

Happy
Easter

Celebrate the
resurrection of
our Lord!



Holy Family Parish

April 23rd, 2017 2nd Sunday of Easter

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY!!!

**Hitting 1 Million Hail Mary's prayed
since Dec 5th, 2016**



Holy Family Office (902) 667-2523

Father Keith Billard—Parish Priest/Moderator of Cumberland County

Glenna O'Quinn Parish Coordinator/Executive to Moderator

Linda Fraser Finance Manager

Joanne Morrissey Office Admin

Maria Kirkpatrick Office Admin

Bill Meehan Caretaker

Deacon Howard Gotell

Sister Teresa Currie

In my past career, I helped train teams for field work. I assisted and developed our teams and taught them how to provide customer service, how to work with others, retailers and customers. One day, a rep called and began a tirade of things a retailer had said and did to them that day, and how upset they were from this terrible, hurtful treatment. When they were finished, I remember saying; ***"I want you to stop for a second, okay....I want you to imagine that you are on your death bed and looking back on your life. How much will this person and their actions, mean to you then??"*** After a long pause, the answer was, "absolutely nothing!" (the same every time!) So the goal then was to let the retailer have their "bad day", and move on to do the job that was needed to be done for us and, in the end, for the retailer. (However if it continued, then we had other ways to deal with retailers! LOL) I know it's not as "easy" an answer when the person who is doing the hurting is a spouse, brother, sister, boss, parent, child, friend; versus someone you only have to deal with on a limited bases. It is harder to say "absolutely nothing" when the person doing the hurting is someone you love or someone who is in your life on a regular basis. Mercy is forgiving...forgiving others, their behaviors and decisions that hurt us, but also for others forgiveness of us, for the pain that we cause to others. Saying I am sorry, is truly the hardest thing to say for most (all) of us. But without it, we freeze that relationship in that moment of time....forever. ***So without forgiveness of others, how can we expect Jesus to forgive us?*** We say (I say) things like, "but Jesus will forgive me because He knows the damage I have had from this person, and won't expect me to forgive them!!" Stop? Wait? ***"Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do!"*** (there goes that argument!) ***GOD knew*** the damage that was done to His Son, ***GOD knew*** that Jesus was the "victim" and that Jesus had every right to hate; to not forgive anyone.....maybe, ***even GOD.*** So without forgiveness, we can't move on to the life Jesus promised and died, to give us. If we don't forgive, then the pain is always close...looking for ways to "feed itself", through losses and hurt. "Pain and hurt feeds" when you lose trust of others because one person hurt you bad; "pain and hurt feeds" when you repeat the story of pain over and over for others to be on your "side"; "pain and hurt feeds" when we don't forgive. If we were to "feed ourselves" junk food non-stop...everyday, every week, every month, every year, what would happen?? We'd be way overweight, heavy, loaded down, moving less, maybe laugh less, stop connecting with others, hating ourselves? When we "feed" our pain, we do the same thing to our hearts, we shut it off, use it less, we love, (and see love), less. When we don't forgive, we hurt ourselves more, and we teach others we are without forgiveness. I struggle with this in my life. I struggle to give a couple of people mercy and forgiveness, for hurt and pain, that has been caused to me or my family. Maybe, I will always struggle; but I also continue to try, and it does get easier when I do find steps towards forgiveness. It is easier to forgive a hurt, when we see the person making efforts to change, redeem themselves. But it is much harder when they continue to do and say the same things, even when we have shown forgiveness? ***That is between them and GOD,*** we can't change others. We can only do what GOD asked ***US*** to do— show MERCY!! ***"God never tires of forgiving, but at times we get tired of asking for forgiveness. Let us never tire, let us never tire! He is the loving Father who always pardons, who has that heart of mercy for us all—Pope Francis" "JESUS IS RISEN! Alleluia! Thanks Be to GOD"*** xo Glenna

**April 30th 2017 Readings
3rd Sunday of EASTER**

1st Reading: Acts 2:14, 22b-28
2nd Reading 1 Peter 1:17-21
Gospel : Luke 24:13-35

WELCOME AND BLESSINGS

If you are at Mass today and not of the Catholic faith, please feel free to come up at Communion, cross your arms and receive a blessing from Father Keith or Deacon Howard.

