

Holy Family Parish

May 7th, 2017 4th Sunday of Easter

Cumberland County has done
1,168,281 Million Hail Mary's



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

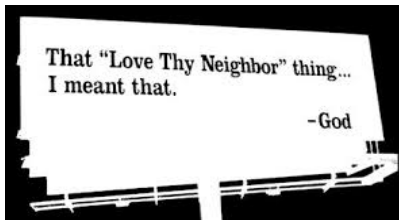
Bill Meehan Caretaker

Deacon Howard Gotell

Sister Teresa Currie

"There are times in everyone's life when something constructive is born out of adversity...when things seem so bad that you've got to grab your fate (faith) by the shoulders and shake it!" - Author Unknown

Everyone has experienced different levels of pain, suffering, loss, doubt and questions in their life. Our youth are just beginning their journey and it will have joy, sadness, new accomplishments and so much we can't imagine. This is their time to grow and learn, and is very important. Recently, my son was teasing me when he asked if I would be okay if "he converted to ___ and lived his life as a ___?" (it was a far cry from the kind of thing that his father and I planned for him!!) It isn't important what he was becoming or even why; it was a hypothetical situation and he only said it to see my reaction! Surprisingly my response came from a different place. I told him his Dad and I have raised him with the best of beliefs, morals and we taught him the difference between good decisions and decisions that will have huge consequences. We gave him everything we knew, believed and wanted for him, and now he has to live the path that GOD has planned for him...and sometimes, even the ones with the deepest of faith and belief, fall off GOD'S path before returning again. My son's (daughter's) journey is between him and GOD, but his Dad and I will always be there to help; lifting him up, supporting him and loving him no matter where this journey takes him. If you are a parent you are smiling now, because we know (as parents) the best way to burst a kids bubble of teasing and tormenting, or them setting you up for an over-reaction, is to turn their "joking" into an "educational teaching moment"....(which my kids hate more than anything)...so, who had the last laugh this time? **Yeah Me!** (it is the little things that make me love being a Mum!) Now the truth told, it has taken me all of the 20 years as a parent and 47 years of my life, to even try to sound this mature....but to actually be in a place in my faith and my trust of GOD, that this will all work out? For a "reforming worry wort" **this is really HUGE!!** I believe the disciples probably had the same feelings as my son, (and all of us at times), deciding the "where, what, when, how and why" of their life. The disciples were to do the work of GOD, but without Jesus in person beside them. Instead Jesus was with them in Spirit. They knew what was expected, Jesus had passed on all the beliefs, morals, commandments and examples, but now.....they were going to have to "show up" for GOD and fulfill their promise to Jesus to "build the church of GOD". How do we show up right now, today, and do our part, also as disciples, in the journey of building up our Holy Family church community? How do we focus on what is important and eliminate all that is unworthy of our attention, as children of GOD? How do we know if the path we are on, is the one that GOD wants for us? It sounds so simple; pray, listen for Jesus to respond and surround ourselves with those who are living their life in service of GOD...in little ways and in big ways, so that we can find **our way with GOD!** Christ is Risen and this is the time for us to live our life as an example of Jesus, showing others the "face of Jesus" each time they meet or interact with us. It doesn't matter the "what, where, who, how and why" of your story or your past, it matters only that we **"Love God with our whole heart, and with our whole soul, and with our whole mind, and with our whole strength, and that we Love our Neighbour as Ourselves"** What if this week we focus on what each of us are needing to do to build our personal faith life and our family faith life at Holy Family? All are needed, all are welcomed <3 Glenna xo



May 14th, 2017 Readings

1st Reading: Acts 6:1-7
2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9
Gospel: John 14:1-12

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 apartments. **Please Be Sure!**





Being Good Stewards of Time, Talent and Treasure



Collection Weekly Update	
THANK YOU!!!!	
Weekend of April	
Envelopes	\$2,923.50
Loose	\$232.85
Pre-Authorized	\$1,364.00
Children	\$16.85
Total	\$4,537.20
SV de Paul	\$375.45
Easter Funds	\$3,298.00
Lenten Folders	\$1,943.65
Good Friday Alms	\$1,762.45
EASTER Total	\$7,004.10

"To be good stewards we must be good shepherds, willing to lay down our lives for those committed to our care, not mere hired hands who run off, "leaving the sheep to be snatched and scattered by the wolf.""



