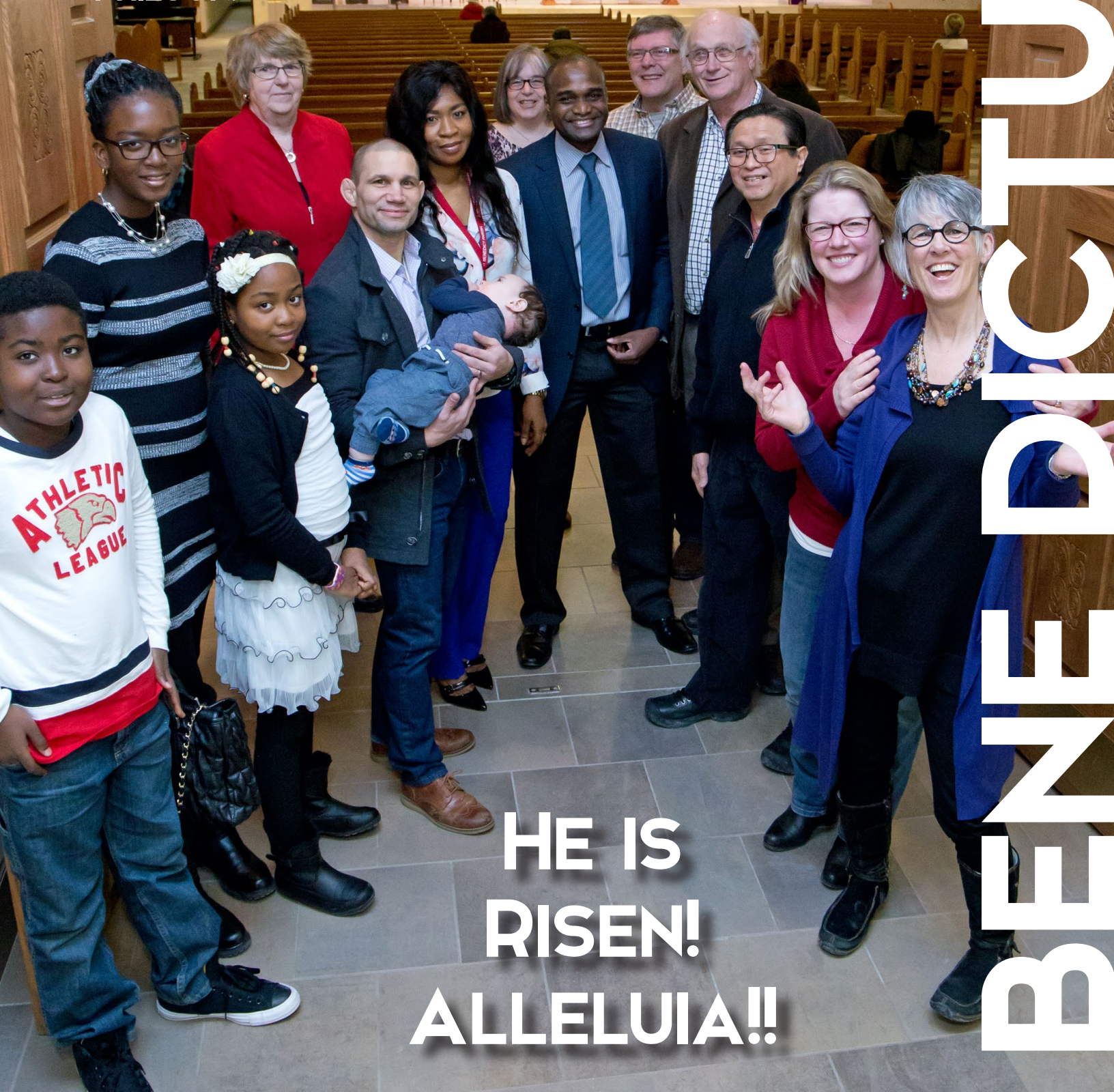


**RCIA - WELCOME
PHILSON!**

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
@SAINTBP**



**HE IS
RISEN!
ALLELUIA!!**

WELCOME

SAINT BENEDICT PARISH

45 Radcliffe Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3M 0E1
902-443-0725

PASTOR

Fr. James Mallon

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Simon Lobo, CC

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday: 4pm
Sunday: 9am, 11:15am, 6pm

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday to Friday 9am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 3 - 3:45pm
Thursday: 9:45 - 10:30am

BENE DICTUS IS YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE IN PRINT
OR IN YOUR EMAIL INBOX (SIGN UP: SAINTBENEDICT.CA).

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

Please stop by the Welcome Booth and introduce yourself.

