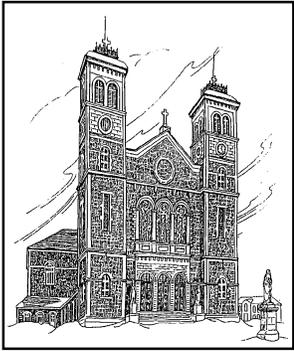


Welcome to The Historic Roman Catholic Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist

200 Military Road, St. John's, Newfoundland A1C 2E8



Archbishop of St. John's: Most Reverend Martin W. Currie

Parish Priest: Father Jerome Hann

Secretary: Anne Carew

Music Director: Kiera Galway

Custodian: Brian Penney

Parish Office: Tel. 754-2170 Fax: 754-5608 - open Monday - Friday 9-12 Noon; 1-4:30 pm.

E-mail basilica@rcsj.org

Website: www.thebasilica.ca

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Basilica-Cathedral Parish of St. John the Baptist is the furtherance of the Church's mission of salvation, as a community of Christian people worshipping the Lord together, proclaiming the word and responding to human needs. We acknowledge the common priesthood of all baptized, wherein all members of our faith community are called to share in the ministries that serve the Church's mission.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – APRIL 2, 2017

Weekend Masses: Saturday at 5:00 p.m.; Sunday at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Lenten Weekday Mass: **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY AT 12:10 P.M.**

Mass of Chrism will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 4th at 7:00 pm. There will be no 12:10 pm.

Lenten Weekday Mass celebrated in the Basilica that day.

Lenten Penitential Service – Wednesday, April 5th at 7:00 pm. in the Basilica.

Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday after the 12:10 pm. Mass for one hour

Stations of the Cross: Friday after the 12:10 pm. Mass

Rosary: recited in the Basilica weekdays one half hour before Mass.

Music Rehearsal: Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 pm. New singers & instrumentalists welcome.

Sacrament of Baptism: Once a month, except during Lent & Advent. Baptism Preparation must be completed before the Sacrament is celebrated.

Sacrament of Marriage: At least six months notice must be given.

Mass at Bonaventure Retirement Home: Third Thursday of each month

Prayer.... We ask that you remember the sick of our parish... Bernadine Brake, Gerard Carey, Joan Doyle, Rose Phillips, Mary Aylward, Donnie Butler. ***Lord, comfort them in their time of sickness and bless those who care for them.*** If you would like to have a friend / family member named in the Bulletin & remembered at our Eucharistic celebrations please call the Office by Wednesday noon.

Funerals We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the families and friends of the late

ANNE MARIE “NANCY” KEARSEY, JANET MURPHY GOODRIDGE

May the Lord console you and grant eternal rest to the soul of your loved one.

**NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTRIES SCHEDULES FOR 5 PM. & 11 AM. MASSES
READY FOR PICK UP IN THE PARISH ROOM.**

MASS OF CHRISM – TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 7:00 pm., Basilica-Cathedral. There will be no evening Masses celebrated in the Archdiocese on this day other than the Chrism Mass. I extend my invitation to all people of the Archdiocese to celebrate together this joyous event. **+Martin Currie.**

***** BAPTISM PREPARATION ***** The next Baptism Preparation will take place on **MONDAY, APRIL 3RD** **AT 7:00 P.M. in the Parish Room.** To register, please call the Parish Office at 754-2170 or visit our website - www.thebasilica.ca as soon as possible before this date. We encourage expectant parents to register early in their pregnancy. This will allow you to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism shortly after the baby's birth. **The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated ONCE A MONTH ... except during Lent and Advent.**

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - APRIL 2ND, 2017

Today's Gospel story is above all, one of faith and hope in the power of Jesus. It is the resurrection of Jesus that sustains our hope even when it is tested by the overwhelming fact of death. An anonymous writer put it this way: "For those with faith, death is not extinguishing the light; it is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come". Ron Rolheiser, a distinguished Canadian theologian says this about the communion of saints: "We believe that those who have died are not only still alive but that they are, as well, still in a real relationship with us" what better consolation could we have. On this 5th Sunday of Lent, we can take much courage and hope from the teachings of our faith, that indeed, Jesus Christ is the Resurrection and the Life. Today is also the Sunday that our Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace have named Solidarity Day and we are invited to reflect on the quest for justice and peace throughout our world, and on the church's preferential option for the poor. The story of Lazarus reminds us that it is Jesus' victory over sin and death, that sustains our hope not only against physical death, but also against the death of injustice, hatred, racism, and all evils and abuses of power that lead to the impoverishment and marginalization of our brothers and sisters. Pope Francis, following in the footsteps of Jesus, is showing himself to be a pope for the poor and has much to say about the inequalities in our societies. In one address to the Food and Agricultural Organization he is quoted as saying "A way has to be found to enable everyone to benefit from the fruits of the earth, and not simply to close the gap between the affluent and those who must be satisfied with the crumbs falling from the table, but above all to satisfy the demands of justice, fairness and respect for every human being".

