



PARISH REVIEW

FALL 2026





SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PARISH

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Tel: (902) 835-2910 **Email:** saintignatius@bellaliant.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR



Dear Brothers and Sisters at St. Ignatius,

Each year, our Fall Review provides an opportunity to look back with gratitude upon the life of our parish, to acknowledge what has been accomplished, and to look forward with hope to the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

As I reflect upon the past year, I am grateful for the continued vitality of St. Ignatius Parish. Our participation at Sunday Mass has remained steady, and the many ministries and activities of the parish continue to reflect the generosity and commitment of so many people. Whether through our liturgical celebrations, faith formation, outreach to those in need, or the countless acts of service that often go unnoticed, the life of our parish continues to be sustained by the faith and goodwill of its members.

This has also been another significant year in the ongoing care and maintenance of our parish buildings. Following the improvements to the interior of the church last year, we have undertaken substantial work on the roof, entrances, parking areas, and other parts of our property. These projects are not particularly glamorous, but they are necessary. They represent our responsibility to care for what has been entrusted to us and to ensure that our facilities remain welcoming, safe, and useful for many years to come.

I am particularly grateful to those who serve in leadership, on our committees, and in the many ministries of the parish. Their contributions, together with the continued generosity of parishioners, make so much of what we do possible.

As we approach the centenary of our present church building in 2029, we have good reason to be grateful for those who came before us and hopeful about what lies ahead. The Church, after all, is much more than its buildings and programmes. It is a community of people gathered in faith, nourished by the Eucharist, and called to bear witness to Christ in the world.

Thank you for your continued faithfulness, generosity, and support. I hope this year's Fall Review offers a useful picture of our common life and encourages us to continue building upon what we have received.

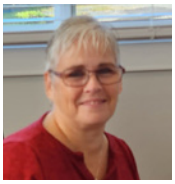
Blessings,

FATHER PAUL MORRIS, PASTOR
November 2026

"YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH... YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. A CITY BUILT ON A HILL CANNOT BE HID."

- MATTHEW 5:13-16

MEET OUR OFFICE STAFF



Kelley Sullivan-Durnford
Parish Administrative Assistant

Kelley is the first point of contact when you call or visit the Parish Office. She books appointments, answers administrative questions, and greets visitors with warmth and care. Her primary role is managing the parish's financial accounts and supporting the Finance Committee, but her day involves so much more.



Peggy Dupuy
Parish Ministries Coordinator

Peggy oversees the religious education of parish children, guiding them as they prepare for the sacraments and deepen their understanding of faith. She coordinates funeral services in the parish, preparing the church for the service. She also organizes and participates in the annual Steubenville youth retreat, encouraging our youth and helping them raise funds to attend.

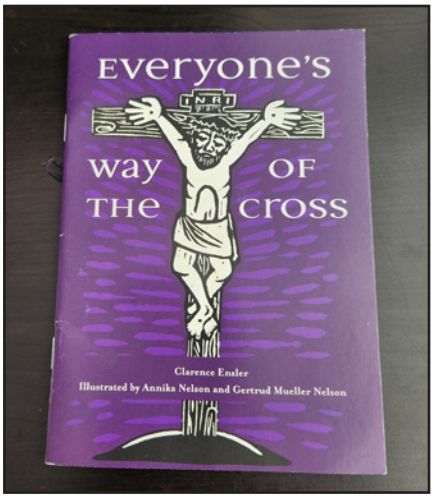
Contact Information:

- Kelley: saintignatius@bellaliant.com
- Peggy: religed@bellaliant.com
- Parish Office: 902-835-2910

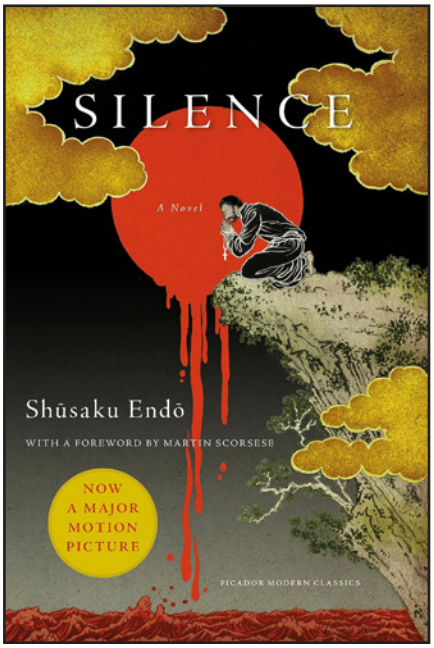
For more information about parish life and events, visit our website: www.saintignatius.ca

JOURNEY THROUGH LENT: WORDS, WORSHIP & WITNESS

Lenten Literature Reflection



The literature discussion, led by Father Paul, was Silence, a 1966 novel of theological and historical fiction by Japanese author Shūsaku Endō, a Japanese Catholic. The story centers on 17th century Jesuit missionaries persecuted in Japan and explores themes of faith, doubt, and God's perceived silence. Specifically, it tells the story of the young Portuguese Jesuit priest Sebastião Rodrigues who travels to Japan to assist the local Church and investigate reports that his mentor, a Jesuit priest in Japan named Ferreira, had committed apostasy (the formal abandonment, renunciation, or refusal to continue following a religious faith).