@SaintBP



livestream.com/SaintBenedictParish

SAINTBENEDICT.CA

CONTENTS

April 2017

51 A WORD FROM FATHER JAMES

- 2 Easter Greetings | Easter Thanks & Congratulations |
- 3 Transition

52 SBP KIDS

- 4 WOW, SHINE, The Encounter

53 NEXT STEPS

- 5 SaintBP Serve. New @SaintBP. Alpha

NEW PREACHING SERIES- OVERFLOWING

- 6 The Gift of Giving

54 INVITATIONAL CHURCH - RCIA

- 7-8 Philson Kempton. New Catholic

OTHER FEATURES:

- 9 Hello from the Seminary
- 10 Prayer Ministry
- 12 Being a Veritas Associate
- 13 A Letter to Parishioners from +Archbishop Mancini

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 14 Calendar of Events

NEXT ISSUE OF BENE DICTUS: MAY 13TH

**RBC Insurance**



For your insurance needs...
Talk to us at RBC Insurance.
...make the right call.

Bill McKay
INSURANCE ADVISOR

401-9756



粵皇軒
Canton Garden
Restaurant
Specializing in Cantonese Cuisine

30 Farnham Gate Road
902-406-7788

\$37/month

brings education,
nutrition & medical
care to
a child in need.





1-800-776-6855 www.chalice.ca

Sponsor a Child Today!

Rated a top charity in Int'l Aid & Development for the past 6 years by MoneySense Magazine





A WORD FROM FATHER JAMES



EASTER GREETINGS

To all of our regular parishioners and to all of our guests I would like to wish you a very joy-filled Easter celebration. Christ is Risen!! It is an acclamation that has resounded from the lips of believers over the centuries.

A proclamation that he who died did not remain in the tomb, but is alive!! This changes everything. It rescues Christianity from the realm of a mere philosophy, a moral code, or, at worst, an ideology, and transports it into a dynamic following of the One who remains with us, who is the same "yesterday, today and forever". In fifty days we will celebrate the full consequence of the resurrection on the Feast of Pentecost, when the Spirit of Power was poured out on the early believers. The Spirit who is the means to fulfilling the mission Jesus gave us, to not just help others to experience heaven, but to work to make heaven on earth. At Saint Benedict Parish we seek to bring everyone into a relationship with this living Lord. We seek to live the Christian life in the power of the Holy Spirit, in a way that is relevant and joy-filled. Finally, we seriously call every parishioner to take up the mission of Jesus Christ and to play their part in the building of His Kingdom on earth. If you are visiting with us during this Easter Season and would like to explore the Christian faith, we would love to connect with you. We invite you to drop by our welcome booth in the foyer and introduce yourself or visit our website, saintbenedict.ca for more information on next steps.

EASTER THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our parishioners who gave of themselves to make all our Holy Week liturgies so beautiful. Holy Week is an amazing time of year, and as many of you already know, this particular Holy Week has a very special significance to me. Thanks for your committed service and for all you do.

On another note, I wish to offer my congratulations to all who received the Easter sacraments at the Easter Vigil. In all my years as a priest I have never witnessed such a large group. Four adults were baptized and sixteen adults came into full communion with the Catholic Church. To all of you, I look forward to journeying with you and seeing how God will work in your lives. Thank you for giving witness through your yes to God's call.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



A WORD FROM FATHER JAMES

CONTINUED

TRANSITION

By now, most of you will have heard the news that I will be making a transition from my current role as pastor of Saint Benedict Parish. I must say that before Lent began, writing these words was the last thing I ever thought I would be doing. I have very mixed feelings about this move. On the one hand, I have a deep peace and conviction that it is God's call. On the other hand, I will deeply grieve stepping down from being pastor. I love being the pastor of Saint Benedict Parish. It has been a dream come true to be so blessed to lead such an amazing community of people. At the beginning of Lent I joined a Discipleship Group and began praying every day with the scripture passages provided for us under the broad theme of "Living Beyond Myself". I never thought that I would experience such an intervention from God. I had no idea that this Lent would be life-altering. (If I had, I might not have participated!) In short, praying through these themes led me to a deeper surrender to God and a realization that I had been dictating the terms of my priestly ministry to God. In the first week of Lent I experienced a strong call from God to begin to serve Him in a new way. It was a powerful moment that was both clear and commanding. I also felt great peace about it. This experience of God's call also came with a conviction that Fr. Simon was not only equipped but that he was ready and aptly gifted to continue to lead Saint Benedict Parish in the same direction. I believe that his particular gifts are actually more suited to the present needs of our parish. After submitting my experience to the Bishop he affirmed what I sensed to be God's call and asked me to serve in the role that is outlined in his letter to you, the parishioners of Saint Benedict Parish (on page 13).

I am intentional about using the term 'transition'. I am not leaving. I will still be around, but in a different capacity. In my

role with the Divine Renovation Ministry it is essential that we be rooted in a real life parish. I will still be supporting Fr. Simon in his leadership and will occasionally help out with Sacramental ministry, including some weekday Masses. It is my hope that I will be on the preaching rotation and preach at all the Masses every four or five weeks. I will also be supporting any intern priests we welcome through the Divine Renovation Ministry (at present we are in conversation with three priests who are interested in some kind of internship experience). Saint Benedict will continue to be my parish.

I am 100% confident of Fr. Simon Lobo's leadership of our parish. Most of you already know his character and his giftedness in so many aspects of priestly ministry. He is ready. He is well supported by a great team of lay leaders of ministry, by a wonderful staff team and an amazing senior leadership team. I ask that you open your hearts to him in a new way and support him in the same way as you did me.