>> **LENTEN TREE** At the entrance of the Church we have our Lenten Tree decorated with little paper crosses. Written on these crosses are the names of different items which could be donated for the personal care of the needy. We invite you to take a paper cross from the tree and on the following Saturday/Sunday bring back the specified item.

>> **EMMAUS HOUSE** In keeping with our communal almsgiving, parishioners are asked to bring **TIN MEAT** for Emmaus House next Saturday/Sunday.

>> **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be prayed in the Marian Chapel on Friday after the 12:10 pm. Mass.

St. Joseph's Table Many thanks to those who organized, prepared, served and patronized this annual event on Monday, March 27th. Because of your generosity, we are able to donate \$400.60 to Development and Peace.
Thankyou

Invitation to Polish Families ... On Holy Saturday, April 15th, members of the Polish community are invited to bring their Easter food to be blessed during Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. This blessed food will be brought back to their homes to be eaten on Easter Sunday, April 16th in keeping with their Polish tradition. We encourage our Polish parishioners and their friends to come along to Morning Prayer at 10:00 am.

GROWING IN FAITH SERIES 2016-2017 -- Saturday April 8, 2017: Lenten Retreat, 9:00 AM. – 12:00 NOON, Basilica Museum in the Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre. To cover expenses, a nominal fee of \$5 is suggested. To register call MaryLou Sweetapple at 726-3660, ext. 280.

PARISH SOCIAL ... In our continuing effort to build our Basilica Parish as Community, there will be a Social after the 11:00 am. Mass on Sunday, April 2nd. We were encouraged by the large number of Parishioners who participated at last month's social. We invite one and all to drop by, share a treat and learn more about our various Ministries.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE, Basilica Council, we appreciate the loyalty and dedication of our members to the League. We would like to remind you that Annual Dues (\$20) are now due. For your convenience you may place it in the collection in an envelope marked "Catholic Women's League" or leave it at the front desk.

Your help is needed to ensure that our church has beautiful flowers – especially for the major festal seasons of Christmas and Easter. We have set up a '*flower fund*' in which you are invited to participate. **Our hope** is that this will minimize the expense to the parish, and at the same time ensure that the **festive joy of the 'Great Fifty Days' of Easter will be apparent in our Easter flowers from the Easter Vigil until Pentecost.** **We ask** that you place your donations in an envelope marked '**Flowers**' and place it in the collection. You are also invited to make your donation in memory of a loved one. Their names will be included from time to time in the bulletin. We have made envelopes available for you on the tables at the entrances to the Church.

24 Hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Mary Queen of the World Parish, 777 Topsail Road. You are INVITED to spend an hour with JESUS from **9:30 am., April 6th to 10:00 am., April 7th, 2017.** We pray to the Holy Spirit for an increase in vocations to the priesthoods, in our archdiocese, and spiritual support of existing vocations.

.... **As part of the Archbishop's Appeal, the Basilica Community Builders is planning to put together an auction item of a gift card tree.** This worked well last year and we're hoping it will this year, too. We are looking for **contributions of \$20 gift cards** from places such as Tim Horton's, Starbucks, Second Cup, the liquor store, Sobey's, Dominion, Coleman's – in fact from any place that you think will appeal to people. The following people will be happy to receive your contribution: Bernie Conran, Cathy Hickey, and Dianne O'Mara. If you don't happen to know these people or don't see them when you are at the Basilica, just call Bernie at 722-6379. She will gladly arrange to get your contribution.

.... **GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE FOR LIFE** -- Friday, April 14th, 9:00 am., St. Pius X Church on Smithville Crescent. The Centre for Life invites the community to gather in a spiritual fellowship to pray for all human life, especially the most vulnerable members of our society. For more information please call 579-1500.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE ... Solidarity Sunday, April 2nd – Thank you for your generosity! Each donation is used to help our sisters and brothers all over the world ... from Paraguay to Syria, to Indonesia and beyond! We conclude this Share Lent with the world of Pope Francis, offered on the occasion of the Jubilee of Mercy: "Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope.. Thank you for helping us create a future filled with hope!

