

# Holy Trinity Pastoral Unit

## 1 Church Family....3 Locations

~ St. Elizabeth Seton ~ St. Francis of Assisi ~ St. John Vianney ~

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## January 14, 2018

(Year B)

### WEEKLY REFLECTION

I suspect all of us have had a day where a thought like this crosses our mind: “The world would be a much better place if it weren’t for all the other people in it.” Yet God, in His infinite wisdom, seems to disagree. God disagrees so much, in fact, that He calls us to continual community in the Church, and today’s readings help us to understand how and why community is so significant in our lives as Christians.

God’s call of Samuel in the first reading is one of the greatest and most teachable stories in the Scripture. A young boy is roused from his sleep by a voice calling his name, and only with the help of his mentor does he come to understand and respond to the call of God. In many ways, this explains one of the roles the Church fulfills: it shares wisdom and helps us to understand and respond to what God calls us to do.



Paul’s words this week remind us that what happens to one person affects the community, the Body, as a whole. A lot of times we’re tempted to brush off our vices by claiming that “I’m not hurting anyone; this only affects me,” but we know from experience how the ways in which one person treats themselves can spill over into effects on others. Paul’s antidote to this kind of poisonous thinking is the remembrance and realization that we do not belong to ourselves. Nothing can ever affect *just* us. We are intimately connected to God and to each other!

Finally, the Gospel reading plainly illustrates the mission of the Church. John the Baptist points his disciples towards Jesus, then Andrew and John having encountered Jesus bring Peter to meet him. And if we go further past the reading in the Gospel, Peter brings Phillip and Nathaniel to meet Jesus, and on it goes. The community of the Universal Church exists for this mission: to bring people to Christ; everything else is extra.

Doubtless at some point in your life, you have heard someone make the case that they are all for believing in God, but don’t see the need for all the church business. This week’s readings give a pretty clear answer to those questions. The Church is there to provide wisdom and guidance in our response to God, to help us see and realize how deeply we are connected to God and to others, and most importantly to introduce us to the person of Jesus Christ. As members of the Church ourselves, this is our to-do list! Let us be willing to ask: How are we stacking up as individuals and as a community? Where can I help? What can I do to be an Eli, a Paul, or an Andrew for someone in my life? In answering these questions, let us strive to build a community which eagerly responds to God’s call by saying “Speak Lord, your servants are listening!”

~ Alex Craven, Coordinator of Family Formation



**DO YOU HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE NOT CONNECTED TO THEIR CHRISTIAN FAITH?** ALPHA is a way for people who have questions about the meaning of life and the relevance of Jesus to be encouraged in conversation to explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open, and informal environment.

ALPHA helps to transform the lives of those searching for answers. Maybe there is someone that you could invite to attend. It's not too late! Please join us on **Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>** at 6pm at **St. Elizabeth Seton Church**. Invite your family and friends and join them on their journey. For more information, see our website at [alpha@holyltrinityns.ca](mailto:alpha@holyltrinityns.ca)

### **MASSES CANCELLED**

Fr. Ken & Fr. Bryan will be away for a Priests' Retreat the week of January 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>; therefore, there will be **no weekday Masses** on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> or Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mass **WILL TAKE PLACE** on Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 am at St. John Vianney.

Adoration will still continue as usual on Wednesday from 9:30 am - 10 pm and Friday from 9:30 - 10:30 am.

Adoration will **NOT TAKE PLACE** on Thursday (for this week only!)

**THANK YOU!** Dear friends in Christ, Fr. Ken and I want to thank you for your incredible kindness and generosity this Christmas season. The liturgies were beautiful, and there was much hard work on the part of many dedicated people that enabled them to be that way. Much of this work is behind the scenes. So, thank you to everyone who contributed in any way. On a personal note, thanks to all who gave us cards, gifts, and promises of prayer. We are truly grateful for our parish as we enter this New Year. Fr. Bryan

**REMINDER OF CANCELLATION LINE** - for cancellations due to inclement weather, please call 902-865-2112 Ext. 44 for the latest update.

**GRIEF SUPPORT MEETING** will take place on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at St. John Vianney. Contact Judy Fraser at 902-864-2778.

**THE CARE AND COMPANIONSHIP AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY** is conducting training this month for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (ministering to those unable to attend Mass) and for those visiting homebound parishioners on behalf of Holy Trinity Pastoral Unit (i.e. Nursing Home visitors and those confined to home). This training is for new volunteers to this ministry, those who wish to have a refresher course, AND anyone who has not received this formal training in the past. Our goal is to ensure a level of consistency when homebound parishioners receive a visitor on behalf of the Parish. We thank the ten parishioners who came out this past Tuesday for the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion training. The next training session is on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> for those interested in the Visitor Training. It will be held at St. Elizabeth Seton at 7:30 pm. Please contact the Parish Office to register for this training session.