Fr. Simon's community, the Companions of the Cross, has committed to send another priest to be the associate pastor one year from now. For this coming year, the archbishop will be appointing a diocesan priest to serve and be formed at Saint Benedict Parish. As of the writing of these words, we do not know who that person is. I ask that you begin to pray for whoever this person will be. The next two months will be a time of transition. I will continue to serve you as pastor, but begin to turn leadership of the parish more and more over to Fr. Simon.

God is far from finished with Saint Benedict Parish and with Fr. Simon and his community, the Companions of the Cross. I have every confidence--for the long term--that our parish will continue to answer the call to be a parish that forms disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ.

SBPkids

Forming little disciples

MINISTRY



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY @SAINTBP

LAURA O'ROURKE

Director of Children's Ministries

WOW (WEE ONES' WORD)

WOW welcomes infants and pre-schoolers every Sunday morning during the 9am Mass for a morning of fun while learning about Jesus. This program is open to every child from birth to age 4 and is a great way to teach young children about prayer and the Bible and Jesus and God. This is more than just childcare, it is the first step for these children to understand a real, personal faith in an environment that feels safe and fun and friendly to them. As a bonus, by sending children to WOW, parents can feel the freedom of worshipping and praying through the Mass without chasing or shushing small, curious children. WOW is located downstairs and is open every Sunday morning to drop children off before the beginning of Mass. It runs for the full length of the 9am Mass. If you have children who aren't old enough yet for elementary school, we encourage you to check out WOW during the 9am Mass.

SHINE (SEEKING HIM IN EVERYTHING)

SHINE is the new name for what used to be called Halftime! This is the Sunday

morning program for kids in elementary school (Primary to Grade 5). SHINE runs every Sunday morning during the 9am and 11:15am Mass. The name change is important because this program is transitioning from running only during half of Mass to ministering to your children during the entire length of Mass (with the option to still have kids come back upstairs to receive the Eucharist). SHINE's vision is to help the children who attend Saint Benedict Parish to fall in love with Jesus, each other, and His Church. In order to achieve this, we want to create something that your kids want to come to! We try to keep things fun, high energy, and focused on Christ. We look forward to helping these little people grow into real disciples of Jesus. Join us on Sunday mornings!

THE ENCOUNTER

The Encounter is a brand new program starting in September for kids in grades 5 and 6. This is an evening program that is scheduled to run every Tuesday evening, so as you plan activities for the fall, keep this in mind. The Encounter is a junior youth group, helping to bridge the gap between SHINE and The Experience (Saint Benedict Parish's youth group). Our goal is to encounter Jesus every week through fellowship and fun! Stay tuned for more information about this launch.



SAINTBP SERVE

NEXT STEPS

SAINTBP SERVE

"Don't use people to build up your church. Use your church to build up people." – Rick Warren, Pastor of Saddleback Church (California).

At SaintBP we believe that everyone has been gifted by God and that using those gifts to serve others is life-giving. SaintBP Serve is how we help people who aren't serving (or perhaps feel they could serve more) connect with parish ministries to share their gifts. Visit the welcome booth after Mass or saintbenedict.ca/saintbpserve/ for more information and to get connected.

NEW @SAINTBP

Guests and visitors are always welcome @ SaintBP. If you're seeking a spiritual home and interested in becoming a member of SaintBP, we'd love to greet you at one of

our New @SaintBP Events. The next one will be held on Saturday, May 27th. Visit the welcome booth or saintbenedict.ca/new-atsaintbp-event for information or to register.

ALPHA

Alpha is an ideal first step for anyone seeking community, fun and answers to questions about faith. Share a meal, hear a talk and discuss some of the bigger questions in life in a comfortable, non-judgemental, small group setting. Alpha takes place over several weeks and is run multiple times a year in the parish (as well as in the homes of parishioners). Check saintbenedict.ca/alpha for more information and details about upcoming Alpha opportunities.

LIVESTREAM

Our 9am Sunday Mass is available to watch on Livestream. Watch the entire Mass live or during the week, or watch past homilies. Go to Livestream.com/SaintBenedictParish.



Join the adventure

Alpha

SAINTBENEDICT.CA/ALPHA
#TRYALPHA

JOIN US FOR 'OVERFLOWING'

APRIL 22ND/23RD: THE HEART OF GIVING

APRIL 29TH/30TH: THE HEART OF GENEROSITY

(TREASURE BOOKLETS DISTRIBUTED)

MAY 6TH/7TH: THE HEART OF MISSION (COMMITMENT SUNDAY)

OVERFLOWING



THE GIFT OF GIVING

MICHLYN FOURNIER

Bene Dictus Team

The time is coming where SaintBP preaches about treasure and the importance

of gifting what we have to build up the Kingdom of God. In addition to a three-part preaching series, we as a congregation are going to be challenged to read a book called *The Blessed Life* by Robert Morris, a pastor in the United States. I was able to get my hands on an advance copy and read it this past month. I would like to tell you how this book impacted me in an unexpected way.