// **Centre For Life Save The Date:** Thursday, April 6th, 7-8:30 pm. (doors open at 6 pm.), Cineplex Cinemas Mt. Pearl Studio 1. Fight the New Drug – Get the Facts on Pornography. Presenter: Craig Bakker, Program Director, Fight the New Drug www.fightthenewdrug.org. Admission: Free will donation to the Community Food Sharing Association. For more info contact centreforlife@centreforlife.ca or call 579-1500.

WILL IT! Spiritual Bootcamp – Saturday, April 8th, 10 am. – 4:45 pm. A Lenten Retreat for men ages 20-35. Fr. Joe Mroz, Spiritual Advisor – St. Pius X Parish Hall – Registration \$10. To register or for further information email ed@ejcmfinancial.com.

Our Annual Fundraiser, Archbishop's Dinner and Auction will be held this year on **Wednesday, May 17th** at Holiday Inn – Portugal Cove Road. This event is the principal means through which we raise the funds to support our many outreach programs and services. Tickets are \$200 each or a table of 10 for \$2,000. Please contact Theresa Whiffen (709) 726-3660 or e-mail: twhiffen@rcsj.org to reserve your ticket. We are seeking donations for our Live or Silent Auction, for example: Gift Certificates, Merchandise (new items only) or Crafts, etc. Any donation will be greatly accepted. Should you wish to make a donation please contact: Anne Marie Curran, 709-726-3660, ext. 227 or e-mailacurran@rcsj.org. your donation can be picked up and a charitable receipts will be issued.

Dessert Auction Donation: There is also an Auction Dessert Table where guests bid on a dessert of their choice. The highest bid, on down the line, will determine their pick of the crop! It is a fun event and an excellent contribution to our fundraising! If you would like TO DONATE A DESSERT please contact Janet Stead at 709-726-3660, ext. 230 or jstead@rcsj.org. Thank you.

Remember that when you leave this earth you can take with you nothing that you have received – only what you have given.” (St. Francis of Assisi)

WHEN YOU DO YOUR ESTATE PLANNING, PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR CHURCH.

COLLECTIONS FOR SUNDAY, March 26th, 2017

Offertory ... \$5,5563.75 Lenten Offering ... \$75; Assessment ... \$109

Acknowledged with many thanks. Your continued support of the Basilica Parish is greatly appreciated.

Income Tax receipts for 2016 donations to the parish are available for pick up at the Parish Office. If you would like to have your receipt mailed please contact the office at 754-2170 or basilica@rcsj.org.

.. DID YOU KNOW? ... If you attend weekend Mass at a church other than your own Parish Church and use your parish envelope for your weekly offering, that offering will be returned to your own Parish.

**Bingo! Knights of Columbus - St. Clare Avenue every Wednesday and Sunday
Cowan Plaza – Corner of Topsail Road and Burgeo Street – Seven nights a week**

... SCENT FREE! ... In today's society, in many public institutions, we see the sign “no perfumes/scents allowed” because people with allergies are often very severely affected by scents. We have received letters and phone calls asking that we strive to make our churches scent free. As a Church we care for the good of all so we ask your support and cooperation in our efforts to make the Basilica a scent free environment.

Strategic Planning Committee Parishioners Consultation Summary Report – AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ... The Committee has completed its review of the comprehensive feedback received from the recent 17 Parishioner's Consultation meetings held within the Archdiocese. The verbatim feedback is organized as it relates to the same six questions asked at each meeting and therefore allows for a better understanding for the overall responses to the six questions raised across the nine Pastoral Areas. This Parishioner's feedback report is now available on the Archdiocese Website, www.rcsj.org. >> The next steps in our Committee's Planning process will include a review of the extensive feedback received from all sources, and to revise the proposed pastoral plan to reflect your comments, suggestions and ideas. This work has started and is scheduled to be completed by June of this year for consideration by our Archbishop. It's clear to our Committee that the feedback received will have a profound impact on our plans going forward. >> Thanks again to everyone who participated in this effort. The committee would like to express its appreciation for your very worthwhile expression of interest and commitment for our efforts for the revitalization of our Church. **Strategic Planning Committee, March 27, 2017**

The singing Legionnaires 50th Anniversary Dinner & Dance ... April 8th, 7 pm., RC Legion Branch 56 Pleasantville. \$25 per ticket, available at Branch 56, The Boulevard 753-9820. Hot stuffed chicken breast dinner. Songs by The Singing Legionnaire and guests Maxx Ladies Choir with dance music by Brian Finn. Silent auction, 50/50 draw.

ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN OUR PUBLISHED BULLETIN

Prayer For Our Parish... O God, you have made us the Church of your Son. Make our parish a family of one heart and one mind in love toward you. Grant that our common life and witness may be an example to all about us. Guide our pastor and his assistants in their ministry. Listen to the prayers of John the Baptist, our patron, and keep us secure in your love. Teach us to reach out to other parishes less fortunate. Give us a great love for all the Church, for our Holy Father, for our bishop, and all those who serve. Help us to be a haven of joy and peace within the human family. Bring us all together to life eternal. **Amen**

Fifth Sunday of Lent – April 2, 2017 “Did I not assure you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” Do you believe Christ may be calling you to see the glory of the Blessed Trinity through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Fr. Ken Walsh at 781-`996, Fr. Jeff Kolonel at 745-8183 or Fr. Ray Earle at 488-2525 or email: vocations@rcsj.org.

TIMES OF MASS IN THE BASILICA DURING LENT ... Monday through Friday at 12:10 pm. Funerals will be celebrated at 9:30 am., the 12:10 pm. Mass will go ahead as scheduled. **Mass of Chrism will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 4th at 7 pm., there will be no 12:10 pm. Mass celebrated in the Basilica that day.**

... We would like to get to know you! If you would like to become a registered member of the Basilica Parish please complete a Parish Census Form. The forms are available on the tables at the entrances to the Basilica or can be picked up at the Parish Office. When completed, the form can be dropped off at the Parish Office or in with the Sunday collection.

WELCOME ALL VISITORS ...We extend a warm and cordial welcome to all visitors to our historic Parish and city. We hope you enjoy the warm hospitality of the Newfoundland and Labrador people and that your stay will be met with many blessings.

***** BASILICA & PARISH OFFICE OPENING/CLOSING TIMES**

The Basilica is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am. – 4:00 pm.; Saturday 8:00 am. until after the 5:00 pm. Mass; and 8:00 am. – 12:30 pm. on Sunday. The Parish Office is open Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 9:00 am. to 4:30 pm. – closed for lunch 12 Noon to 1 pm. daily. Guided tours of the Basilica and the Basilica Museum are available upon request by contacting Mr. Rene Estrada at 726-3660, etc. 223 or restrada@rcsj.org.

SNOW CLEARING ... during the winter months when there is a heavy snowfall the east and west doors of the Basilica will be the first to be cleared. These entrances are to be used by all attending daily Mass. The main entrances will be cleared only after the east and west have been cleared. A reminder - when the schools in the city are closed because of inclement weather, the Mass for that day will be cancelled. Of course sometimes it does snow on the weekend ... if in doubt about whether or not Mass is being celebrated ... please tune in to the local radio stations and/or call the parish office (754-2170).

COMMUNION TO THE SICK ... The Basilica Parish is in the process of rejuvenating our Ministry of Communion to the Sick. We have an aging population in our Parish. We are receiving more and more calls from Parishioners who can no longer get out to Sunday liturgy and would like to have the Eucharist brought to them. We would sincerely like to be able to fulfil their request. To accomplish this, we need parishioners who are willing to sign up for this Ministry. It is also suggested that family members or relatives may also be able to bring Communion to their sick or elderly loved ones. Of course, the Parish will provide training in this area. If you are able to contribute to this vital Ministry, please call Anne at the Parish Office, 754-2170.

THE CATECHETICAL OFFICE at the Basilica provides parents with the resources to form their children in faith and prepare them to celebrate the sacraments. This process has two foci, namely, the home and the parish. This year we will provide some materials for families to use at home. We will invite families to get involved in the various liturgical ministries at the Sunday liturgy, namely, present the gifts of bread and wine, prepare the altar, carry cross and candles and proclaim the readings. The catechetical formation at the Basilica will also emphasize the liturgical year, especially the seasons of Advent, Christmas—Epiphany as well as Lent-Easter-Pentecost because they are extremely important for faith formation. This year we will celebrate a rite of welcome for children and families who are preparing to celebrate the sacraments of Confirmation and first Eucharist. Part of this celebration will be to present the child with a copy of the lectionary because the Word of God is very important in the faith formation of every Christian. If you would like to enroll your child in this process of preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, please email me at Gerard.whitty@nl.rogers.com or call the Basilica office at 754-2170.