**Please park in
our Holy Family
parish spots, not
the PRIVATE parking for apart-
ments. Please Be Sure!**





Being Good Stewards of Time, Talent and Treasure



Collection Weekly Update	
Weekend of April 15/16th	
Envelopes	\$2545.00
Loose	\$294.60
Pre-Authorized	\$1,364.00
Children	\$19.88
Total	\$4,223.48
SV de Paul	\$426.65



"Jesus meets the need of each disciple. To the fearful in the upper room, He speaks words of peace. To doubting Thomas, He provides the tangible proof of His resurrection. What do I need to become His disciple? What do I have to share that might meet someone else's need?"

- Stewardship Quotes.

Meetings and Happenings—April 2017			
Apr 23	6 pm	M&M Choir	Church
Apr 24	7 pm	SSVP Regular Meeting	St.Charl/Nativ
Apr 25	11 am	Final Tuesday Lunch	MacIntyre Hall
Apr 25	6 pm	Final Junior Youth Grp	Landry Room
Apr 25	6:30—8:30	Living Your Strengths 1	St.Charl/Nativ
Apr 26	10 am	Lady of Good Council	Church Mass
Apr 26	6:30 pm	Parish Pastoral Mtg	Driscoll Room
Apr 26	7—9 pm	Final Senior Youth Grp	MacIntyre Hall
Apr 27	6:30 pm	Prayer Group***	Church
Apr 28	7-9 pm	Chase the Ace	MacIntyre Hall
Apr 29	10—12 pm	REGIONAL Mting	MacIntyre Hall
Apr 30	10 am	Family Session Youth	MacIntyre Hall
May 2	6:30 pm	Living Yr Strengths #2	St.Charl/Nativ
May 3	10:15 am	CWL Executive Mtg	Driscoll Room
May 5	11 am	Liturgical Mtg	Driscoll Room
May 5	1:30 am	Stewardship Mtg	Driscoll Room

Chase the Ace Fridays from 7—9 pm

Come on out for a fun night of music, snacks, refreshments, pizza and great friendships. Bring a board game, others do! Play Crib, 45's, Pass the Ace or any other card games with friends. Buy a Ticket and have a chance at the Jackpot approximately **\$13,500.00**

Entertainers Line-Ups

April 28th—Ron, Ruth and Evange
 May 5th— TBAnnounced
 May 12th—TBAnnounced



Financial Contribution Ideas:

Have you set up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) for your weekly contributions? This is an option if you travel a lot, away with sports teams or if you spend months in Winter away or at the beach for the Summer. The forms for PAR are in the gathering area or office, then drop in the collection when completed.



Offering Envelopes



If you have past envelopes that have not been deposited, due to weather or visiting elsewhere, you can still drop them in the baskets at Mass or drop in the office Mon—Fri, 9—12noon.

Financial contributions can also be made by purchasing one of the

19 "Donor Chairs" still left in the church.

There are 19 red chairs in the church that can be donated in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special. The



"Donor Chair" is \$110.00 per chair, **and it includes** the cost of the brass plate with the inscription. Contact the office for more details or to purchase a chair for a loved one.

Finally, anyone who is interested in restarting their monthly financial campaign contributions, can contact the office to set up through PAR or other options.

Thanks for your continuous support financially.

Holy Family Parish Loonie Draw

* **April 16th—#635, Not Played**
 * **\$1431.50 prize rolled forward**
 * **Next Draw April 16th, 2017.**



 * **On April 22/17, all numbers that have not been played in the previous six weeks will be removed from the draw. If you have questions, please contact Vince Byrne or Dana Carr via our office 902-667-2523.**

- * Numbers sold before/after Mass each weekend.
- * Once you have purchased your number, subsequent weekly plays can be made at the office.
- * 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.

In Our Parish Life



CWL News—Attention Ladies!!