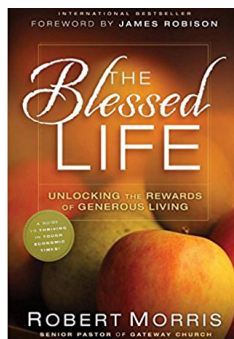
First off, to be honest, I was mighty skeptical of the message in this book. In the past, my natural disposition to this topic was that of "I don't want to be manipulated." Also, having recently transitioned from school to career, I have felt the need to maintain a tight grip on my personal finances. In my first budget, giving to the Church was nowhere on my list of expenses. For the past eight months, I have been telling myself that "If I can just get settled and find my footing with my finances, only then will I be able to give out of what I have left." Back in January, during some honest prayer time, I admitted to the Lord for the first time that I was keeping my finances from Him and guarding that part of my life. It was a

messy area and one in which I felt like I could never catch up. I did not want Him there until it was organized. Feeling at a loss however, I offered it all to Him without even knowing what that meant. After all, God is not my banker.

Without saying too much, I will admit that my heart has been changed and I no longer feel overwhelmed. Through *The Blessed Life*, the Lord has clearly spoken truth into this area of my life. He has answered my prayer of bewilderment by showing me how He is calling me to prioritize my finances. The teachings in the book are based entirely on Scripture through which I have been reminded of my role of caretaker of what the Lord has given to me. My heart has been convicted of the truth that giving to the Lord and His Church should not be out of obligation or fear. Rather it should be an expression of

thanksgiving and of great expectations. I am grateful for the blessings the Lord has poured out on my life. My trust is in the Lord that He delights in blessing me, His child, and that He will continue to do so. With every gift to the Church, I am putting God first in my life and opening myself up to His generous blessings.

I invite you to respond to this challenge, to read this book with an open heart, and to believe that the Lord wants to bless you abundantly.





INVITATIONAL CHURCH



RICA WELCOME PHILSON!

JENNA LEBLANC
Bene Dictus Team

PHILSON KEMPTON IS ONE OF 20 MEMBERS OF THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RICA) PROGRAM HERE AT SAINT BENEDICT PARISH. RICA IS A RITE WHICH WELCOMES ADULTS INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH. BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, PHILSON WILL HAVE RECEIVED THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, EUCHARIST, AND CONFIRMATION AT THE EASTER VIGIL ON SATURDAY, APRIL 15.

THE BEGINNING

Growing up, for Philson, "Religion was never a big part of my life; my parents divorced when I was very young. We went to a local church occasionally, mostly for the 'big events' like Easter or Christmas." As a university student, "I never felt the urge to attend church."

A GIRL WITH AN INVITATION

Things changed when he first met Olivia. "Olivia mentioned that she would like me to attend something called a 'Mass' with her. I thought she was cute, so I thought, why not?" They originally attended a church near her then-home, but things didn't really click for Philson. "It felt old, dated, and I easily got lost in all of the sayings and readings during Mass." Olivia suggested that they try a church called Saint Benedict Parish, because she knew and liked Fr. James

Mallon, the pastor. Immediately, Philson noticed a difference. "There was uplifting music, beautiful artwork, friendly people, a captivating homily, AND there were screen projecting songs and prayers that I could use to follow along the Mass. This helped me to feel really engaged with the whole experience."

GROWING UP, FOR PHILSON, 'RELIGION WAS NEVER A BIG PART OF MY LIFE; MY PARENTS DIVORCED WHEN I WAS VERY YOUNG. WE WENT TO A LOCAL CHURCH OCCASIONALLY, MOSTLY FOR THE 'BIG EVENTS' LIKE EASTER OR CHRISTMAS.' AS A UNIVERSITY STUDENT, 'I NEVER FELT THE URGE TO ATTEND CHURCH.'

GROWING DEEPER

After about a year of attending Mass, Philson and Olivia decided to sign up for Alpha in Winter 2016. Alpha was a period of real growth and turnaround for Philson. "I was a little skeptical about religion, but I kept getting answers to my questions and everyone welcomed me with open arms. After we completed Alpha, Jen Ferrier (Coordinator of Evangelization) asked Olivia and me to be on the Alpha Team for Fall, 2016, which was a real honour. We both got to see the behind the scenes work that the Alpha Team puts

in!" Alpha also brought Philson into a Connect Group: "We're a group of about 20 young people who get together a few times a month, share a meal and have a short talk with some music ministry afterwards – we're like one big happy family!" Philson quickly became an active member of the young adult Connect Group, and it was here where he learned about his next steps.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

At Connect Group, Fr Simon Lobo asked Philson about his faith journey and introduced him to the RCIA program. Philson was intrigued, and agreed to sign up for the current program, which saw 20 candidates join the Catholic Church at the 2017 Easter Vigil. "One thing I love about the RCIA program is that our sponsors come with us to the weekly meetings," Olivia, now Philson's fiancée, served as his sponsor – her role is to affirm at his Baptism that he is ready and willing to become a Catholic. They have both grown in their knowledge of Catholicism through the program.