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: I need your help to appoint two new members to the Finance Committee. It is for a 3 year term, but can be extended for another term. If you know of anyone, or if you have knowledge of finances, please let me know. A CA would be helpful on the committee but not necessary. I hope you will be able to give me the names of some people I can approach. Thank You. *Father Jerome*

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR THE BASILICA PARISH basilica@rcsj.org

St. Clare's Mercy Hospital Auxiliary has openings for **daytime** volunteers in their Gift Shop. If you have a few hours a week that you are willing to offer providing customer service to our patients and visitors please call Volunteer Resources at 777-5539 for further information.

^^^ **Centre for Life Seniors Tax Clinics:** The Centre for Life will be participating in the CRA Community Volunteer Income Tax Program offering tax preparation for seniors. **For information or to make an appointment please call 579-1500. Clinics will be held on Mondays.**

^^ **Be Part of the Celebration !!!** This year, our Catholic Church's international solidarity organization, Development and Peace is entering its 50th year. To celebrate this milestone, Development and Peace is holding a 50th Anniversary Dinner on Friday, May 5th, 7 pm., Knights of Columbus. Tickets are \$20 each and are available by contacting Evelyn Lundrigan at emlundrigan@hotmail.com or 368-4450. Speakers for the evening will be Archbishop Martin Currie, Archbishop of St. John's and Josianne Gauthier, Director of the in-Canada Program for Development and Peace. Entertainment will be provided.

<< **Living Well With Advanced Cancer ... *Are you living with cancer?*** Eastern Health invites you to attend an 8-week interactive support group designed to help those living with advanced cancer to reconnect with and sustain meaning in their lives. Co-facilitated by the Social Work Department of the Dr. H. Bliss Murphy Cancer Centre and the Pastoral Care and Ethics Department of Eastern Health this program will start May 8th and will meet on Mondays from 2-4 pm. until June 26th at the Botanical Garden Field Centre, 306 Mount Scio Road (weeks 2,3 & 7 will meet Tuesday afternoon). For more information or to register please contact Paul Grimes at 777-7611 or Bill Haynes at 777-7990.

<<< **MUN NOTES ...** “Fight the New Drug”, a presentation about the effects of pornography on the human brain., Thursday, April 6, 2 pm., UC 3018 (The Landing). Friday, April 7 “The Summit” – Adoration and Benediction, 7 pm., St. John’s College Chapel. Our last Sunday evening Mass at MUN for the academic year will be Sunday, April 9, 7 pm. Our last weekday Mass will be on Thursday, April 20, Noon UC 5022. No Mass during the Triduum.Fr. Joe Mroz, SJ, Catholic Chapel, MUN.

*****Latin Mass** – Missa Cantata ... the Latin Mass is celebrated at St. Pius X Chapel, Smithville Crescent, Sundays at 5:15 pm

<< **Rosary, Mass, and Holy Hour ...** St. Kevin’s Parish is inviting people to come pray for the Archdiocese and the Strategic Planning Committee each Tuesday evening. There will be Rosary at 6:30 pm., Mass at 7:00 pm., and Holy Hour immediately after Mass. Please come and join us in prayer. (Please check Parish office at 745-8183 or email stkevinsparish@gmail.com prior to coming, as Mass to be cancelled if funeral that day)

*** **Monthly French Mass – CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.** Usually third Sunday of each month, 1 pm., Basilica Marian Chapel. Access to Marian Chapel may be gained by behind St. Bonaventure’s College. For details please contact Celia at infomfsjnl@gmail.com or 763-5757.

THE LANTERN -- EVENTS/PROGRAMS .. Mindfulness Bases Stress Reduction – 8 week course: Thursday, April 6-May 25; 6:30-9:00 pm. Cost: \$325 (includes MBSR workbook with guided m3- meditation practices, and day retreat and lunch). Facilitator: Maureen Barry, MSW, RSW. To register and/or info please call 685-6027 or email mbsr.stjohns@gmail.com.

**** **Wesley United Church** will be holding a **turkey dinner** with all the trimmings right after the church service at 12:30 pm. on Sunday, April 9th. Sit in only, there will be no take-outs. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$12 for children under 12 years of age. Call Pheobe at 726-1689, Marvin 579-7900 or the Church Office at 579-3682. All are welcome!