Be a "Steward" of God!

Starting today, why not make a goal for yourself, to do 1 nice, kind and thoughtful thing for someone else—friend, family or a stranger. What would happen if you did this for the next month, 30 days of conscious attention on kindness being done for someone else, without wanting anything in return! TELL US All about it!!

Meetings and Happenings—MAY 2017

May 7	6:45 pm	Knights Bingo/ Hall	5 Robie St.
May 7	6:00 pm	M&M Choir Practice	Church
May 8	7:00 pm	Ministry of Care & Com	St.Charl/Nativit
May 8	6:45 pm	Knights Bingo/Hall	5 Robie St
May 9	10 am	VBC Workshop team	MacIntyre Hall
May 10	7 pm	CWL General Meeting	MacIntyre Hall
May 11	6:30 pm	Prayer Group	St.Charl/Nativity
May 12	7-9 pm	Chase the Ace	MacIntyre Hall
May 13	8—11 am	Knights Breakfast	5 Robie St
May 14	NO	No M&M Choir	NO

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

\$16,000.00

Entertainers Line-Up

May 12th—Ken, Bob and Karen

May 19th—Newfie Night/ Andrew Melanson



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 **15 "Donor Chairs"** still left of 30, in the church. There are 15 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 financial support.

Holy Family Parish Loonie Draw

- * **April 30th —#87, WINNER!!**
- * **Jean Girouard was our lucky winner of \$1617.00.**
- * **New Prize will roll forward**
- * **Next Draw May 7th, 2017.**
- * **Have you picked up your Loonie Number and played? Check with Office for details, and to get yours!**



- * *****
- * 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: Our Lady of Good Counsel

The CWL will be holding their May Meeting on May 10th at 7pm. Are you a woman of the parish and interested in serving God through the many works of the CWL? You don't need a special invitation to join or to just drop in and find out more! Take a chance and become a part of a great sisterhood. For questions, call office 902-667-2523



Mary the Mother of Mercy, Prayer Group

The "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!

FAITH FORMATION:

(YOUTH)

RECONCILIATION



On Saturday we had a wonderful celebration for our youth who were completing their Reconciliation, Grade 2/3 split class. This was a wonderful time for the families of **Claire Davis, Amika Frenette, Aoife Byrnes, Payton Bickerton, Aryahna David, George Drew, William Graham, Lilly MacDonald, Chayse Neves, Adrien Rioux, Alyssa Arseneault and Declan O'Blenis**. A huge thank you to the teachers of this class this year, **Linda Cole, Susan Gotell and Connie LeBlanc**. You are amazing women of faith! Thank you to the CWL for hosting the reception afterwards and the Knights of Columbus #2916 for providing the cake.

CONFIRMATION: Confirmation will take place on **June 4th, at the 11:15 am Mass** for the families of **Jessica Grant, Josh Nowlan, Sabastian diMichelle and Logan Pipes**. Please pray for these youth, their Teacher Sean O'Quinn and their families. Thank you to the parents for their support of these programs.



Syrian Alchehades Family Thank You & Sitter Needed: Last Sunday afternoon, Sultana was the guest of honor at a small baby shower here and received many gifts that parishioners and others donated. She was surprised and humbled by the generosity and took great delight in opening the gifts and wanting to thank everyone. At the apartment afterwards, much joy was shared as Sultana showed all the gifts to Mazen and the children. The crib was assembled immediately. Thank you to Aline Nadar and Sharon Gould for organizing this shower. **WE HAVE OUR TWINS!!** The twins were born on May 3rd. The family is looking for help. One of the babies is going to require medical follow-up, **the parents are going to need child sitters to help with the four children at home while Sultana recovers.** Are you willing to help with this as part of team of 2? Call Frank Allen at 902-545-2886 or Susan Haugg 902-667-1456.



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**

Next Knights Breakfast is May 13th from 8-11 am

Breakfast is eggs, toast, bacon, hash browns, beans, juice, tea, coffee and BEST service in town. \$6 / pp

Holy Family Fall Fair 2017

It is hard to believe we are talking about the Fall Fair, when we are all wondering if Spring will arrive, however..... The Fall Fair will be hosted on **September 29/30 & Oct 1st.**

This week, tickets for the Parish Raffle have been mailed to parishioners. You are asked to return your raffle tickets (in the collection or bring to Office). Please place sold tickets and money in an envelope with your name and "Quilt Raffle" written on the outside. Thank you for helping us with our largest fundraiser for the parish!! Here's to a great Fall Fair 2017!