Philson is feeling very excited about his upcoming experience, and is surrounded by support. Besides the RCIA team, "Olivia is really excited for me as well and we already have a slew of family members looking forward to the big event! Every time I see Father James he says he can't wait to see me in the 'dunk tank'. I love how excited

everyone is about the process – it makes it a much more personable experience."

WHAT NEXT?

Once he's become a Catholic, Philson has lots of plans for his involvement at Saint Benedict. "I would love to take on a larger role in the church. I'll continue with the Connect Group I am a part of. I would love to help with a future Alpha program and will definitely be checking out SaintBP Serve," the parish program for connecting people with the dozens of different ministries Saint Benedict has to offer.

He also has some great advice for those who are new to Saint Benedict or the Catholic faith in general. "It's all baby steps. You just need to be brave enough to take that first step and then you'll soon be running! The parishioners of Saint Benedict will always be there to offer support." And of course, he and Olivia have a wedding to plan!

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR PHILSON AND THE 19 OTHERS WHO CAME INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AT THE EASTER VIGIL ON APRIL 15TH.

FOR THOSE WHO'D LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TAKING PART IN RCIA (OR VOLUNTEERING TO HELP NEW CATHOLICS LIKE PHILSON!), PLEASE CONTACT LIZ GALSWORTHY AT RCIA@SAINTBENEDICT.CA OR 902-445-9109.

"I LOVE HOW EXCITED EVERYONE IS ABOUT THE PROCESS - IT MAKES IT A MUCH MORE PERSONABLE EXPERIENCE."

Miracles Christian Store
120 Susie Lake Cres., Bayers Lake, NS, B3S 1C7
(902)-405-4540
miracles@eastlink.ca

Your Local Retailer, specializing in a variety of faith based products and services, including locally sourced authors and artists.
We look forward to serving you.

www.miracleschristianstore.com

How do you want to be remembered?

FREE Pre-Planning Kit
Call 902-453-1434

 **Atlantic Funeral Homes**
Halifax Chapel
by Arbor Memorial
Arbor Memorial Inc.

Make the **Green Decision**. **GO BOTTLELESS!** It's Environmentally Friendly, Economical and Hassle Free!

MONTHLY BILL - \$113



BEFORE

MONTHLY BILL - \$27



AFTER

Contact us today for a **FREE** consultation 902-576-3062
www.alpinewater.ca

FROM THE SEMINARY



DEAR FRIENDS, FAMILY & PARISHIONERS

PATRICK SALAH

Seminarian, Former Music Director

"This is the night when Christ broke the prison bars of death and rose victorious from the underworld. Our birth would have been no gain, had we not been redeemed. O wonder of your humble care for us! O love, O charity beyond all telling, to ransom a slave you gave away your Son! O truly necessary sin of Adam, destroyed completely by the Death of Christ! O happy fault that earned so great, so glorious a Redeemer!"- Excerpt from the Easter Proclamation.

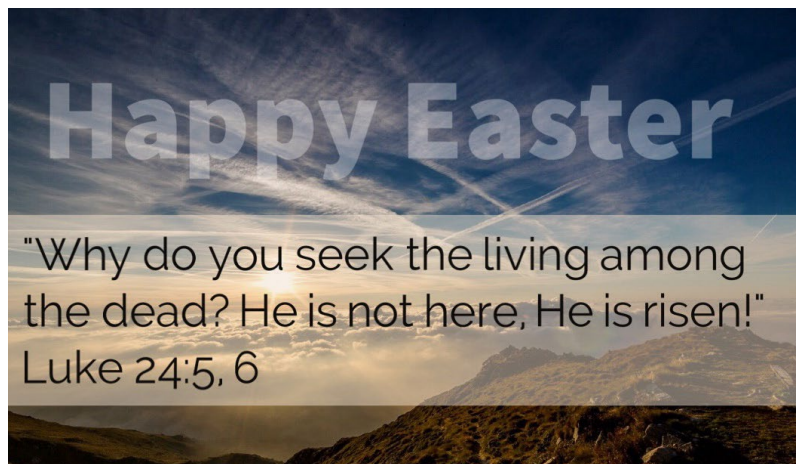
Every year on the night of Holy Saturday, Catholics all over the world fill into dark churches to observe the Great Vigil of Easter. In their midst, a single flicker of light from the Easter Candle breaks through the darkness. The candle's light then spreads to all the baptized people, who hold in their hand a candle of their own. After a few moments, the previously dark church is aglow with a great light, at which time the appointed minister solemnly sings the great Easter Proclamation.

A few years ago, Fr. James Mallon asked parishioners in his Easter homily, "What difference does the resurrection make in your life?" This is a very profound question that every Christian must regularly ask himself. If I truly believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and in everything that it signifies, then my life ought to be marked, and noticeably different from those who do not profess "so great, so glorious a Redeemer." When one's life is changed by the news of the resurrection, one inevitably becomes a disciple who joyfully lives out the mission of Jesus Christ in the world today.

