

Saint Thomas Aquinas Canadian Martyrs Parish
Parish Office located at 1725 Oxford Street, Halifax, NS B3H 3Z7
Phone: 902-423-3057 Fax: 902-484-6944 (Open: Monday to Friday from 8:00 am - 12 pm and 1 – 4:00 pm)
www.stacm.ca

September 24th, 2017 – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vision - A growing, joyful community of disciples engaged through personal relationship with Jesus Christ, inspired and sustained through the Holy Spirit, and focused on the transformation of our city and our world.

Mission - Through personal and community worship and prayer, faith development, vibrant and uplifting Liturgies, and engaged ministry leadership, we form missionary disciples to build the Kingdom of God.

<p><i>St. Thomas Aquinas Canadian Martyrs, 1725 Oxford Street</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Rev. Mark Cherry, Pastor frmark@bellaliant.com ➤ Rev. Owen Connolly, Assistant Priest, Part-Time owen885@ns.sympatico.ca ➤ Tracy Francis, Parish Secretary, office@bellaliant.com ➤ Deacon Dan Daley, Coordinator of Pastoral Life & Strategic Planning daleyd@bellaliant.com ➤ Mary Therese MacDonell, Director of Adult & Family Faith – familyministries@bellaliant.com ➤ Heather Orlando, Youth Coordinator- youth16@bellaliant.com ➤ Melanie Kennedy, Director of Sactus Choir, mkennedy@hrsbc.ca ➤ Tony Howard, Maintenance (Janitorial) ➤ George Reid, Janitorial Assistant 	<p>Daily Masses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monday & Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. ➤ Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9:00 a.m. <p>Weekend Masses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Saturday at 4:30 pm ➤ Sunday at 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. <p>Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday: 3:30 - 4:15 pm</p>
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Mass Intentions

- **Monday, September 25th-** **Sheila Halliday †**
- **Tuesday, September 26th -** **Joseph MacKinnon †**
- **Wednesday, September 27th -** **Marojof Saïfi †**
- **Thursday, September 28th -** **Wanda Murray †**
- **Friday, September 29th -** **Cynthia Tendencia (Living)**



We had an excellent response last weekend with the introduction of our Faith Formation and Evangelization Opportunities. There was a wonderful response at the possibility of partnering in an exciting online web-based digital formation series called **FORMED**, produced by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press. Over 40 envelopes were taken, by those interested in this web-based **Catholic Formation Series**. If you wish to register for Formed, simply place your envelope with payment of \$35 (cash or cheque payable to STACM) in the collection basket this week or drop it off at the office

Formed offers content for all ages and can be accessed at home for families to grow in holiness together. You will learn through beautiful videos, music, and notable Catholic speakers, educators as well as be able to read further on the topics through online links.

Access is available to our parishioners (*wherever there is an internet connection*) anywhere, anytime on computers, tablets, or phones.

Some of the programs available through the subscription include:

- **Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained**
- **Catholicism Series (Featuring Bishop Robert Barron)**
- **33 Days to Morning Glory (Consecration Retreat featuring Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC)**
- **Y-Disciple (A 4-year Full Discipleship Group Youth Program)**
- **Lectio: Peter and Prayer (Bible Studies with Dr. Tim Gray)**
- **Lectio: Eucharist (Bible study with Dr. Brant Pitre)**
- **Lectio: Evangelization (Bible Study with Dr. Mary Healy)**
- **Opening the Word (Weekly reflections on the Sunday Readings)**
- **Footprints of God (Nine-Part Video by Steve Ray)**
- **Lighthouse Catholic Media Audio Presentations (Numerous Topics)**
- **Movies and eBooks from Ignatius Press**
- **Unlimited downloads of accompanying study materials (leader & participant guides)**

To individually register, the cost would be \$149 Cdn per year however, by signing up through the parish, the cost is \$35 per year which is a **75% discount**. We would need to have 60 parishioners to sign up by **Monday, October 2nd**. We will contact those parishioners who wish to participate. For more information on Formed, or to see what is available, please go to <https://formed.org>. There, you can find the content directory, obtain more information and watch an introductory video. Once we have enough parishioners sign up, we will contact you with a parish code which will be required to activate the website.