Stations of the Cross with the St. Ignatius Combined Choirs – Worship and Song

On March 27, 2026, our parish gathered for a special evening of worship and song, as the St. Ignatius combined choirs led us in a powerful celebration of the Way of the Cross, guided by Father Paul. This is the second year that the choir has offered this beautiful service.

Those present used Everyone's Way of the Cross by Clarence Enzler. This interpretation of the Way of the Cross provides a spiritual journey that invites us to see Christ's path of suffering as a path we also walk in our own lives. The combination of song and scripture created a deeply moving experience for everyone there.

Viewing of the Chosen

Over four Sundays, the parish screened double episodes of the Chosen, Season 5. The Chosen is an American historical drama television series about the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Season Five depicts Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the overturning of the tables in the temple, growing tensions with religious and political leaders, Judas's betrayal, and the Last Supper.

SUNDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN

The Liturgy of the Word for Children is not "Sunday school". Rather, it is a component of the ritual prayer of Mass just as it is for adults. It is not separate from the Mass, but rather, flows with and in the greater celebration of the Sunday Mass.

The children are taken to their own sacred space where the Gospel is proclaimed from The Lectionary adapted for Children. These Readings are written in simple language so children can understand the stories of Jesus. There is a time for discussion and questions.

Although the children may be in a different space for the liturgy of the Word or at a different level of understanding, we do not think of them as having been "dismissed" from the assembly. When they are elsewhere, it is to enhance their inclusion in the liturgy, not separate them from it. Parents or guardians are always welcome to join us. There is training available for anyone who would like to be an adult leader in the very special ministry.

Faith Formation for Children and Youth - Sunday School

Our Sunday School teachings are from the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies – Faith Formation Program. This program is a faith formation program centered on the Sunday liturgy.

Receiving the Sacraments

We celebrate the Sacrament of 1st Communion in Grade 2 and the Sacrament of Confirmation in Grade 9. Students receiving these sacraments must have participated in age-appropriate faith formation programming for at least one year immediately prior to the sacramental preparation year.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Peggy at:
religed@bellaliant.com.

STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC 2026

Steubenville Atlantic is an outreach of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, in partnership with the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth Pastoral Life and Evangelization Office. It's a high-energy youth conference where hundreds of teens are invited to encounter Jesus Christ through dynamic speakers, engaging music, the Sacraments, small group discussions, and fellowship with other teens.

Steubenville 2026 was a huge success! In the largest conference since 2009, over 700 young people gathered at Dalhousie University on July 10-12th. Sixteen youth from the parish took part. In addition to three days of amazing speakers, the teens had opportunities for worship, adoration, and confession, while enjoying fellowship with hundreds of other teens who share the same Catholic faith. Many of these youth form lifelong connections in faith and friendship. Steubenville costs each participant over $200. Sponsorship is always appreciated.

For more information about Steubenville 2027, please visit www.steubenville.ca. Youth at St. Ignatius can find out more about participating by contacting Peggy at religioused@bellaliant.com



SCRIPTURE STUDY
FALL 2025 – WINTER 2026

Building on the interest generated in the Winter of 2025, the parish continued scripture study in the fall and winter of 25/26.

Led by Deacon Howard Goldstein, approximately 16 people gathered weekly to explore the Gospel of St Matthew, in preparation for the Liturgical Year A, beginning with Advent in November 2025. Using the acclaimed Little Rock Scripture Study series, participants engaged in an in-depth examination of the Gospels of Matthew, completing the two-part series in the spring of 2026. This covered the period from Jesus' birth through to his public ministry and to His Death and Resurrection.

Many people commented that having the study parallel Sunday Readings was especially meaningful and enriched their Sunday experience at Mass.

Deacon Howard guided the sessions with thoughtful discussion questions, enriching the experience with his personal insights and deep knowledge and love of Scripture. At the same time, participants shared insights and explored questions related to Scripture, faith and lived experiences as members of the Church community. Several participants expressed that participation in this group has strengthened their faith and enhanced their feeling of belonging in the Church through fellowship and sharing.

This Scripture reflection group continued this fall the Acts of the Apostles, exploring the development and early foundations of the Church's growing communities. With the full benefit of the Holy Spirit, the earliest believers shaped communities of faith from Jerusalem to Rome and all points in between. This session invites us to witness the Spirit at work as the apostles of Jesus become evangelists and pastors, as communities of believers expand to include Gentiles, and as local challenges test the staying power of the young church. The group has increased to about 20 people this session.