On **April 26th, at 10 am** the Holy Family CWL are hosting our Lady of Good Counsel Mass, with 6 councils from the County and the Deanery present. As well, the Diocesan President Liz Doyle and Past President, Glenda Carson will be in attendance. Buffet brunch served in Hall afterwards for all present.

Register now for VBCamp July 10—14th

T-Shirt sponsorships on sale NOW! Support a child for \$8.00.



VOLUNTEER WORK SESSION : May 2nd at 10 am and will continue on Tuesday Mornings at 10 am until Camp Day! Wear your work and/or paint clothes! Thank you to all who volunteer their time from very excited campers!!!



Mary the Mother of Mercy, Prayer Group

Our “Mary, the Mother of Mercy” Prayer Group is a very active group who come together to share in prayer and friendship. They meet **every Thursday 6:30 pm** in the St. Charles/Nativity Classroom. Drop in and see if this is what you are looking for in life.

Ministry Care & Compassion: “Let’s Talk” Together

May 17th From 1—3pm our coffee/tea pots are on, as we gather to share our stories, learn from others and be together supporting lives affected by Mental Health Challenges. Please join us!

Knights of Columbus #2916

Looking for some fun and a little exercise? The Knights of Columbus is looking for people to join its Tuesday night fun bowling league. Teams are averaged fairly on a weekly basis. All levels of bowlers are welcomed. Cost is \$11.00/per person for 3 strings, and runs from Sept-May. If interested, contact Chris at 902-614-1558.

Deadline is August 1st, 2017

SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for Council #2916 awards for individuals graduating from Cumberland County High Schools. Pick up here or at High Schools. **Deadline: MAY 5th, 2017**

FAITH FORMATION: (YOUTH)

Sacramental Years



The Sacraments

Please pray for the students, parents, teachers and assistants of Grade 2/3 Split Class and Confirmation Class, as they prepare for their Sacramental celebrations.

The Grade 2/3 split class celebrate **Reconciliation on May 6th, at 10 am** for the families of *Claire Davis, Anika Frenette, Aoife Byrnes, Payton Bickerton, Aryahna David, George Drew, William Graham, Lilly MacDonald, Chayse Neves, Adrien Rious, Alyssa Arseneault and Declan O’Blenis* and **Confirmation on June 4th, at the 11:15 am Mass** for the families of *Jessica Grant, Josh Nowlan, Sabastian diMichelle and Logan Pipes*. The receptions afterward are sponsored by our CWL, and the cakes are donated by the Knights of Columbus. Thank you to the parents for their support of these programs.

Stewardship Committee

Are you interested in engaging more in the parish life? Why not consider becoming a member of the Stewardship Committee? **Our next meeting is May 5th, at 1:30 pm in the Driscoll Board Room.**

This committee works with our Ministries and Councils, the Living Your Strengths program, Welcome Packages for new parishioners, Name Tag Weekend, Wishing Well Thoughtful Notes, and many of the things happening in the parish. Why not drop in to the next meeting to see what it is all about! We love to have new faces sharing with the community.



A great success! - Thank you to the SSVP Team and our Faith Development Team for hosting a fabulous “Way of the Cross—Walk Around Town” on Good Friday at 11 am. We started in the church and then crossed 10 stops to learn more about the pain and suffering happening around us and to our brothers and sisters of God’s Family.

YEAR END REPORT

Please find in the gathering area, copies of the year end letter from SSVP President Veronica Richards and the Financial Report for 2016. If there are no copies left, please check with the office for one.

In Our Parish Life

Liturgy Committee News:

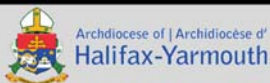
Liturgy Committee Next Meeting: **May 5th at 11 am in the Driscoll Room** with our new Chairperson, Chris Manuge.



Ministries Schedules: The new schedules for Lectors, Ushers, Hospitality and Extraordinary Ministers are in the gathering area for those who do not have an email address. Please pick up your copy today!!