ALPHA COURSE UPDATE

We had a great start to our ALPHA Program Monday night. Our **“Come and See” Dinner** was a great success with 21 guests plus 15 team members in attendance. The atmosphere was welcoming, the food was great, the presentation was engaging and there were very good small group discussions. The registration slips that were filled in by the participants all indicated they were coming back next week. There is still time to register and all are still **welcome** to come on Monday evening, September 25th @ 6:30 p.m. This will be the first presentation so you will not have missed anything. Phone Tracy at the office and let her know you’ll be attending. (902) 423-3057. Come on out and see for yourself. **Childcare is provided at the Alpha Course.**

ALL GOD’S CHILDREN HAVE A PLACE IN THE CHOIR

Do you like to sing? Melanie Kennedy, the director of the **Sanctus Choir**, which leads us in worship at the 11 a.m. Mass on Sunday mornings is inviting all those with an interest in singing to join the choir. She would be very excited to welcome any new members! You don't have to be a professional or know how to read music; all you need is a love of singing and a desire to pray through music. Rehearsal times are Wednesday nights at the church from 7 – 9 p.m. Questions can be directed to Melanie Kennedy at mkennedy@hrsbc.ca. Melanie will be available following the 11 a.m. Mass this Sunday to speak with should you have any questions.

**ANNUAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL COLLECTION
October 1st, 2017**

Next weekend, is the annual collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. This Society does many wonderful works for the disadvantaged in our local community and works in a spirit of justice and charity, to help those who are in need. In 2016 our volunteers made 605 home visits distributing over \$24,000 in food gift cards. (*generally \$40 per visit*). Please continue to support this program through a donation in the special envelope in your church envelopes or in a plain envelope marked St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you.

SYMBOLON: The Catholic Faith Explained.....

A clear and comprehensive A-to-Z presentation of the Catholic faith. *Symbolon* brings the faith to real life—how do I live this out practically in my life? *Why do I need a Church? Isn't Jesus just one of many great religious teachers? What is marriage?* The 10 sessions are from **Wed. Sept. 27- Nov. 29 from 7- 9 pm in the St. Thomas Aquinas Hall**. Registration for Symbolon (\$20.): ***This is a program for anyone who would like to learn more about our Catholic faith. It is also for people who wish to be Confirmed or inquiring about becoming Catholic.**

**5th ANNUAL ARCHBISHOP’S DINNER AND AUCTION
OCTOBER 11th**

Join Archbishop Mancini on **October 11th** for the 5th Annual Archbishop's Dinner and Auction! This year's event will be at the Cunard Centre in Halifax. The evening will begin with a reception and silent auction at 6:00pm, followed by dinner, a live auction, and words from our guest speaker, Mr. Wadih Fares. Funds raised will support the Ministry of Care and Companionship and Chaplaincy services. **Tickets are \$125.00** and can be purchased online or by contacting Lydia at 902-429-9800 ext 401 or lhood@halifaxyarmouth.org. For more information the Archbishop's Dinner, please visit www.halifaxyarmouth.org/dinner.

FOOD DONATIONS

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, the Food Bank desperately needs your donations of non-perishable food. Please remember to bring food bank donations when you come to Mass. Food bank donations can also be dropped off at the Parish Office. We give sincere thanks to all who keep the food bins supplied. Without you, there would be empty shelves and more hungry people seeking food.

**HOLY CROSS CHAPLAINCY @
ST. MARY’S UNIVERSITY**

Holy Cross Chaplaincy at Saint Mary's University offers programs to students and parishioners alike. They celebrate Mass on Tuesday's at 11:30, Adoration on Wednesdays from 12:30pm to 1:00pm and faith studies through Catholic Christian Outreach. They are located In the Loyola Academic building room 183. For more info contact Maxine at: maxbrownx8@gmail.com



We have begun taking registrations for the 2017-2018 ministry year. Please ensure you get yours in as soon as possible. We look forward to starting our **ROOTED Jr. High** program on **October 3rd, 7 p.m.**



THRIVE will look very different this year as we will be collaborating with other parishes within the diocese. This new High school program will be geared for building missionary disciples. Youth who desire to “go deeper” will be given the opportunity to do so with other like-minded teens and will even have great opportunities to put their formation into action. I am very excited that STACM will be front and center in this new exciting ministry.

Heather Orlando : youth16@bellaliant.com or 902-423-3057

FAMILY FORMATION



We are excited to announce our **new** family based Parish Program, **A Family of Faith**, for parents and children in Primary to Grade 6.

Family of Faith Kick Off: Sunday, Sept. 24th

First Family of Faith: Sunday, October 1st

For more information contact Mary Thérèse MacDonell,

Director of Family and Adult Faith

Formation familyministries@stacm.ca 902-423-3057

(Please note that one year in Level 1 is needed in our program before children receive the sacraments the following year).

**FINANCIAL CORNER –
Collections - Week of September 17th, 2017**

	WEEKLY BUDGET	ACTUAL OFFERING	DIFFERENCE
PAO	\$3,231.	\$3,282.	\$51.
Envelopes	\$3,443.	\$2,463.	(\$980)
Loose	\$436.	\$215.	(\$221.)
Total	\$7,110.	\$5,960.	(\$1,150.)

PEW ENVELOPES

Anyone using Pew Envelopes who would like a tax receipt, please fill in the information on the front of the envelope and include your name and address. Thank you.