>>> **Topsail United Church Men’s Club Breakfast with the Easter Bunny** will be held on Saturday April 8th, from 8 am. until 11 am. Usual Great Menu. Cost: \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. Face Painting and Colouring and pictures for the children. All are welcome.

*** **St. Patrick’s Mercy Home Foundation** is having a Variety Show in support of the residents of St. Patrick’s Mercy Home. Join us with your family, visitors and friends on Thursday, April 20th at 6:30 pm. at the St. Patrick’s Mercy Home Auditorium, 146 Elizabeth Avenue. **“Skits, Musicians, Resident Performances, Recitations, 50/50 Draw and Prizes”** Tickets \$15. Call 752-8745 for tickets or information.

... **St. Clare's Mercy Hospital Auxiliary** will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in the Fall of 2017. If you would be interested in attending their anniversary celebration please contact Michele at 777-5539 for more information.

... **St. Clare's Mercy Hospital Auxiliary** has openings for daytime volunteers in their Gift Shop. If you have a few hours a week that you are willing to offer providing customer service to our patients and visitors please call Volunteer Resources at 777-5539 for further information.

< **Jesuit Volunteers Canada** Over 20 and interested in making the world a better place? Jesuit Volunteers Canada is looking for a few good people who want to spend a year in community, in Canada, working for the greater good. For more information see jesuitvolunteers.ca or email Fr. Joe Mroz SJ ej_mroz@yahoo.ca.

>> **St. Augustine's Anglican Church** invites you to spend an evening with Kevin Collins featuring Ray Walsh! Friday, May 5th, 7:00 pm., doors open at 6:00 pm. Tickets are available by calling the church office, 753-1931 or by email staugustine@nf.aibn.com. Tickets are \$25 each.

Canadian Blood Services ... New donors are critical to meeting Canada's future blood needs. It can be challenging to collect blood leading into long weekends and holidays, such as Easter. Many people travel and are busy with family, yet the need for blood remains constant. Canadian Blood Services is now open on Saturdays from 9 am. – 1 pm. for your convenience. Visit blood.ca for information or to book an appointment.

... **A Mindful Way through Fear and Uncertainty** – Do you feel anxious, or even angry, when you listen to the news these days? Recent events south of the border and around the world have been fueling an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty. This weekend workshop will explore how Mindfulness and meditation practice can help us navigate these turbulent waters. You will learn time-tested techniques, tools, and strategies for working with these everyday challenges. Facilitator: Andrew Saifer. Friday, April 7, 7-9 pm.; Saturday, April 8, 9 am. – 4 pm. Admission: Friday night talk \$10; Saturday \$60 (discounts available). Registration deadline: March 31st. Call 722-2716 to register or Andrew@saiferindfulness.com.

--- **Volunteers** are a wonderful asset to Nursing Homes and greatly enhance the lives of residents. Volunteers welcomed in assisting with a variety of social activities for residents at The Agnes Pratt Home. Meal Time companion, recreation, friendly visiting, community companions and pastoral care. If interested please call Judy Cook, Coordinator Volunteer Resources, Longer Term Care St. John's at 752-8705 or email judy.cook@easternhealth.ca.

.... **Elevate – Steubenville Youth Conference** --- join hundreds of other youth from Atlantic Canada in Halifax from July 7-9, 2017 as we celebrate and learn more about our Catholic faith. The Steubenville conferences are held across North America each year and offers young people an opportunity to meet new people and hear fantastic speakers and music while learning more about the Sacraments and our church. For more information or to register, please contact Sara at sara_broderick@yahoo.com or visit www.steubenville.ca.

INNER HEALING MINISTRY: Do you feel your life is out of control? Do you want to spend an hour in praise of worship? A time for peace and a time to settle! Call Roger at 895-3499 or come to Wesley Auditorium on Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm. to see if this is what you are looking for. Everyone is welcome.

<< *“For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.”* (Rom. 7:18). If we don't seem able to control our harmful eating habits we may need help. If willpower is not enough, Overeaters Anonymous might be for you. For more info visit oanl.org or -709-738-1742.