In Our Parish Life

Register now for Vacation Bible Camp July 10—14th



\$8.00 to sponsor a T-Shirt for a child in the gathering area or office

VOLUNTEER WORK SESSION :

May 9 10 am MacIntyre Hall

May 16 10 am MacIntyre Hall

Things we Need: Please drop off in the Hall and let Bill know what you

have brought in, thanks....

Donations Items Bible Camp is looking for in May:

- ◇ Egg Cartons (cardboard ones)
- ◇ Large shells like clam shells for clay inside
- ◇ 2 kiddie pools needed
- ◇ Pool noodles of different colors
- ◇ Old Mixed colors of Paint, all colors and white
- ◇ Any sea items: nets, shellfish, fish things, whales, etc.
- ◇ Glue sticks for small and large glue guns
- ◇ Duct Tape and Painters Tape
- ◇ Empty Kleenex boxes, toilet papers, paper towel rolls
- ◇ Looking for 130 empty 12 oz or 16 oz water bottles with the CAPS left on the bottles.
- ◇ Empty shoe boxes looking for 20 approximately!

Volunteer Awards for Parishioners:

We know that our parish is full of engaged and engaging parishioners and we have been blessed enormously with our volunteers. They step forward to do even just one thing, to make our parish family better. These people also do this outside their parish family for many other well deserving groups and organizations. We send a huge congratulations to the following parishioners receiving volunteer awards:

Theresa Ellis—Amherst Chapter of Kidney Foundation

Joan Fowler—Amherst Volunteer of the Year

Debbie Frenette—Community Volunteer for YMCA, Skating Schools, Foodbank and Maggie's Place

Noah Petten—Cumberland YMCA

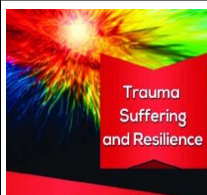
Bill Meehan—Cumberland Twirlers

Judy Tooke—50+ Club

Wishing you such great blessings for the gifts you share with many!!



In Our Archdiocese Family



The Archbishop James M. Hayes Symposium 2017 on Trauma, Suffering and Resilience May 15 –17/17

Guest Speaker for opening night is Lt. General Romeo Dallaire and is open to public. Lt. General Romeo Dallaire's keynote address is happening on May 15th at 7pm at Saint Andrew's United Church, 6036 Coburg Rd., Halifax NS. This lecture is Free to attend, however, you are asked to register at

www.astheology.ns.ca. For more information and details for the full symposium or to register see www.astheology.ns.ca or contact Ms. Falen McNulty at hayes@astheology.ns.ca.



Pray To Know One's Vocations: "Heavenly Father. Lord, my God and my loving Father, you have made me to know you, to love you, to serve you and thereby to find and to fulfill myself. I know that you are in all things, and that every path can lead me to you. But of them all there is one especially by which you want me to come to you. Since I will do what you want of me, I pray you, send your Holy Spirit to me; into my mind, to show me what you want of me; into my heart, to give me the determination to do it, and to do it with all my love, with all my mind and with all my strength right to the end. **Amen**"



4th Sunday of Easter Masses and Lay Led Services

May 6th, 2:30—3 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Family Parish

May 6	10:00 am	Holy Family, Amherst	1st Reconciliations
May 6	4:00 pm	St. Thomas Aquinas, Joggins	Lay Led Service
May 6	6:00 pm	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Henry Anderson by Barry Anderson
May 6	6:30 pm	St.Cornelius, Streets Ridge	Lay Led Service
May 7	9:00 am	St.Brigid's, Parrsboro	Mass for Parishioners
May 7	9:00 am	St. Thomas More, Pugwash	Lay Led Service
May 7	11: 00 am	St. John the Baptist, Springhill	Lay Led Service
May 7	11:15 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Mass for Jacques Landry by Stephanie, Joe & Michelle

4th Sunday of Easter Weekday Mass Schedule

May 8-12	OFF	Father Keith on Vacation	OFF
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5th Sunday of Easter Masses and Lay Led Services

NO Sacrament of Reconciliation with Father Keith on Vacation

May 13	4:00 pm	St. Thomas Aquinas, Joggins	Lay Led Service
May 13	6:00 pm	Holy Family, Amherst	Lay Led Service
May 13	6:30 pm	St.Cornelius, Streets Ridge	Lay Led Service
May 14	9:00 am	St.Brigid's, Parrsboro	Lay Led Service
May 14	9:00 am	St. Thomas More, Pugwash	Lay Led Service
May 14	11: 00 am	St. John the Baptist, Springhill	Lay Led Service
May 14	11:15 am	Holy Family, Amherst	Lay Led Service

Summer Is Coming!