The group meets on Wednesdays, 1-3:00 pm in the Parish Hall. It's never too late to join us!

If you'd like to hear more about the scripture study program, please contact Michelle Kucey at michellemkucey@gmail.com

"O LORD, HOW MANIFOLD ARE YOUR WORKS! IN WISDOM YOU HAVE MADE THEM ALL; THE EARTH IS FULL OF YOUR CREATURES"

- PSALM 104:24

REFLECTIONS ON THE UPCOMING WEEK'S GOSPEL WITH FATHER PAUL

During the fall and spring, an enthusiastic group of parishioners gathered in the parish hall on Tuesday evenings for Gospel Reflections with Father Paul. These sessions offered an opportunity to explore the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday in greater depth. Open to everyone, parishioners were welcome to attend as many or as few sessions as they wished.

Father Paul brought the Scriptures to life through his thoughtful explanations, maps, photographs, and personal experiences. His insights helped participants gain a deeper understanding of the Gospel and discover how its message continues to speak to us in our daily lives.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) - COME AND SEE: EXPLORE THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Each year, God stirs hearts to seek Him more deeply. Some people have never been baptized; others were baptized in another Christian tradition. For all who are new to the Catholic faith, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) offers a welcoming, prayerful journey into the life of the Church.

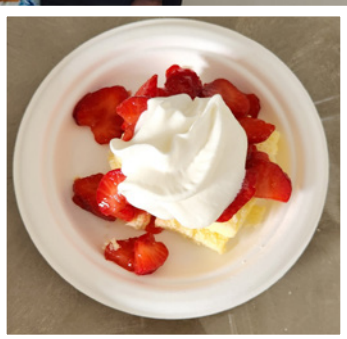
OCIA is more than learning about doctrines - it is about joining a living community of faith. Along the way, participants discover the joy of prayer, hear God's Word, and share in the mission of the parish. Sponsors and parishioners walk beside them, offering encouragement, friendship, and witness.

For many, this journey leads to the beautiful celebration of the Easter Vigil, where Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are received, marking a new beginning in Christ. Yet the journey continues beyond that night, as the newly initiated grow deeper in faith and embrace their place in the Church's mission.

If you are a baptized Catholic who has not yet celebrated Eucharist or Confirmation, we also offer a pathway designed to help you complete your initiation and share fully in the sacraments of the Church.

If you feel God's gentle call - or if you simply wish to learn more - we warmly invite you to contact the parish office. Come and see how the Lord may be calling you. You will be welcomed with open hearts.





A SWEET SUCCESS: ST. IGNATIUS STRAWBERRY SOCIAL!

What a wonderful way to celebrate our patron saint! Following the great success of our inaugural strawberry social in 2025, the Parish Leadership Team (PLT) and a dedicated team of volunteers brought the tradition back for 2026—and it was an even bigger hit.

Putting together an event of this scale is no small feat. To serve up 200 delicious strawberry shortcakes, our small organizing team and a wonderful group of helpers worked tirelessly to prepare four flats of fresh strawberries, three large sheet cakes, and eight cans of whipped cream. Judging by the fact that only a few shortcakes remained at the end, it is safe to say the parish thoroughly enjoyed it!

More than just a delicious treat, the Strawberry Social has quickly become another parish tradition. It offers a beautiful opportunity for fellowship, bringing together parishioners from all different weekend Masses who might not otherwise have the chance to meet. Thank you to everyone who helped organize, prep, and clean up, and to everyone who came out to share a smile and a conversation. We look forward to continuing this sweet tradition for many years to come!

SEWATHON

Fourteen members of our CWL met on October 17th for their second annual Sewathon to create IWK and shelter items. The parish hall was busy with people cutting, ironing, pinning, sewing and finishing beautiful pieces. With sewing machines humming from 9 to 2 pm, the ladies made 25 bibs/ burp pads and about 50 Scent pads for the Women's Hospital, as well as, 15 fleece blankets and throws for both the IWK and Homeless Shelters.





BLESSING OF ANIMALS

October 4th is the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment. He viewed all living creatures as his brothers and sisters and treated the natural world with profound respect and love. In his honour, Catholic churches around the world celebrate with a blessing of the animals.

At Saint Ignatius that Sunday, a large and lively group of furry friends gathered in the upper parking lot —mostly dogs, for a general blessing from Father Paul. Father then invited anyone wishing an individual blessing to bring their pet to the side.

While Father continued the individual blessings, the rest of the crowd—both two-legged and four-legged—enjoyed the treats and fellowship that made this joyful event such a delight.

This is a beautiful gesture offered to our parishioners and everyone was grateful for the opportunity to bring their special pets to the ceremony.

SOCIAL GROUPS

Along with our spiritual parish activities at the parish, some community groups also meet in our hall. While most in the group are parishioners, there's no restrictions to joining the groups.