While I grew up in a Catholic home, and was never away from the Church, the Good News of the resurrection didn't always have a great bearing on my life. But when I began to learn more about the Catholic faith, and spent more time praying, and reading the scriptures, the ancient ritual observed at the beginning of the Easter Vigil suddenly made sense. Truly, the light of the resurrection brightened my life insofar as I allow it. This brightening work continues in my life as I daily strive to live my life according to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Concretely, if the resurrection made no difference in my life, I would not be in seminary formation, preparing to give my life to the sole purpose of spreading this news; that every person may know the love of God through Jesus Christ.

I am in my last month at St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto, before returning to Halifax for the summer. I look forward to seeing you all next month. Until then, let us continue to pray for each other, and let us rejoice in the resurrection of our great and glorious Redeemer!

May God bless you.





MINISTRY



PRAYER MINISTRY

TANYA NOYE

Bene Dictus Team

I have been blessed to be involved in prayer ministry at The Experience, our youth nights here at Saint Benedict Parish. I have seen lives transformed through prayer! I talked with Dave Soriano who has been part of the parish prayer ministry team for the last 4 years. Parish prayer ministers are available to pray with anyone who'd like to receive prayer immediately following Mass each weekend.

HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU FIRST BEGAN SERVING

IN PRAYER MINISTRY? "I was anxious! What am I going to say? What I am going to do? I was a nervous wreck! I didn't know what to pray for the person. They would say what they would like prayers for and that would help. Sometimes the Holy Spirit would provide the words, even though the person didn't tell me what they wanted prayer for. It was as though the power of the Holy Spirit would come gushing through my heart and mind, saying the prayer for the person. The words would come, by God's grace."

What surprised Dave was the power of healing from spiritual, emotional, and physical ailments. One instance was a healing of a

family suffering from a relationship problem. "I am just a vessel for the Lord. I give back the glory and praise to Him for using me, even though I am a sinner. He still uses me."

"I am blessed much more than the people who are being prayed for because I can see the power of the Holy Spirit unfolding before me every time I do prayer ministry. It's an amazing ministry and of course prayers are necessary for day to day life."

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO ANYONE WHO HASN'T

EXPERIENCED PRAYER MINISTRY BUT MAY WANT TO TRY

IT? "Just try to relax and trust in the Lord. I know it can be hard to be vulnerable but the peace that God will give you after the prayer ministry is overwhelming. Pray to God to help to find the courage within yourself to bless you to walk towards prayer ministry."

I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR OUR PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM, THAT THEY ALLOW GOD TO USE THEM IN SUCH A SPECIAL AND POWERFUL WAY. I KNOW FIRST HAND BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN BLESSED TO BE PRAYED FOR BY THESE WONDERFUL PEOPLE!

PRAYER MINISTRY IS AVAILABLE ON THE WEEKENDS FOLLOWING EACH MASS AND ON MONDAY NIGHTS AT THE EXPERIENCE.

since 1934

THOMPSON'S
MOVING & STORAGE
a great move!

902-469-5100

www.thompsonsmoving.ca

Yolanda Ocampo
Real Estate Agent

902-449-7277

yocampo@remaxnova.com
www.yolandaocampo.com

RE/MAX
nova



Professional Service with a Personal Touch

VACI PAINTING

QUALITY IS OUR ONLY PRIORITY™

Contact us today for a free estimate
902-332-3398 www.vacipainting.ca

**PAULA'S PLACE
TAILOR SHOP**

30 Farnham Gate Rd

902-443-5333

~ alterations

~ dry cleaning

~ shoe repair & more!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

MEETS ON THE
3RD TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH

7PM - 9PM ST. JOSEPH ROOM

CONTACT: ANNE MACMILLAN

AAMAC@EASTLINK.CA

902-443-1646



- Weekend Specials
- Gift Cards
- Platters
- Sushi Products

607 Bedford Hwy., Halifax
NS B3M 2L6

443-FISH (3474)

Your Neighbourhood
Quality Seafood & Live Lobster Store
Since 1948
Best Fishes For All

www.FishermansMarket.com

THE EXPERIENCE

YOUTH NIGHTS: MONDAYS 7 - 9 pm
JR & SR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WELCOME

Please pray for the
parishes in the **Divine
Renovation Network**.
Visit divinerenovation.net
for more information.



Divine Renovation

VERITAS CATHOLIC BOOKS & GIFTS



JOIN THE VERITAS TEAM

ELAINE MOORE

Veritas Associate, SBP Parishioner

I discovered evangelization at Veritas in 2013. Retail wasn't a career I had worked in,

but I find myself enjoying the experience of serving in the store. Serving gives me a place to grow spiritually in a friendly environment. Veritas provides a place to comfortably discuss and explore one's faith.

Veritas is a non-profit Catholic Gift and Book Store with more than 20 years in business. Associates like me give of their time and talent to promote the Sacred tradition, Sacred Scripture and the living Magisterium of the Catholic Church, through the sale of books, multi-media and other materials. Products help Catholics better understand their faith, and to cultivate the good habit of reading. Our store provides service to other Christian denominations and faith traditions as well as non-believers.