Good Friday "Way of the Cross" - Around The Town

At 11am on Good Friday, Holy Family prepared for approx. 40 people to join us in our Way of the Cross—Around the Town. Because we had invited the Ministerial Association to share with their communities, and the advertising on the radio stations, we had an amazing turnout with approximately 100+ in attendance. Those in attendance were parishioners and clergy from many of our sister churches in Amherst, our parish, youth and seniors. A HUGE thanks to Veronica Richards, who started with an idea and helped create this wonderful experience, and Deacon Howard in his involvement to make this a rich experience for everyone. Thank-you to Bill Meehan, our caretaker, who became our "homeless man on the bench at the train station. Recently, someone approached a member of SSVP for help, sharing that their "home" at that time, was the bench at the train station; a true story that Bill helped us to share. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped. We are truly grateful for this very impactful experience. God is Good.



In Our Archdiocese Family



Retreat Weekend called "New Beginnings"

Have you been struggling with the grief and loss from separation, divorce or being widowed. We are offering a retreat for individuals who have, or experiencing loss through bereavement, separation or divorce from a spouse. The retreat weekend is **May 19th—21st, 2017**. For information or for an application form call Ron, New Beginnings at 902-564-0788 or our office at 902-667-2523. Call to ask the questions that you have, or to find out if this might be for you. Offered by Holy Family, Ministry of Care & Compassion and Between the Hearts Renewal Center. No one wants to be alone dealing with things, give a call.



Leadership Prayer Breakfast

On **Wednesday, May 3rd, from 7: 30 am—9:15 am**, the 36th Annual NS Leadership Prayer Breakfast. This event draws leaders from business politics, religion, the professions, military, philanthropy, community and education. This year's speaker is Dr. Michael Strange, Chief Medical Officer for Nova Scotia. Speaking on "Life, Leadership and Love" He will speak about his experience working in our healthcare system and how his faith has guided him at work, with others with greater love and compassion. \$35.00 a ticket until May 1st. To find out more, go to www.nslpb.ca and find out more and to register.



2nd Sunday of Easter Masses and Lay Led Services

April 22nd, 2:30—3 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Family Parish

Apr 22	4:00 pm	St. Paul the Apostle, River Hebert	Lay Led Service
Apr 22	6:00 pm	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Donald Landry by Bernadette Brown
Apr 22	6:30 pm	St. Cornelius, Streets Ridge	Lay Led Service
Apr 23	9:00 am	St Brigid's, Parrsboro	Mass for Parishioners
Apr 23	9:00 am	St. Thomas More, Pugwash	Lay Led Service
Apr 23	11:00 am	St. John the Baptist, Springhill	Lay Led Service
Apr 23	11:15 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for James Ryan by Madeline Ryan

2nd Sunday of Easter Weekday Mass Schedule

Apr 24	OFF	OFF	OFF
Apr 25	2:00 pm	St. Brigid's, Parrsboro	Mass
Apr 26	10:00 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass—CWL Our Lady of Good Counsel
Apr 27	2:00 pm	St. Thomas Aquinas, Joggins	Mass
Apr 28	9:30 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass

3rd Sunday of Easter Masses and Lay Led Services

April 30th, 2:30—3 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Family Parish

Apr 29	4:00 pm	St. Paul the Apostle, River Hebert	Lay Led Service
Apr 29	6:00 pm	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Florence Belliveau by her children
Apr 30	9:00 am	St Brigid's, Parrsboro	Lay Led Service
Apr 30	9:00 am	St. Thomas More, Pugwash	Mass for Parishioners
Apr 30	11:00 am	St. John the Baptist, Springhill	Lay Led Service
Apr 30	11:15 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Janet Sobol by John & Dianne Gillis
Apr 30	6:30 pm	St. Cornelius, Streets Ride	Mass Mary Haley by Sarah Dobson, Marg & Christine

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION: Are you a senior, low income person or family? Maria Kirkpatrick volunteers with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program and will prepare your Income Tax return free of charge. Call Maria at 902-397-0926 for an appointment.



All information is confidential.

Finance Reminder: If you have missed a weekend Mass for any reason, still drop past envelopes in the basket at next Mass.