- Maybe you'd like to improve your speaking skills, or learn how meetings are run. Public Speaking and Communication can be fun! The Bedford Basin Toastmasters #3826192 meet on Wednesdays at 7:15 pm, Parish Hall
- The Tuesday Craft Group is a warm and friendly circle of friends from our church and community who share talents in knitting, crocheting, and hooking. Our mission is simple: to enjoy each other's company while creating together. New crafters are always welcome! The Craft Group meets Tuesdays at 6:00 pm, in the Parish Office.
- Seniors Drop-In – If you're looking for a fun place to hang out on Monday afternoons, this group is for you. It's a relaxed afternoon of card games, conversation, coffee, tea, and sweets. No commitment—just drop in when you're free. A 50/50 draw helps cover the cost of the treats. This group meets on Mondays from 1:00–3:00 pm, Parish Hall

For contact details, please call the Parish Office.



THE ANNUAL ROSARY RALLY

Thousands of Catholics meet annually in October across over 1,500 locations nationwide to pray the Holy Rosary to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, spread the message of Our Lady of Fatima, and offer prayers for the conversion, peace, and spiritual renewal of Canada.

The central theme of the annual "Canada Needs Our Lady" Rosary Crusade and Rally campaign is:

- Canada Needs Prayer
- Canada Needs Courage
- Canada Needs Our Lady

At St. Ignatius, over 50 parishioners gathered at noon on October 10, 2026. Deacons Tom and Bob led the Holy Rosary for the needs of families, and the future of Canada, honoring Our Lady of Fatima. This year was extra special with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Bible readings and a subsequent reception in the parish hall for participants.

Many thanks to Deacon Tom for wonderful reflections and homily and Bob for his full participation. Thank you also to the Rosarians that Lead each Decade of the Rosary.

A WALK THROUGH HISTORY

On a warm October 12th afternoon, Father Paul led a group of parishioners on a walk through the history of Holy Cross cemetery in Halifax. The group then walked to the Basilica where Father gave a "behind the scenes" tour, followed by attendance at the 5 pm mass. This was the second year Father has offered this tour. His vast knowledge of the cemetery's history and the history of the Basilica made for a very interesting afternoon. A very grateful group thanked Father for giving his afternoon to us.



ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA PARISH AFRICAN COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

On September 27th, the African community of our parish once again treated the parish to an elaborate feast of traditional dishes. Not only did they provide and serve the feast, but they also served at the 11 am mass as greeters, ushers, lectors and eucharistic ministers. As in past years, they also presented Father Paul with a generous contribution of financial support to the parish.

The event, entitled African Culture Celebration, was attended by well over 200 parishioners. Those attending expressed such gratitude for the generosity and warmth of their fellow parishioners.

Events like this take a lot of planning, organization and dedication to make it happen. A huge thank you to the organizers and the many members of the African parish community who cooked, prepared, set-up, served, cleaned up and greeted us all at this special event. We are so blessed to have these devoted parishioners in our parish. It's what makes St. Ignatius so special!







SUMMARY OF REVENUE & EXPENSES

3RD QUARTER 2026 (January to September 2026)

Monies Received	$	Expenses Incurred	$
SUNDAY COLLECTIONS		General Maintenance	92,945
Initial Offering	1,324	Capital Maintenance	126,634
Electronic Donations (E-transfer)	25,694	Insurance	11,393
Envelope Collection	108,656	Property Taxes, Water Fees	8,508
Loose Collection	29,468	Ministry Supplies & Exp.	27,875
Pre-Authorized Giving (PAR)	159,891	Electricity	17,620
Christmas, Easter, New Year's	7,946	Equipment & Fixtures	8,708
Building Maintenance Fund	25,626	Fuel	9,259
TOTAL SUNDAY COLLECTIONS	$358,645	Office Administration Exp.	21,684
Other		Salaries & Benefits	125,445
Special Intentions & Donations	55,932	Rectory Expenses	9,748
Rent, Fees, Rebates, Interest	43,556	Communications	7,574
Capital Campaign / Major Projects	30,700	Diocesan Assessment	53,376
Sacraments, Formation, Liturgical Needs	9,591		
TOTAL OTHER	$139,779		
TOTAL MONIES RECEIVED	**$498,424**	**TOTAL EXPENSES**	**$520,769**

DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT

The Archdiocesan Assessment is a monthly payment by each parish to the diocese which enables an equitable sharing of the resources of the Archdiocese among its members. It's calculated on the basis of the previous years of "net assessable revenue", not the gross amount of ordinary revenue each parish receives.

This is a breakdown of the St. Ignatius Parish Assessment for the past seven years.

Year	Total Paid Per Year
2020 (January - December)	$32,708
2021 (January - December)	$56,376
2022 (January - December)	$56,360
2023 (January - December)	$56,594
2024 (January - December)	$56,568
2025 (January - December)	$61,260
2026 (January - December)	$65,000

THE CASE FOR PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE (PAR) PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE

We have 214 people using the Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) system of regular giving. We are very blessed to have so many of our parishioners on PAR.