ALPHA YOUTH PROGRAM ... We are very excited to be offering the Alpha program for youth in our Archdiocese! The Alpha Youth Film Series is a 9 week program designed to engage youth in conversations about life, faith and Jesus. It invites youth to learn about, and reflect on, the basic truths of the Christian faith. Each session will start with food, followed by a short video and discussions. This series has been used internationally and has received amazing reviews. Our program will run during February and March and our leaders will be Catholic Youth Ministers from different parishes in our diocese. There is no registration fee for this program and it is open to youth from grades 6-12. For information on this program, please contact Sara at sara_broderick@yahoo.com.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA AND LOURDES, October 8-17, 2017 ... there will be a 100th anniversary pilgrimage to Fatima led by Father Cecil Critch and will include visits to shrines in Barcelona and Lourdes. Highlights include – Barcelona-La Sagrada Familia, Marian Shrine, **Montserrat**, Carcassone, **Lourdes**, Grotto of Massabielle, Cathedral of Burgos, Monastery of Santa Maria Real de las Huelgas, **Fatima**, Aljustrel, Santarem. For details call Colleen Williams at Harvey's Travel at Pearlgate Mall 747-5018 / cwilliams@harveystravelcwt.com.

... Teaching People How to Pray? Do you want to know how to pray? Call Roger at 895-3499.

WEEKEND OF GRACE FOR WOMEN ... April 28-30, 2017, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Pre-Registration Only – Registration: \$185.00. Deadline for registration is April 17, 2017. Pre-registration form available online at www.weekendofgrace.com/women/regform.html. Accommodations available at Lord Nelson Hotel, guest room availability is limited. Preferred rates guaranteed until Friday, April 7, 2017. To reserve your room online <https://res.lordnelsonhotel.com/booking/default.aspx?Group-27239>; by phone 1-800-565-2020 (toll free) or (902)423-6331 / Group ID: 27239. For more information call (902) 405-9613 or visit www.weekendofgrace.com. (Poster in the entrance to the Basilica)

?? Thinking of Volunteering ?? If you have two hours to spare during the week, your service would be greatly appreciated at St. Patrick's Mercy Home. Volunteers are required between 10 am. and Noon, Monday through Friday to porter residents to and from the Chapel.

... Are you concerned about OVEREATING? Researchers at MUN are looking for men and women ages 19 and over who struggle with overeating to take part in a study to help people stop overeating. As part of this study, you will be provided with information and strategies aimed to decrease overeating and improve well-being. For more information, or to find out if you are eligible to take part, email munstopovereating@gmail.com.

***/*/ INNER HEALING MINISTRY:** Do you feel that life is getting you down? Do you need to see a light at the end of the tunnel. Would you like to come to worship, praise and prayer on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. - Wesley Church basement. For more info call Roger Maunder at 895-3499 or just drop by. This is opened to all walks of life ... come as you are!

***/* Life and Light Campaign** As a response to St. John Paul II's warning against the "culture of death" and the Supreme Court of Canada's decision on Euthanasia, join the Life & Light Campaign to pray for the prevention of Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide and the end to Abortion in Canada. Every Friday, 7:00 pm., followed immediately by Holy Hour (with Rosary), Corpus Christi Church, 260 Waterford Bridge Road. Please come join us in prayer.

***** Women to Women Empowering Leadership** is a unique career development opportunity for professional women of all ages, presented and lead by some of the strongest, and most accomplished women leaders in our province. You will participate in research-based presentations on *Understanding Yourself as a Leader*, *Navigating the Labyrinth of Leadership*, and *Understanding Yourself as a Change Agent*. Each session also features an insightful story-sharing experience in which an accomplished woman shares her own leadership story with the intent of supporting other women who have an interest in developing their own leadership potential and aspirations. For detailed information and to register please visit www.w2nl.ca.

GROWING IN FAITH SERIES 2016-2017 ...

Saturday, May 13, 2017: Mary: First Among Disciples , A Look at Mary and Marian Devotion Today

Saturday, June 17, 2017: Finding balance in life: Does the Church offer any help with this?

All are welcome to the sessions, and people can avail of just one session, or a number of them, or all of them, if they wish. Sessions are held in the Basilica Museum in the Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre. To cover expenses, a nominal fee of \$5 is suggested. To register call MaryLou Sweetapple at 726-3660, ext. 280.

ALL SESSIONS ... 9:00 AM. – 12:00 NOON

/... Grief and Bereavement Spousal Support Group .. Tuesday nights, 7:00-8:30 pm., St. Peter's Hall at Upper Gullies.

... Spousal Grief and Bereavement Support Group - supported by Eastern Health and Daffodil Place - meets on Monday nights from 6:30 - 8:00 pm., Daffodil Place, 70 Ropewalk Lane. If you are experiencing grief due to the death of your spouse, please join us at this time. This support group provides an opportunity for individuals to meet and discuss the loss of your spouse; provide support to each other; and share information that may help during the grieving process.

