses*), they find a new and powerful sense of purpose for their lives: their relationships are strengthened, their everyday lives are transformed; they find themselves being drawn out toward the needs of others, and they report being more patient, collaborative, and forgiving. To participate, copies of Living your Strengths booklet are available at the office. It's a New Year !!

**Knights of Columbus #2916 News** Thank you to the participants of "Keeping Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest. Awarding the winners and acknowledging participants will be on January 29th at Family Mass.

**Knights in Service and Ministry** On Jan. 21/22nd and 28/29th the Knights will be hosting a Ministry Table in the Gathering Area. Find out more about these faithful disciples and their work for the church. This Christmas the Knights were doing many things, including out delivering gifts to widows of past Knights. Knight Gordon

Goodwin delivers to Madeleine Vautour. It was well received from all.





# Worship SCHEDULE



## 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekday Mass Schedule

Jan 16		NO MASS	
Jan 17	2:00 pm	St. Brigid's, Parrisboro	Mass
Jan 18	9:30 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Louise LeBlanc by Helen & Wensey Bernard
Jan 19	2:00 pm	St. Thomas Aquinas, Joggins	Mass
Jan 20	9:30 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Bert vanVulpen by Pauline & Donald Furlong

## 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Masses and Lay Led Services

Jan 21	4:00 pm	St. Paul the Apostle, RHebert	Lay Led Service
Jan 21	6:00 pm	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Rose Thompson by Annette Brun
Jan 21	6:30 pm	St. Cornelius, Streets Ridge	Mass
Jan 22	9:00 am	St. Brigid's, Parrisboro	Lay Led Service
Jan 15	9:00 am	St. Thomas More, Pugwash	Mass
Jan 15	11:00 am	St. John the Baptist, Springhill	Mass for Parishioners
Jan 15	11:15 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Ronald Robbins by Connie & Peter LeBlanc

### Intercessory Prayer Group

Please post your intentions on the Prayer Wall or in the Prayer box. Your special intentions, will be offered during adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and during Weekday Mass.

### Votive Candles

Light a votive candle as a prayerful reminder of someone or for a special intention. A practise that is centuries old. The 75c offering at Holy Family supports the youth activities and to purchase candles.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

There is a Holy Hour prior to the weekday mass from 8:30 to 9:30 at Holy Family Parish. Please consider joining us. All are welcome.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered Saturday from **2:30 to 3:00 pm** at Holy Family Parish. Please drop in at that time for Reconciliation with Father.

### Bulletins to Share

Please take an extra copy of this weeks bulletin for a family member or friend who has not been able to make Mass. Care to Share!!

### Prayer Line

Call (902) 597-8313

Do you need or some one you know that needs prayers? Call the Prayer Line and feel the power of prayer



### SINCERE CONDOLENCES

On behalf of the parish community, we would like to express condolences to the family and friends of **Doug Noiles** on his passing.

**Eternal life grant onto them  
O Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine upon  
them**



### Prayers for Family Members

Should you have a family member who is ill, having surgery/treatments and would like the parish to pray for them at Mass or for Father to visit at home, please call the office to let us know.



# Being Good Stewards of Time, Talent and Treasure



Meetings and Happenings—January			
Jan 17	11:30 am	Tuesday Luncheon	Hall
Jan 17	6:30 pm	Jr Youth Group	Hall
Jan 18	7:00 pm	Sr Youth Group	Hall
Jan 18	6:30 pm	Pastoral Council	Board Room
Jan 21 /22	Masses	Commissioning Ministers at Masses.	
Jan 23	7:00 pm	SSVP Mtg	Lg Classroom
Jan 25	6:30 pm	Finance Council	Board Room
Jan 26	7:00 pm	Knights Reg. Mtg	Knights Hall
Jan 28	10 –12	Regional Cty Mtg	Hall

**Stewardship Quote:** Today's Responsorial Psalm is the theme song of the good steward; "Here am I, Lord: I come to do your will." May I, too, stand ready to offer myself and my gifts in the service of God.

### THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH!!

A sincere Thank You for your prayers, visits, phone calls, get well cards, messages on-line, fruit baskets, flowers, treats, baked goods or just by simply thinking about me when I was recovering from surgery.

- Pat Frenette

### Offertory Envelopes Now Available

Offertory envelopes for 2017 are available to pick up. If you have not used envelopes in the past, and would like to begin using them now, contact the Office.

### Income Tax Receipts

Donations received after December 31st, 2016 can not be included in the charitable tax receipts issued for 2016. This includes cheques dated in 2016, or cash in a church envelope dated 2016, but received on January 1, 2017 or later. Tax law requires these be treated as 2017 donations.

We are Grateful for  
 You!  
 Thank You!!

### Collection Weekly Update 2017

Weekend of January 7/8th	
Envelopes	\$2,105.00
Loose	\$92.25
Pre-Authorized	\$1,330.00
Children	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,527.25</b>
SV de Paul	\$234.60

### Through the Tender Love of the HOLY FAMILY



*Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. AMEN*

### Have You Considered This?

There are a good number of parishioners who support the parish financially by using the pre-authorized method.