As a PAR user myself, let me tell you why I prefer it to envelopes or putting cash in the collection. I've been using PAR for nearly ten years now. It's a safe and a secure process of automatic withdrawals from my bank account that makes contributing to my parish easy. I know how much I'm giving and when it will come out of my account. If I'm away, I can still contribute. I also appreciate that I receive a tax receipt every year that offsets my tax expenses.

At first, I was reluctant to give up the envelopes so I would use PAR and put an empty envelope in the collection, marking PAR on it. Then I realized that I was wasting the envelopes and the time it took for the people responsible for counting up the weekend's contributions to throw out my empty envelope. It's a process - I finally let the envelopes go!

For the parish, PAR ensures a consistent source of financial support which makes it much easier to budget. Our church exists solely through our donations, weekly collections and gifts to our programs and services. The parish must budget for expenses and manage its money carefully to make sure we cover our regular expenses and plan for the much-needed repairs.

It's easy to switch. If you're new to the parish, or are ready to try PAR, just phone the office at 902-835-2910. Kelley will be happy to explain how it all works and get you set up.

Thank you for your ongoing support, both spiritually and financially, to Saint Ignatius Parish.

YVONNE FENWICK
Chair, Finance Committee

PROPORTIONAL GIVING

Some people may wonder how their annual income relates to their weekly parish giving. This table is a simple tool to give you an idea of how a weekly contribution is related to income. Something to prayerfully consider.

How did we get these numbers? Your annual household income divided by % and number of weeks in a year (52.1429), rounded up to next $10.

Total Household Annual Income	1%	2%	5%
$10,000	$2	$4	$30
$20,000	$4	$8	$40
$30,000	$6	$12	$30
$40,000	$4	$8	$40
$50,000	$10	$20	$50
$60,000	$12	$24	$60
$70,000	$14	$28	$70
$80,000	$16	$32	$80
$90,000	$18	$36	$90
$100,000	$20	$40	$100

DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX SURVEY

The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) is an anonymous, 95-question survey created by the Catholic Leadership Institute to help Catholic parishes and dioceses gather feedback for pastoral planning and spiritual growth.

In the Spring of 2026, 140 people completed the DMI survey at our parish, representing approximately 28% of our parishioners. Last month, the parish reported on the data from the survey related to the category of the Sunday Experience. This report will focus on the category of Leadership from the DMI report.

Who Responded to the DMI Survey – A Recap
Of those who participated, 31% have been in the parish for more than 20 years, followed by 21% who have been in the parish for 11-20 years. The majority of people reported that they are married (75%) followed by 10% reporting that they are widowed. Ninety-eight% report they are Catholic. Women represent 66% of the respondents with 34% of respondents between 66 years and 75 years and 30% over 75 years of age. Of the surveys, 95% were completed online while the remaining 5% were paper surveys.

Leadership

Community and Decision Making:
My parish helps me connect with a local catholic community by:
- involving me in decisions that affect the future of the parish
- 28% of the respondents strongly agree and
- 37% agree, for a total of 65%.

Community and Financial Transparency:
My parish helps me connect with a local catholic community by:
- providing transparent information about the finances of the parish
- 44% of the respondents highly agree and
- 43% agree, for a total of 87%.

Community and Following Up on Involvement:
My parish helps me connect with a local catholic community by:
- following up when I express interest in becoming more involved
- 26% of the respondents highly agree and
- 36% agree, for a total of 62%.

Community and Opportunities to Serve:
My parish helps me connect with a local catholic community by:
- providing me with opportunities to serve those in need
- 47% of the respondents highly agree and
- 45% agree, for a total of 92%.

The Parish Leadership Team will use your comments to help guide us going forward. As surveys go, a 28% response rate is considered excellent. Thank you for participating!

FUNDRAISING & CELEBRATION GALA



The gala was held on April 25, 2026, at the Halifax Tower Hotel. It was a huge success, with over 150 parishioners joining us for a wonderful dinner served by the staff. The location was generously donated by the hotel's general manager and St. Ignatius parishioner, Nimfa Bautista. The venue and the meal were excellent, and we thank Nimfa for looking after every detail to make our dinner memorable.

Our team provided a photo spot for everyone, and many took advantage of the opportunity to mark the occasion. We sent out the photos after the event so people could have them printed.

Upcoming: "Kit out the Kitchen"
The purpose of the dinner was to kick off a fundraising campaign to support two very important projects in our parish hall: new accessible restrooms and the hall kitchen. These two projects will help ensure that our facilities remain welcoming, safe, and functional for our parishioners and for the community groups who rely on it.

The first project will be the kitchen, and we hope to begin that project in 2027. We will be launching a dedicated campaign called "Kit out the Kitchen". You will have an opportunity to choose something you'd like to help us buy for the kitchen—whether replacing dishes, the dishwasher, or the sinks and counters. There's no shortage of ways to help us make the kitchen project another grand success!