*"To love someone is to show to them their beauty, their worth and their importance."*

~ Jean Vanier

**ADORATION REMINDER** ~ please feel free to drop in to Adoration which takes place every Wednesday from 9:30 am – 10 pm in the Chapel at St. John Vianney. If you plan to come after 4 pm, please stop into the office and pick up your 'Adoration Pass' prior to. **We are in need of volunteers from 12-1 pm. If you're able to help out, please contact Karen.** Adoration takes place as well on Thursday and Friday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30 am. All are most welcome!

In the event of a snow storm, Adoration will be cancelled if the Halifax Regional School Board cancels schools for the day.

**LAY ASSOCIATES GATHERING** will take place on **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 9 am with Mass at St. Elizabeth Seton. Following Mass, there will be a teaching regarding one of the Four Pillars that the Companions' Foundation is built upon. Potluck lunch to follow so if you're able to contribute, that would be very much appreciated. All are welcome!



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**Dates below of the next LA gatherings:**

- **Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** - March gathering
- **Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> & Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** - Lay Associate Mini-Retreat, more details to follow!

**PRAYING WITH JESUS IN THE HOLY LAND—ADVANCE NOTICE**



If you have a desire to see the Holy Land, this may be your opportunity.

Fr. Simon Lobo, Saint Benedict Parish and Fr. Bryan Sabourin, are the planned spiritual leaders on this prayerful Pilgrimage.



The itinerary has been carefully arranged with full consideration to the ministry of Christ as opposed to merely a tour of the Holy Land.

This Pilgrimage is planned for 12 days in October, 2018. For information, e-mail [bsime@privatelabeltravel.ca](mailto:bsime@privatelabeltravel.ca) with "keep me informed" in the subject line.

## FAITH FORMATION

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21<sup>st</sup>** ~ The Rite of Inscription, for those making their First Communion this year, will be celebrated during the 10 am Mass at St. John Vianney. Also, for our Confirmandi, those who will be Confirmed, we will celebrate the Rite of Enrollment during the 12 noon Mass at St. Elizabeth Seton.

What an awesome way to support our children as they prepare for these two important steps in their faith journey. Also, let's take this opportunity to pour out our *Holy Trinity Hospitality* to make those who may not ordinarily attend our Parish feel welcome that day.

**BIBLE STUDY** begins Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:45, Room 9, St. John Vianney. Discover that ACTS is where the action is! ACTS includes the coming of the Holy Spirit, the amazing conversion of Paul and his ministry to the Gentiles. Learn how the Romans actually *helped* spread the Good News of Jesus. Discover how God used the disciples to begin the development of the Christian Church to the known world! ACTS is an exciting book! Sign up on the sign-up sheets, or call the office 865-2112, or by email or phone to Pat at [aphannigan4@hotmail.com](mailto:aphannigan4@hotmail.com) or 861-1602.

**Please order your own books** available from Amazon.ca or Indigo.ca as these books are NOT available in any store in Halifax.

St. Ignatius Study Bible RSV New Testament ISBN 9781586172503 and Zondervan's Compact Bible Dictionary ISBN 0310489814. Amazon has free shipping for orders over \$35.00 and Indigo has free shipping for orders over \$25.00. 2 new copies of each book (Total \$46.37 tax/shipping included) are available from Pat at email address or phone # above.

You will also need a Bible that contains the Old Testament to refer to Old Testament passages contained in the Book of Acts.

Any translation is fine. Please pass this information on to anyone you think might be interested. CLASS LIMITED TO 20 PARTICIPANTS.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**TO THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, ST. ELIZABETH SETON, COUNCIL 10565** ~ The Sisters of St. Martha, involved in Street Ministry in Halifax and the folks who struggle with poverty, want to say **THANK YOU** to the Knights of Columbus of St. Elizabeth Seton. Thank you for your kindness and have a blessed 2018! Sister Jovita.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, St. John Vianney Council No. 7077**, is having a Mass offered for current and past council members and members of their families on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am at St. John Vianney. Knights of Columbus members, widows of past members, their families and all parishioners are invited to attend.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. JOHN VIANNEY COUNCIL 7077** invite you to their Family Brunch taking place on the First Sunday of the month - the next one being held on February 4<sup>th</sup> from 11 am - 1 pm in the Hall at St. John Vianney. Menu includes eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, beans, toast, juice, tea & coffee. Contact Basil Weagle at 902-864-8159.

**CASH CALENDARS** ~ If you missed the opportunity to purchase a Cash Calendar from the Knights of Columbus, there are still some available. Please see Karen at the Parish Office.

### IN OUR COMMUNITY



**WEEKEND OF GRACE FOR WOMEN** is taking place from April 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> at the Lord Nelson Hotel in Halifax. Be sure to take advantage of the Early Bird Registration fee of \$175. Following that date, the cost will be \$195. For information, please call 902-405-9613 or visit [www.weekendofgrace.com](http://www.weekendofgrace.com).

### ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

#### World Day of Migrants and Refugees: January 14, 2018

The theme chosen by Pope Francis for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees is *“Welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees.”*

“Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43).

Our Archdiocesan ministry of refugee sponsorship, a concrete expression of compassion and respect for the fundamental dignity of every human person, has continued to grow exponentially since its inception decades ago.

We would like to take this time to celebrate the accomplishments of our parishes, to welcome and explore new opportunities for participation, and to give thanks for the many contributions from volunteers, dedication from sponsors, and the newly arrived refugees in our country that make the ministry of refugee sponsorship possible.

For other Archdiocesan events, please visit <http://www.halifaxymouth.org>

## ~ Meet Our Staff ~

**Pastoral Administrator:** Fr. Ken Lao CC.....ext 0

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Bryan Sabourin C.....ext 0

**Deacon:** Rod Rowlands.....ext 0

**Administrative Secretary:**

Karen Smith.....ext 0

**Finance:** Marlene Bellefontaine.....ext 21

**Dir. of Ministries, Comm & Evangelization:**

Catherine Kidson.....ext 24

**Coordinator of Family Faith Formation:**

Alex Craven.....ext 23

### **SUNDAY, THE DAY OF THE LORD**

Saturday	4:30 pm	St. John Vianney
Sunday	8:00 am	St. Francis of Assisi
Sunday	10:00 am	St. John Vianney
Sunday	12:00 pm	St. Elizabeth Seton

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Tuesday	7:00 pm	St. Elizabeth Seton
Wednesday	9:00 am	St. John Vianney
Thursday	9:00 am	St. John Vianney
Friday	9:00 am	St. John Vianney

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Tuesday 6:30-6:45pm St. Elizabeth Seton

Wednesday 8:30am-8:45am St. John Vianney

Saturday 3:45-4:15pm St John Vianney

or by appointment at any of our three Churches.

### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Wednesday at SJV following 9 am Mass and concludes at 10 pm with Reposition

Thursday & Friday at SJV following 9 am Mass concluding at 10:30 am

### **PRAY THE ROSARY**

Tuesday 6:30 pm St. Elizabeth Seton

Wednesday (Pro-Life) 8:00 am St. John Vianney

Thursday & Friday 9:40 am St. John Vianney

*On Friday, recited for Peace in the World, as per Pope Francis'*

Saturday 9:00 am St. John Vianney  
(Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle with Rosary)

### **MINISTRY OF CARE & COMPANIONSHIP AND HOMEBOUND:**

If you know someone who is seriously ill, in the hospital or homebound that would like a Parish Visitor or to receive Communion, please contact the Parish Office.

**CANCELLATION LINE** ~ for cancellations due to inclement weather, please call 902-865-2112 Ext. 44 for the latest update.

**GOT LIFE QUESTIONS?** RCIA might be just for you. Come journey with us as we explore the meaning of life and the Catholic spirituality. Contact Anne Marie Reid at [reid.am@bellaliant.net](mailto:reid.am@bellaliant.net) to find out more about the R.C.I.A (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Program.

**PLANNING TO BE MARRIED in the Catholic Church?** Congratulations! Please contact the Parish Office at least 6 months in advance in order to have time to prepare. For more information, check out our website under Faith Formation – Sacraments.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** Contact Liz Connolly at 902-865-9214 at least three months in advance. A preparation session will be arranged for you.

**HEARTS ON FIRE PRAYER GROUP** invite you to join them on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm at St. Elizabeth Seton (weather permitting). For more information, call Ethel at 902-864-4927.

**WEEKLY STAFF MEETINGS** take place on Thursdays from 10 am – 11:30 am; therefore, the Parish Office will be closed during those times.

**NO SCENTS MAKES GOOD SENSE!** Please refrain from wearing perfume/cologne to Mass. Thank you!

**WOMEN'S FAITH SHARING STUDY GROUP** will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10 am at St. Elizabeth Seton. Newcomers are most welcome. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

**MEN'S "GYM" HOUR** – God, You, Me – will take place every Friday at St. Benedict Parish in Halifax from 6:45 - 8 am. Come heighten your spiritual journey by sharing stories, Praise and Worship music and enjoy fellowship. Coffee will be provided. Contact Peter Covert at 902-478-5951. All men are welcome!



**BEACON HOUSE MONTHLY REQUESTS:** canned corn, canned beans, boxed cereal, crackers, granola bars, canned fruit, canned tuna, diapers, Boost or other meal replacement drinks, juice.

**VOLUNTEER DAY for the Holy Trinity will be Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> (9:00am–1:00pm). If you're able to help out, even if only for an hour, it would be very much appreciated.**