We have Pre-authorized remittance forms (PAR) available on the table in the gathering area. You can have donations automatically withdrawn from your account, and it can be changed or cancelled at any time by contacting the office.

Parishioners are more mobile today and find this method helps them be faithful to their commitment to supporting the church.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Chase the Ace News

Still wondering what this is all about? Why not consider coming Friday night and see? It has become a wonderful social night of entertainment, games, cards, talking, music and refreshments. It also is an avenue of income for our parish providing much needed funding for the basics in parish expenses. This week's jackpot approximately \$7400.00. **COME ON OUT!**

## Has Your Contact Info Changed?



If you have changed your contact information (telephone, email, mailing address) please supply the office with this information so we can make sure all your information is correct.

## Holy Family Parish Loonie Draw

- \* January 9th Loonie Draw #1736
- \* Not played for this week
- \* \$238.50 prize rolled forward
- \* Draws will continue as usual each week
- \* Loonie Draw numbers are sold before/after Mass on Saturdays/Sundays.
- \* Once you have purchased your number, subsequent weekly plays can be made at the office when open and before/after Mass.
- \* Play options include pay each week, or prepay to the end of license period, or for any period of time. Numbers will be removed, if not played for 6 months..
- \* House rules are available on request.



## Campaign for Bell/ Sign Tower

Thank you for our recent donations at Christmas for the Bell Tower Campaign. Why not consider making a donation in honor of a loved one or in memory of a loved one. While the bell is installed, there is more to do! Thank you for your support for this project.



Let's continue to work together to hit our Target and get our outdoor digital sign up to share the GOOD NEWS and all that is happening with our community!

## Christian Unity Service

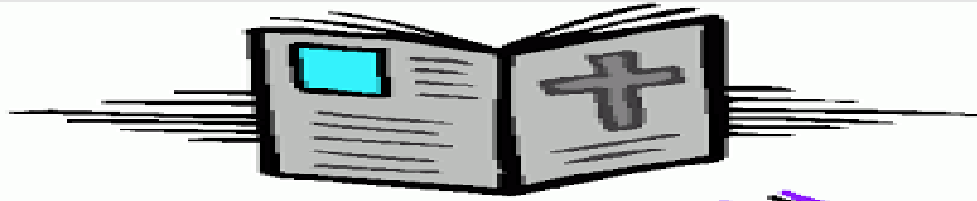


On Sunday, January 29th, the Amherst Ministerial Association will be holding a "Prayer for Christian Unity" Service at Trinity-St. Stephen's United Church beginning at 4:00pm. We will gather with other Christians of our community to pray and socialize. We pray that we might be guided by the Spirit on this road to Christian Unity and we socialize so that we might support one another as we take this unmapped road. We are encouraged to make a special effort to take seriously this invitation and join in prayer that we might be faithful to the will of the Father.

**Please consider attending this service with our Brothers and Sisters in Christ.**



On January 24th from 6-9pm Goji Frozen Yogurt at the Dollarama Mall is hosting a fundraiser for the Youth Programs at Holy Family. All sales during that time will be put towards a cheque for the Youth Programs; **Steubenville, Vacation Bible Camp, Faith Development Program and the Youth Groups!** What not make your dessert that night after supper be at GOJI'S and support our YOUTH!! It's a Sweet Deal!!



# Church News

## From Cumberland County Parishes

### Cumberland Parishes, Share Your News!!

Have a fundraiser, church events or activities coming up and need to get the news out? The weekly bulletin reaches over 400 households every week!

Email : [office@holyfamilyamherst.ca](mailto:office@holyfamilyamherst.ca)



#### SHARE YOUR NEWS

Tell us what's happening or send us your pictures or videos.

### St. John the Baptist Online Auction

Accepting donations (no clothing ) for online auction. All proceeds will go towards oil, insurance, and upkeep of the church.

The pick up and drop off locations are 1428 Fisher Road in Springhill Junction or at the Church.

### Watch Sunday Mass Live!

Can't make it to a weekend Mass? Sunday Mass with Fr. Billard is livestreamed every Sunday at 11:15am. The video is usually available to watch on demand, later in the day. Follow the link to the livestream posted on the Holy Family website.

[www.holyfamilyamherst.ca](http://www.holyfamilyamherst.ca)

### Year of Prayer– Cumberland County



The challenge is to pray a million **Hail Mary's** during the year. Please count the number of **Hail Mary's** said each week and put the number of **Hail Mary's** or Rosaries recited on a slip of paper and place the papers in a container marked "Year of Prayer" at the entrance of the churches.

**Hail Mary, Full of Grace**

**The Lord is with thee**

**Blessed art thou amongst women and Blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.**

**Holy Mary Mother of God,**

**Pray for us sinners, now and**

**at the hour of death.**

**Amen**

#### LEFT TO GO:

**757,369 Hail Mary 's**



### **Holy Family New Parishioner Registration Form**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like church envelopes? Yes / No

Would you like information about Pre-Authorized Payments? Yes / No

### **Welcome to all Newcomers**

Place this form it in the collection and If you have any questions call us at (902) 667-2523.

**Blessings to You**