Fundraising Team: Frank Hughes, Lolita Bruneau, Nimfa Bautista, Rosemarie Sampson, Michelle Kucey, and Yvonne Fenwick











GARDEN TEAM

A Flourishing Start to the Gardening Season

Formal kickoff to the gardening season began in May this year, when a very large group of volunteers generously offered their valuable time to clean up the parish grounds and revitalizing the gardens on a beautiful Saturday morning. Their hard work set the tone for a vibrant and productive season.

Garden work is always a work in progress, but this year, as the plants matured and filled in, the color throughout the grounds was truly wonderful to see.

A couple of exciting projects were completed, including the removal of the wooden planter structure that housed the strawberry plants and replacing it with stacked stone brick. A special thank you to Logan Thorpe for assisting with this project.

Another new addition was the creation of a large flower bed beneath the large trees on the side of the church closer to Bedford Highway. We look forward to watching the perennials in this space grow and flourish over the coming years.

Summer Challenges & Dedication

Although this summer was not as dry as the previous one, it was still quite warm, and persistent Japanese beetles made their return, adding difficulty to plant care. Despite these challenges, our dedicated garden team stepped up once again, giving their time throughout the season to keep the gardens thriving and green.

Gratitude for Our Garden Champions

We extend our deepest thanks to the incredible volunteers who brought color, life, and pollinatorfriendly blooms to our parish grounds. Your commitment has created a welcoming haven for bees, butterflies, and the entire community.

A huge thank you to the ladies who came out regularly to help with planting, weeding, and digging in the dirt: Connie, Mary Anne, Eileen, Hoda, and Marg Burton.

And heartfelt appreciation to our wonderful watering team: Connie and Peter Hetzler, Mary Anne Waite, Hoda Azar, Patricia and Fernando Monteiro, Kurt Estorninos, Aileen Estorninos, Joseph Banwo, Shirley and Wayne MacDonald, Gary Perks, Pat Hanah, Jocelyn Brown, and Sandra Pereira.

A special note of gratitude goes to Father Paul for his unwavering support and encouragement of this beautiful initiative.

Looking forward to the gardens of 2027 - and to another season of growth, community, and shared joy.

- Brenda Melong-Thorpe





CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)

Service to God and Canada through membership in the Catholic Women's League of Canada has brought women into the light of God's love for all. This year we welcomed 11 new members to St. Ignatius Council.

Some events and actions in 2026 were:

- Hosted 10 funeral receptions
- Catered 10 Diaconate lunches and dinners from October to May
- Presented a Remembrance Day Wreath at the Cenotaph
- Held a Sew-a-thon providing items for IWK and Beacon House Shelter
- Held a Christmas Tea
- Members led 2 services devoted to the Stations of The Cross during Lent
- Celebrated the World Day of Prayer in March, featuring the women of Nigeria, and hosted a reception. Women from the United Church and Baptist Church, Bedford joined us in celebration.
- Provided spiritual cards and gifts to OCIA candidates
- Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Council was celebrated at Sunday Mass with reception after
- Hosted First Communion and Confirmation receptions as well as provided spiritual mementos and cards to the children receiving the sacraments
- Members participated in the online Rosary to pray for Palliative Care in May
- A CWL member hosted a Mother's Day reception in the hall and also led the Knights of Columbus Father's Day reception in the hall
- Hosted two trivia nights in Loyola Hall in support of Steubenville youth
- Awarded a $500 Bursary to a Grade 12 graduating high school student in June
- Contributed funds to the church renovation project
- In August, several members attended the CWL National Convention, held in Halifax

Saint Ignatius CWL supports many organizations, including:

- Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (hosted a reception for the Grand Opening of Ozanam Place in Halifax)
- Beacon House food bank and Beacon House Shelter
- Catholic Missions in Canada, Coady International, Catholic Near East Welfare Association, Development and Peace and Chalice (sponsor an adult woman).
- We celebrated our 43rd year anniversary of becoming a charter organization at St. Ignatius. It is our pleasure and honor to serve our parish and community. We thank our parishioners, Father Paul, Deacon Tom (our spiritual advisor) for their continued support. Our national motto is "For God and Canada."

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Pothier, President St. Ignatius CWL



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 9404

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT:

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal benefit society with over two million members worldwide, offering fellowship and financial security to members and their families.

It has been an exciting year for the Bedford Council of the Knights of Columbus. Thank you to the Council executive and all 85 of our Council 9404 Brothers who work throughout the year supporting the pastoral team and parishioners of the Parish of Saint Ignatius of Loyola, as well as the broader community.