We have customers from other parts of Canada and some who visit Veritas from all over the world. They repeatedly tell us we are so fortunate to have such a beautiful store and how they wished they had one where they live. We have customers who

just stumble upon us, and had no idea we existed. Recently we have been upgrading our website so customers can order religious items or books online.

We have begun hosting speakers and master teachers who present on many topics addressing different social issues that affect us as Christians. We have a bible study group that meets weekly, currently studying the Gospel of Matthew-- people can join at any time! We witness our faith to everyone. Some of our former associates are now at St. Mary's Basilica working at the Outreach Program where we bring God's Word to those in need.

Spreading the Christian word among the community is not always as easy as it sounds. Attracting reliable, knowledgeable and motivated associates can be very challenging. Veritas opened our new Halifax location in early April at Rockingham Ridge Plaza (the corner of Farnham Gate and Dunbrack Streets). With free parking and close proximity to Saint Benedict Parish we are inviting others to come and join our Apostolate (an apostolate is 'religious or evangelistic activity or works').

**TO LEARN MORE, TALK TO ELAINE OR VISIT
VERITAS ONLINE AT: VERITASBOOKS.CA.**

Scotian Pens

SCOTIAN PENS

Unique Pen Gifts
Handcrafted in Halifax
graduations, birthdays,
pen collectors, corporations

WWW.SCOTIANPENS.COM

Darrell Eisner | 902-443-5087
scotianpens.com

 *Channel of Peace*

Christ-centered counselling
and assessment services
offering hope, healing and
growth to children, teens,
adults young and old, couples
and families.

CALL: 902-802-3007
channelofpeace2@gmail.com
www.channelofpeace.ca

Discover the Cora difference!

 **cora**

277 Lacewood Drive, Halifax
902 457-2672



TO THE PARISHIONERS OF SAINT BENEDICT PARISH

APRIL 8, 2017

After careful consideration of our Archdiocesan needs and challenges, following a frank and open discussion with Fr. James Mallon and with the support of the Personnel Board, I have asked Fr. James to accept a position of Episcopal Vicar for Parish Renewal and Leadership Support, which he has accepted.



In this capacity, Fr. James is being asked to bring his experience and understanding to the implementation of our Archdiocesan pastoral plan, by assisting our pastors, parochial administrators and parish leaders in the transformation of our Archdiocesan Church to meet the challenge of evangelization, in our present circumstances.

Fr. James' work with the Divine Renovation Ministry has provided him with information, methods and skills which are influencing many parishes in different parts of the world. This wisdom and experience, I am asking Fr. James to make available to our parishes, people and priests, and I look forward to the blessings this will bring to our local Church. Fr. James will retain his contacts and connections to the Divine Renovation Ministry on a halftime basis, and will dedicate his other half time to the task of the Episcopal Vicar.

This appointment will become effective July 1, 2017.

I am also pleased to announce the appointment of Fr. Simon Lobo, CC, as pastor of Saint Benedict, effective July 1, 2017. Fr. Lobo will continue the work, spirit and ministry which have been established at Saint Benedict Parish in these past years. This nomination is the fruit of discussions with Fr. Allan MacDonald, CC, the Superior of the Companions of the Cross; Fr. James Mallon, Fr. Simon Lobo, CC, and myself. I thank them all for their readiness to serve the Lord and their generosity towards our Church.

I am making this announcement, at this time, to allow for a smooth transition in roles and an adequate time for parishioners to process the impact and significance of this decision.

I pray that the Holy Spirit is with us all in these changes and that the outcome will be for the greater glory of God.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anthony Mancini". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

†Anthony Mancini
Archbishop of Halifax-Yarmouth

CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES APRIL/MAY 2017

16 SUNDAY EASTER SUNDAY MASS WOW HALF-TIME	17 MONDAY PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	18 TUESDAY TUESDAY FAITH SHARING GRIEF SUPPORT PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	19 WEDNESDAY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DAYTIME ALPHA	20 THURSDAY THURSDAY NIGHT ALPHA	21 FRIDAY MEN'S LEADERSHIP GYM	22 SATURDAY
23 TREASURE SERIES DIVINE MERCY SERVICE	24 THE EXPERIENCE (YOUTH NIGHT)	25 ANOINTING OF THE SICK TUESDAY FAITH SHARING	26 EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DAYTIME ALPHA	27	28 MEN'S LEADERSHIP GYM DAYTIME ALPHA TRAINING	29 LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
30 TREASURE SERIES PACT	1 THE EXPERIENCE (YOUTH NIGHT)	2 TUESDAY FAITH SHARING ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY	3 EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DAYTIME ALPHA	4	5 MEN'S LEADERSHIP GYM	6
7 TREASURE SERIES SPECIAL COLLECTION SVDP	8 THE EXPERIENCE (YOUTH NIGHT)	9 TUESDAY FAITH SHARING	10 24-HOURS OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DAYTIME ALPHA	11	12 MEN'S LEADERSHIP GYM DAYTIME ALPHA RETREAT	13 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LOBSTER DINNER

At 9am Mass on Tuesday, April 25th we will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

For details and information on upcoming events, subscribe to The Overview, our weekly e-bulletin (sign up at saintbenedict.ca).