It might not feel like we are going to have Summer, with the cold weather this week, but it will arrive and we will all start making plans to enjoy vacation time and extra family time. During this time, when busy and traveling, we ask that you continue to keep Holy Family in mind with your weekly envelopes and contributions, as we continue with expenses through the summer too. Bring on Summer!



MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY

HOLY MARY
MOTHER OF GOD
PRAY FOR US



1 MILLION HAIL MARY's—AGAIN!

Cumberland County Catholics prayed together completing 1 Million Hail Mary's between December 5th, 2016 and April 16th, 2017 being offered for those who are away from their faith and/or don't believe in Jesus!! WAY TO GO!!! So 1 MILLION AGAIN!! We can do it for sure and we need everyone. Pass along to everyone! This 1 Million is for World Peace and the protection of All Life!

SINCERE CONDOLENCES

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

“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.

First Baptist Church, Amherst—Fellowship Tours

Come and join us for a five day tour, **Sept 1st—5th, of PEI** and the Iles de la Magdalene. Some of the highlights include: Island Preserve Company, Dunes Artist and Gift shop, Dinner at Red Shores Race Track, Homburg Theatre prime seating for Million Dollar Quartet”, five hour ferry to Magdalene, Museum of the Seas and much more. 10 meals included. Pick up your brochure for full details at First Baptist Church Office. Limited to 30 people.

Amherst 50 + Club —Live Auction and Bake Sale, happening on Saturday, May 13th. Viewing of Auction items is from 9—9:30 am and Auction starts at 9:30 am. Items being auctioned are both new & used. The kitchen open for hot dogs, hamburgers, etc. If you have questions, contact Merrill Murray at 902-667-1058.



Personal Care Directives —If you can't make your healthcare decisions, who will? Margaret MacDonald, Continuing Care Coordinator, will be doing a workshop and information session on Mon. May 15th, 10—Noon Village Hall, Water St. Pugwash. Contact: Marilyn Horton 902-243-3210 or Joyce Gray 902-243-3326.

MOTHER'S DAY TURKEY DINNER—May 14th from 4—6pm Adults \$15/Children under 12 \$7. Christ Church Parish Hall. Delivery Take-outs available from 3:30—4pm by calling : 902-667-2415 or 902-660-3018. www.christchurchamherst.ns.ca

In Our World-Wide Family!

The Catholic Register: April 30

- ◇ “Home care agencies forced to become euthanasia facilitators”
- ◇ “Poor still face obstacles in medical arena”
- ◇ “Teacher of peace offers lesson in reconciliation”
- ◇ “Teacher sending beautiful message to students”
- ◇ “All Christians share the bond of faith”

Pick up a copy in Gathering Area.

Pope takes risky road to send his message— Whether opening a free laundromat for homeless in Rome or shunning the palatial papal apartments in the Vatican, Pope Francis knows the power of symbolic messages. Visiting Egypt to show solidarity with persecuted Middle Eastern Christians on April 28/29th, speaking at a peace conference, distinguishing between mainstream Muslims and violent Islamic extremists and attempting to mend religious differences all send powerful messages. The Pope knows this. But terrorists also know the power of messages and targeting the pontiff would be high on the list of many. The Islamic State terrorist organization has levelled repeated threats to the Pope and the Vatican. What is somewhat baffling, perhaps even reckless, is the Pope requesting a “normal car” - not an armored vehicle—be used when he is driven from one venue to another in Egypt. In the past, Francis has likened bullet-proof vehicles to “sardine cans” that prevent him from engaging with ordinary people. No security force can ensure 100% safety along every inch of every routes....**to read more of this article written by Bob Brehl, pick up the Catholic Register newspaper for more about the Pope.** The Catholic Register can be picked up in the gathering area. When you are done, drop it back and someone else can enjoy too.



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!