We helped our parish community by:

- Hosting weekly seniors' drop-in at the parish hall;
- Donating 216 new winter coats to the SSVP, the Association of Nigerians of NS, and Beacon House;
- Volunteering in lay ministries, rosary prayer group, AV team, maintenance committee;
- Awarding a $500 bursary to a parish youth to support their post-secondary studies;
- Sponsoring, preparing, and plating dinners for up to 120 patrons of Hope Cottage;
- Sponsoring a Parish Family Skate, complete with hot chocolate and sweets;
- Hosting regular cribbage game nights for parishioners and guests;
- Organizing and sponsoring the annual Advent wreath-making event; and
- Hosting a parish reception in celebration of Father's Day.

Bedford Council 9404 Knights also help build and support faith development in the parish community by:

- Volunteering at mass as ushers, readers, and Ministers of the Eucharist;
- Organizing a "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest;
- Presenting First Communion candidates with Rosary beads at their special Mass;
- Presenting Confirmation candidates with a cross to commemorate the milestone;
- Bringing the Silver Rose Program to our parish in honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe; and
- Helping to sponsor the Special Olympics track and field in Lower Sackville, as well as, the provincial event in Antigonish.







Other work done in support of the parish includes:

- Organizing church parking for the Christmas Masses;
- Volunteering at Ivany Place seniors' home every week; and,
- Sponsoring a child through Chalice.
- Attending Remembrance Day celebrations at Fish Hatchery Park, and, placing a Knights of Columbus Council 9404 wreath of remembrance;

Many of our activities require funding, so we undertake fundraisers each year. One of our most popular fundraising activities is the Annual Cash Calendar, which awards monthly prizes to buyers - last year we sold 120 calendars. All the money we raise goes directly toward running our programs.

Want to join the Knights?

Visit www.kofc.org/joinus. Joining online is free!

Please note that you do not have to be a member to assist with our activities; your volunteer help is always appreciated.

Reach out to our Grand Knight, John Mayich, or any Council 9404 member to ask about what the Knights of Columbus can offer you and your family. You can easily recognize us by our name tags and the vests we wear, all of which bear the Knights of Columbus emblem.

"START BY DOING WHAT'S NECESSARY;
THEN DO WHAT'S POSSIBLE;
AND SUDDENLY YOU ARE DOING
THE IMPOSSIBLE."

– ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SSVP)

A YEAR IN REVIEW – NOVEMBER 2025 TO AUGUST 2026

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a worldwide lay Catholic organization whose mission is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope, and joy. At St. Ignatius, our founding activity remains the Home Visit, meeting people where they are, listening with compassion, and offering not just assistance, but friendship and understanding. This past year, thanks to the generous support of our parish community and the dedication of 18 active members (28 in total), we have served our neighbors in Bedford in many meaningful ways. With four rotating teams answering calls for help, we:

- made 400 home visits, walking with families through difficult times;
- Delivered 350 Beacon House food orders;
- distributed $39,875 in grocery gift cards;
- provided Coats for Kids in the fall of 2025 (provided by the KOC);
- supported urgent needs such as rent, power, fuel, medical, transportation;
- collected groceries for Beacon House Food Bank; including the Christmas Hamper drive;
- collected School Supplies for Beacon House Food Bank in August;

In addition to this, our parish conference also contributed to the broader mission of service. We faithfully maintained our commitment of preparing and delivering casseroles once per month to Hope Cottage. A sincere thanks goes to our many cooks, and to one of our Vincentians for organizing this each month.

And once again, our Sponsor a Family Christmas campaign was a resounding success, a record-breaking $38,277 raised! We were able not only to brighten Christmas for many families but also to extend support well into 2026.





While much of our work focuses on responding to urgent needs, we also strive to walk alongside families as they work toward long-term stability. Through our Navigator Program, we continue to address systemic issues such as debt, housing insecurity, and barriers to education. We often guide families facing insecurity on how they can find other resources that could assist them.

In August of 2026, we were able to provide systemic financial assistance to a young student entering NSCC in the business program, providing her with a laptop computer and books, a step that will create lasting change for her and her family. We will continue to assist her next year as she completes a two- year study program. Pictured from left to right are Bryden MacKinnon (secretary), Noor Remoo, and Rosaline Deveau.

None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary generosity of our parish community. Your prayers, donations, and encouragement are the reason we can serve. Each act of giving, whether financial, material, or spiritual, makes a real difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in need.

We also owe deep thanks to our members, whose time, talent, and energy bring the mission of Saint Vincent de Paul to life every single day. In June, our Vincentian Volunteers had the opportunity to attend our National Conference, which was hosted by Halifax Particular Council at Mount Saint Vincent University. This conference provided Vincentians Canada wide the occasion to get together, share insights, gain new perspective, and collaborate with one another, as a means of continuous improvement.

Looking ahead, we know the need is growing. To meet this need, new membership is essential. If you feel called to live your faith in a practical way, by bringing hope, friendship, and support to those less fortunate, please consider joining us. Together, we can continue to serve Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope, and joy.