Please note, this calendar does not list all events, ministries, meetings or special dates. For a more detailed listing, please visit: saintbenedict.ca/calendar-events/



Eucharistic Adoration
WEDNESDAYS
9:30AM - 10:00PM

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS EXPOSED
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 9AM MORNING
MASS. REPOSE IS AT 10:00PM



HALIFAX
apartments.ca

1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments

FIND A PLACE TO CALL HOME

WM FARES GROUP Contact Kristi 902-401-6732
halifaxapartments.ca



VENTURA REALTY LTD
KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE WORKING FOR YOU

Marilisa Benigno
Realtor/Parishioner

  
REALTOR

902.830.1343
marilisa@venturarealty.ca
www.venturarealty.ca



MBA
Landscaping

property maintenance
snow removal
carpentry & more
902.701.2769
www.mbalandscaping.ca

PARISH STAFF TEAM (OFFICE: 902-443-0725; EMAIL: @SAINTBENEDICT.CA)

DARLENE BONANG (EX 0)

Office Manager
DarleneB@

CHERYL BOUDREAU

Administrative Assistant
CherylB@

JEN FERRIER (EX 30)

Evangelization Coordinator
JenniferF@

CATHERINE GOULD (EX 27)

Discipleship Group Coordinator
CatherineG@

RON HUNTLEY (EX 39)

Director of Pastoral Ministries
RonH@

PAUL LANG (EX 41)

AV & Music Coordinator
PaulL@

RONNIE LUNN (EX 37)

Youth Ministry Coordinator
RonnieL@

ROB MCDOWELL (EX 26)

Director of Parish Life
RobM@

RYAN ORLANDO (EX 40)

Facilities & Custodial Manager
RyanO@

LAURA O'ROURKE

Director of Children's Ministries
LauraO@

KATE ROBINSON (EX 29)

Director of Communications
KateR@

DINAH SIMMONS (EX 24)

Director of Sacraments & Liturgy
DinahS@

JOANNE THIBEAU (EX 28)

Manager of Finance
JoanneT@

DEACON DAVID VISCOUNT

Permanent Deacon
DavidV@

CHRIS YETMAN (EX 21)

Director of Engagement
ChrisYetman@

MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2017

PARISH DEBT REDUCTION REC'D TOTAL AVG/

ENVELOPES 141 \$3,433 \$24

PAR 67 \$3,242 See Note

Pre-authorized Remittance

MORTGAGE BALANCE AS OF FEB 28, 2017 \$733,638

INTEREST PAID (ON MORTGAGE) IN FEB 2017 \$1,830

PRINCIPAL PAID (ON MORTGAGE) IN FEB 2017 \$13,001

Principal payments include principal portion of monthly mortgage payment plus additional principal payments made from Parish Debt funds recieved.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS REC'D TOTAL AVG/

ENVELOPES 1,340 \$34,927 \$26

PAR 371 \$42,575 See Note

Pre-authorized Remittance

*Note: PAR options include weekly, bi-weekly and monthly withdrawals; therefore a 'weekly' average is unavailable.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM OR MATRIMONY AT SAINT BENEDICT PARISH, PLEASE NOTE THAT IN ADDITION TO PREPARATION, WE REQUIRE THAT YOU GET IN TOUCH WITH US A MINIMUM OF 3 MONTHS IN ADVANCE OF YOUR HOPED-FOR DATE FOR BAPTISM AND ONE YEAR PRIOR TO YOUR DESIRED WEDDING DATE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BAPTISMS, PLEASE CONTACT CAROL: BAPTISMS@SAINTBENEDICT.CA. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WEDDINGS, PLEASE CONTACT DEACON DAVID: WEDDINGS@SAINTBENEDICT.CA.

FOR FUNERALS, PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE (AND LISTEN TO THE PROMPTS) TO BE CONNECTED WITH OUR FUNERAL MINISTRY TEAM.

AABEL FUELS
"We're Ready, Willing & Aabel"
462-8071

MADE IN CANADA

HERITAGE MEMORIALS LTD
1143 Bedford Hwy
902-835-8757
www.heritagememorials.com

PRINT 101
PRINT. SIGNAGE. DESIGN.
SPECIALIZING IN:
DIGITAL & OFFSET PRINTING
LARGE FORMAT
GRAPHIC DESIGN
902.442.4144 • print101.ca


J.A. Snow Funeral Home
339 Lacewood Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia
902-455-0531

Atlantic superstore
210 Chain Lake Drive
902-450-5317

Manager
Paulo Brilhante
www.atlanticsuperstore.ca

www.takosushiramen.ca

902-405-8855
TAKE OUT AND DELIVERY
480 Parkland Drive

kw COMMERCIAL ADVISORS
Specializing in the sales and leasing of office, industrial, retail, multi-family investment and development land

Tom Gerard | 902-407-2489
kwcommercialhalifax.com

Proud to serve the Parish of Saint Benedict

A trusted name since 1883

WWW.JASnowFuneralHome.com