*Thanks!
for your
Support!!*

Also consider PAR (pre-authorized remittance) as a way to ensure your donations are received each week. If you spend the summer at the cottage, or are away a lot on weekends for work or personal travel, participating in the PAR ensures your continued support is in place to help with all the regular costs of running our parish are met weekly. Thank you for your continuous support!! Amen!

SINCERE CONDOLENCES

Our Parish would like to extend our sincere condolences for our parishioners who have lost a loved one in their family and to the family and friends of :

Jeanne Brennan

—mother of Bernie Brennan

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

Light a votive candle as a prayerful reminder of a loved one or a special intention. The 75c offering supports the youth activities and to purchase candles.



YOUR PRAYERS—Holy Family

Post your intentions on the Prayer Wall or in the Prayer Box. All intentions will be offered during adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Weekday Mass. There is Holy Hour prior to weekday Mass from 8:30—9:30 am. Consider joining. All are welcomed.



In Our Cumberland County Family



Bridge Adult Service Center— 16 Station St, Amherst, NS

Wednesday May 10th, the Center is serving a luncheon from 11:30—1pm \$8.00/ eat in or take out. Choices: Chicken Vegetable Soup/ Chili/ Beef Barley Soup & roll, Dessert, Tea or Coffee as well. Contact the Bridge Adult Service Center at 902-667-8433 with any questions.

The Cumberland Singers—Presents “Magic Moments”

May 5th Friday 7:30 pm Songs from the Classics 60’s—80’s, at and proceeds for Wentworth Recreation Center. Adults-\$10 Children/Under12-\$5 .

Amherst Lioness Fundraiser : An afternoon with Arlene Collins Lions Club 9 Electric St.

Sun April 23rd from 2—4 pm \$40/person includes lunch/refreshments/ door prizes and all supplies to paint. Wine available to purchase. Contact: Shirley Leblanc 902-667-8848/Linda Johnson 902-274-2006 for details.



Rutharden LeBlanc Memorial Bursary—Applications are available in gathering area or at A.R.H.S Guidance Office for a graduating student or graduate student studying in the field of music at the post-secondary level and have not already received this bursary. **DEADLINE: May 5th, 2017**

BENEFIT May 6th from 7pm—12 am at Knights of Columbus Hall— Monica Doucette

(Porter), daughter of Shirley-Ann/Richard Porter and daughter-in-law of Neil Doucette (Sr), is working to win a battle against cancer. A benefit for her will be at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 5 Robie St, Saturday May 6th, from 7pm– 12 am. Live Music provided by Steve LeBlanc, Basil Hicks and Cool Water. Silent Auction, donations at door and 50/50. Come out for support and have fun.



In Our World-Wide Family!

The Catholic Register:NEWS

- ◇ “Another call for fetus protection; mother, unborn child slain.”
- ◇ “Deadly attacks won’t stop papal visit to Egypt”
- ◇ “Sr. Davidson a model for mission work in north”
- ◇ “Mom follows her son into Catholic Church—six years after he became a Catholic priest.”

Pick up a copy in Gathering Area.

Our Newest Chalice Child:

Recently we were told that our Adopted Daughter Sophie, had decided to leave the sponsor program. Like Peter our previous adopted son, a few months ago who also was moving out of the program. The Chalice Sponsorship program is a huge support to many children and families all around the world. With Sophie “graduating” from the program, we were notified that we now have a new child. This week we learned of our adopted son, joining our other child Kim Gabriel, is named **Tobias Ezequiel Servin Rivas**. Tobias is 7 years old and lives in Valle Kare-Itaugua, in Paraguay. He is in Grade 2 and he is learning to read, add and subtract. He likes to study and to play. The site he belongs to is the Don Bosco Sponsor Site, run by the Salesian Congregation which aims to **“promote quality education and spiritual growth for children and youth living in poverty”**. Our sponsorship ensures a better standard of life and access to health check-ups, medication and contributes to a more dignified life.

Holy Family New Parishioner Registration Form

Name(s): _____
 Phone _____ Are you on Facebook? Yes / No
 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.

Our Welcome Committee will be in touch with you!