



St. Francis News

Volume 13, Number 2

August 2024

Message from Archbishop Ron Cutler

“It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God’s work. Nothing we do is complete, which is another way of saying that the kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith. No confession brings perfection. No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No program accomplishes the church’s mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything. This is what we are about.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something and to do it well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord’s grace to enter and do the rest. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own.” (Prayer composed by Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw, often attributed to Archbishop Oscar Romero)

This prayer is one I often turn to. It reminds me that the goal of the world’s salvation and the coming of the Kingdom is not mine, it is the work of God. It also reminds me that this is a work in progress. As my appointment as the Interim Priest in Charge for the Parish of St. Francis by the Lakes comes to an end, I know that despite the hard work of the Parish officers, Parish Council and congregation over the past year, there are many things unresolved. It has not been for lack of trying. Progress has been made on many fronts, but we need to acknowledge that we are on a journey. It is not just about getting a new rector; it is about what God is calling this parish to do and be in this point in time. My time here is done, the work is not done. I want to thank you for your welcome to me and for your faithfulness. When I see the many activities in this newsletter, I am encouraged that you are indeed taking steps along the way and that the Lord’s grace is sufficient.

With continued prayers
The Most Rev. Ron Cutler

Sunday School

Sunday School for St Francis by the Lakes will start up for the new 24/25 School Year on September 8th. Registration Forms will be available to complete on that date. Thereafter, the dates for the fall will be Sept 22, Oct 6th and 20th. Mark in your calendars the Pageant which will be Dec 8th. Registration can take place at any time, if anyone is not available on the Sept 8th date.

We are fortunate to have both Margaret and Patrick back as teachers this year. If anyone has any questions please contact Jane Nauss (Superintendent) at jane.nauss@gmail.com.

This Newsletter is
Dedicated to the Glory of
God and in Loving Memory of

Dianne Bacon

from her Family

Greetings from Your Wardens

Dear Friends,
YOU are the church. It is our shared efforts of ministry combined that make the church what it is. Some work tirelessly however and are tired.

Much of the workload is defaulting to the Wardens as there is no Property Committee. We NEED helpers to do regularly scheduled tasks, as well as individuals to do necessary repairs and maintenance jobs as they come along. We have a list of things that need to get done over the next few months. It is important to keep this building safe and clean year-round. How can you help? Please consider taking on one task as part of your ministry to the church or speak to one of the Wardens.

We have been very fortunate to have Archbishop Ron as our Interim Priest for the last year. We can't thank Archbishop Ron enough for his time, support and guidance and we wish him all the best as he completely retires.

We had hoped to share news on the next Interim Priest; however, we anticipate hearing from the Bishop soon. Our grant for renovations to take on a daycare was recently denied, however, in order to be in a position to enter the Parochial process, we need to keep looking for a full-time hall rental opportunity. If you remember, the Diocese has moved forward with the Parity project which sees a direct increase in salary and housing allowance on our part for a Priest. If you have any rental opportunity suggestions, please let us know.

We are so grateful and appreciative for those who have stepped up to help in one way or another.

~Wardens Elaine Bishop and Jane Naus

End Of Life Symposium

On Saturday, Oct 5th @ 1:00 to 4:00pm we are hosting, "A Conversation about End of Life Options from Green to Traditional." Light refreshments will be served.

All are welcome to attend. More information to follow.

Ways and Means Committee Update

Upcoming fundraising events for the fall are:

- Sept 14 Chowder /Hamburger Soup Takeout
- Sept 21 John Snyder Concert
- Oct 19 Roast Beef Dinner Takeout
- Nov 16 Turkey Dinner Takeout
- Dec 7 Christmas Market ***
- Dec 14 Christmas John Snyder Concert

Note*** The Christmas Craft and Bake Sale will be replaced by a Christmas Market this year. Under the leadership of Jill Wall, local crafters will rent tables and sell their wares. St Francis will have a bake table and will also serve lunch from the kitchen. More to come on this but wanted to give everyone a heads up.

JOHN SNYDER
LIVE IN CONCERT

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21st
2 - 4:30 pm
ST. FRANCIS BY THE LAKES
ANGELICAN CHURCH
192 FIRST LAKE DR. LOWER SACKVILLE

SPECIAL GUEST
LLOYD SNYDER

TICKETS Advanced \$10 At the Door \$15
Order Online: www.stfrancisbythelakes.ca

Concert Information & Sales
John Snyder 902-130-0253
Elaine Bishop 902-864-3634

50/50 TICKETS, CANTEN

Chowder & Hamburger Soup Take-Out Meal
Sept. 14th
Pick up 4 - 5:30pm

St. Francis by the Lakes
192 First Lake Drive
Lower Sackville NS
<https://stfrancisbythelakes.ca/>

Chowder
or
Soup (16oz)
Biscuit
Dessert

Order by Sept. 9th
Call Elaine L
902-865-4727

\$15 Adult
\$7 Children

Outreach Update

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on our Outreach activities over the last several months. First, I would like to thank you and our St. Francis family for your continued and generous support for our Outreach projects.