***** MEN, WOMEN & YOUTH** are invited to serve as Eucharistic Ministers at St. Clare's Mercy Hospital and/or the L.A. Miller Centre. There is a schedule and you would serve at least every fourth Sunday. You will need to be registered with the Eastern Health volunteer service - to register please contact Debbie Oakley 777-6959 or debbie.oakley@easternhealth.ca. You may contact Sr. Diane Smyth 777-5470 for more information.

*****Welcome to New Immigrants ...** Are you a new immigrant to Canada or new to St. John's? Would you like to be connected to a larger Multicultural Catholic Association? Please contact Celia Quadjovie @ 763-5757 or email mcca.diversity@gmail.com. or if you want to talk to a Multicultural Catholic Priest call 689-9647.

NEW WEBSITE ... The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. John's is proud to launch our newly redesigned website, www.rcsj.org the updated site includes changes to navigation, with menus that can now be viewed with the same design features on any type of screen, whether it is a desktop, laptop, or mobile device. We will be constantly updating our content with helpful information, such as articles, blogs, newsletters, and bulletin announcements, along with services that we provide. We hope you find the new website fresh and modern.

➤➤➤**If** you are a student, staff or faculty at the College of the North Atlantic, this is for you. CNA approached the chaplains at MUN to see if we could spend some time at CNA and we jumped at the chance! Details aren't worked out yet. In the meantime your Catholic Chaplain is me - Father J. Mroz, SJ. I live t St. Pius X with my brother Jesuits. My phone number is 743-0458 and my email is ej_mroz@yahoo.ca. I've started a facebook group called CNA Catholic Community. Let's get something great going!

***** Have 2 hours to spare each week????** St. Patrick's Mercy Home is seeking volunteers to assist with chapel services, mainly portering residents to and from the chapel. The requirement is just 2 (two) hours per week between 10 am. and noon, Monday to Friday. Anyone who is interested or would like further information, please call Judy Cook at 753-8705. *Volunteering is a gift that you give and receive!*

***** A Notice from the St. John's Hospital Chaplains to parishioners ...** A reminder for persons entering the St. John's Hospitals and who would like to see a chaplain during your stay ... make sure you or a family member tells the admitting clerk "I would like to see the chaplain during my time in hospital". You will then be asked your religious affiliation and will receive a visit from the chaplain within a day or two.

**** Seniors Resource Centre's "Friendly Visiting Program"** offers seniors a new and supportive friendship, a link to community programs and services, and regular visits from a volunteer. The Friendly Visiting Program coordinator matches a senior with a volunteer based on their shared interests. For information call Sharon at 737-2333, email: fvc@seniorsresource.ca or visit www.seniorsresource.ca

... EMMAUS HOUSE is in need of supermarket bags and twist ties. If you have any at home you may drop them off at Emmaus House, Monday to Friday 1-3 pm. or you may bring them to the Parish Office. Your support of the needy of our Parish is greatly appreciated.

**** Seniors Resource Centre's "Mall Walkers Club"** This program helps seniors increase their level of activity while having fun, making new friends, learning about healthy aging and connecting with programs and services of the Seniors Resource Centre NL. Volunteers walk with seniors and help to serve refreshments after their walk. For more information call Sharon at 737-2333 or visit www.seniorsresource.ca

**** On the occasion of the death of a loved one,** please consider a donation to our Heritage Foundation in memory of the deceased. Keep their memory alive in the restoration of our beautiful Basilica. If you would like to make a donation, envelopes are available at the Funeral Homes and in the Basilica, or you can call the Parish Office at 754-2170. We still require approximately \$600,000 to meet our goal.

.. DIRECT DEPOSIT If you are interested in using the pre-authorized automatic withdrawal please call the Parish Office at 754-2170.

“Secure your vehicle while in Church” Over the past number of years many incidents of vandalism to parked cars have taken place on the Basilica grounds during Church services. As of late there has been an increase in vandalism. Please ensure that when parking your vehicle that there is nothing left visible, that everything is secure.

Stewardship Prayer Creator God, at Baptism, we accepted the call to follow Jesus. Be with us as we move along on our faith journey. Send us your Holy Spirit, that we might have wisdom for the journey. Help us to develop and share our gifts as good stewards, that we may use them in love and service in your Kingdom. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.