We have continued to support the community fridge/cupboard operated by Opportunity Place by supplying them with gift cards to Sobeys and Walmart. They use the cards to purchase food items or give the cards to their clients to purchase food. Through the generosity of individuals and groups at St. Francis we have added an additional \$900.00 in cards to this cause.

We have purchased the supplies and assembled over 20 family hygiene kits that have been donated to those in need.

On July 6th a group from St. Francis prepared and served 170 meals of shepherds' pie, veggies, rolls and dessert at St. George's in Halifax. We also had enough extra food to feed the guests at the Beacon House Shelter. We will be onsite again at St. George's in August to provide another meal.

We have supported the youth Den at the Sackville Library with snacks and other items that are shared with the youth who go there for support.

Your ongoing generous donations permit us to support the increased number of Beacon House clients on a weekly basis with food, clothing and small household items. We also donated all the items not sold at our yard sale to Beacon House so they could donate/sell in their retail store. We recently had donations of \$130.00 towards the purchase of school supplies that will be distributed late in August. We have been able to set up an arrangement with Cobbs Bakery to supply fresh bread and baked goods to the Beacon House Food Bank and Shelter. This meets a good portion of their requirement for bread.

The Beacon House Shelter is supported by some members of St. Francis going onsite to volunteer help serve the guests that are facing housing insecurity. There have also been many donations of desserts, clothing and other needed supplies.

If you have any questions or would like to become a member of our Outreach Committee, please contact Don Brushett at either email brushettdf@gmail.com or 902-930-3074.

We have hosted a few family movie nights this summer, with one coming up on August 17. As we head into the fall, we will move to having Family Movie Afternoons starting on September 29. It is a FREE event for anyone interested.

Our next Community Party is Aug. 24 where we will have a FREE barbecue in addition to the games and crafts for the children. Please come out and enjoy these events and bring some neighbors!

We would not be able to help those in need without your support.



Ministry Resources

The whole AV – Audio Visual experience at St Francis has grown and improved.

- The quality of the sound in the church has improved and we are continually improving the experience. We have replaced the sound board, amplifier and speakers. Hall Rental (Daycare) income made this possible.
- A new wireless headset mic was purchased with a donation for the person leading the service. Again, this has improved the in church and livestream sound quality.
- The existing digital piano is failing and is not compatible with the new equipment. A replacement digital piano will be in place by the end of August. This will contribute to improving the music in church and livestream experience.
- A new video camera and hardware was installed and improved the livestream experience. This will give us additional flexibility going forward.
- Microphones to capture the choir sound have been ordered, installation will be soon.
- A 17-inch monitor was added (funded by donation) to allow the slides to be added to the livestream

We have made significant progress without breaking the bank as some churches have done.

Envelopes in this Newsletter

You may also use e-transfers as a way to send a donation, send to:
stfrancisbythelakes192@gmail.com The question is: What is the money for? and the answer depends on where you want the money to go. For a weekly offering the answer is church and for the special appeals below the answer is in brackets. Please always use the message box when using eTransfer to send money - describe where the money is going and use the correct answer to the Question What is the money for?

A time of Thanksgiving, where we celebrate the blessings of the past year, is on the horizon. We offer thanks for all that God is doing in and through our

Envelopes in this Newsletter Continued

community of faith. Offerings can express our gratitude for the goodness we receive each day from God through our neighbors, family and nature. A special Envelope is included for your convenience. (thanksgiving)

Our H.E.L.P envelope is our church family making an extra donation to help with our heat, electricity, lawn and plowing costs. Just like at home, costs on these necessities continue to rise. (help)

Fundscrip Dates

Fundscrip gift card ordering program has been in operation at St. Francis by the Lakes since 2011. The premise is simple - parishioners and their friends can order gift cards that they can use for groceries, restaurants, gas, clothing, gifts, etc. In return, while the purchaser retains the full dollar amount of the cards they ordered, St. Francis receives a percentage of each card's value. Please consider purchasing a gift card for a student you know who would find it very useful as he/she prepares to return to school or university.

For more information on how you can use this program to raise money for the church, without spending any extra money on your part, please check out the church website (www.stfrancisbythelakes.ca) for a list of retailers, as well as information on how to order. Our team is always ready to assist you.

Shelley Brushett is our main team member to contact and place the orders for cards. You can contact Shelley at brushettsm@gmail.com or 902-452-1536. Or contact any of the other team members found on the website.

MONTH	ORDER (by 6 p.m.)	PICK UP (between 9-10 a.m.)
September	Sunday, September 1	Sunday, September 8
October	Sunday, October 6	Sunday, October 13
November	Sunday, November 3	Sunday, November 10
December	Sunday, December 1	Sunday, December 8

Welcome Back Sunday

Welcome Back Sunday is scheduled for September 8. Stay tuned for more information.