ROSALINE DEVEAU
SSVP St. Ignatius Conference President
rosalinedeveau@gmail.com

"SEW GENEROUSLY AND REAP GENEROUSLY."

- 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6

CAPITAL PROJECTS 2025-26

Thanks to your continued generosity and support, we are making great progress on our parish properties! We would like to acknowledge the generous support from a parishioner that made the new lights possible and also, a generous donation, made in memory of a dear parishioner, for the new sound system in the church.

Here is an update on our projects from late 2025 to this fall 2026.

Church



- Our top priority for 2025–2026 is the church exterior. Given the complexity and scope of this project, the parish engaged Grey Cardinal as project manager to lead the procurement process, design phase and contractor construction. Their expertise has been invaluable to us.
- The total project cost, including management fees, is $563k. We will transfer funds from our reserve on deposit at the Diocese to pay for the project.
- In the Sacristy, we did some minor work, removing one of the cabinets, installing a long coat rack for vestments, cleaning up the area, and having a dedicated heat pump installed.
- The church lighting project is now complete. The new lights have made a tremendous difference. The lights on the side will remain for now due to concerns about the existing wiring.
- A new sound system was installed. To eliminate the echo issues, we also had acoustic baffles installed. They are not intrusive and the wood-look panels have enhanced the tabernacle area.



Hall

- A large new screen and projector were installed in the hall to improve viewing of religious-themed videos and information sessions.
- A huge thank-you to K of C member and parishioner Bill Lawlor, who took the lead on both the sound system/projection projects. We are grateful for his time, dedication, and expertise.



Rectory/Parish Office

- This summer, the driveway, walkway, and grounds in front of the rectory were completely re-done. The large, deteriorated asphalt was removed and the area was turned into a lawn, walkway and new driveway. It made a significant improvement to the look of the property.
- A new kitchen was installed in the parish office, making it more functional for our staff and the parish groups that use the space for events. On September 20, parish staff hosted an open house to showcase the improvements. It was a wonderful opportunity for parishioners to explore the renovated office, see where our pastor resides, and enjoy a lovely display of snacks while connecting with one another.

LOOKING AHEAD

For 2027, we will concentrate on more modest projects.

Hall

The largest project planned for the hall is the renovation of the kitchen. This work will include replacing the existing tile floor and installing new counters with a more durable, commercial-grade surface suitable for food preparation and serving. We also plan to upgrade the sinks to include a dedicated food-preparation sink and a separate handwashing station. We hope to offset some of the costs through fundraising efforts.

Basement Furnace Room
To meet fire safety code requirements, the furnace room in the hall basement will be enclosed with fire-rated gypsum board and fitted with a steel door. This is an important safety improvement necessary to bring the space into compliance with the fire code.

Church

Church Heating and Emergency Power
The church now relies exclusively on its heat pumps for heating. As a result, the church's oil tanks will be removed for safety reasons. We will also install a propane-powered Generac generator to provide emergency electricity, ensuring that the church's heating and lighting can continue to operate during a power outage.

Office/Rectory Roof and Attic Insulation
The asbestos in the attic will be safely removed and the attic insulated. This work will improve energy efficiency and help reduce heating costs.

Sacristy Renovations
The Sacristy floor will be tiled to match the main church. The remaining old cabinet will be removed and replaced with shelving better suited to the needs of the space. We will also install a new sacrarium, a specialized sink used for the proper disposal of sacred substances in accordance with Church practice.

These projects represent meaningful investments in the future of our parish. Thank you for your continued generosity, encouragement, and support. Your contributions help us care for our buildings, improve our shared spaces, and preserve our parish home for generations to come.

"START CHILDREN OFF ON THE WAY THEY SHOULD GO, AND EVEN WHEN THEY ARE OLD THEY WILL NOT TURN FROM IT"."

- PROVERBS 22:6

WE NEED YOU!

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR PARISH

1. Financially Support

Your generosity keeps our parish strong and active! Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) is our preferred method of giving - it provides a steady and reliable source of income for parish needs. Envelopes are still available, and cash donations at Mass are always welcome. Every gift, great or small, makes a difference!

2. Time and Talent

We're blessed with a caring, gifted parish community - and there's a place for everyone! Share your skills and spirit by volunteering with one of our many ministries or committees:

Committees and groups who need you:

- Finance Committee
- Maintenance Team
- Capital Projects
- Adult Faith Formation
- Eucharistic Ministry
- Lectors, Greeters & Ushers
- Events Team
- Ministry of the Sick and Homebound
- Sunday School Teachers
- Musicians & Choir Members
- Audio-Visual Techs (training provided)
- Gardening Group
- Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
- Catholic Women's League (CWL)
- Knights of Columbus (K of C)

Many hands make light work - and all is done for the glory of the Lord!

3.Fellowship

Join parish gatherings, special events, and celebrations! Connecting and sharing with fellow parishioners builds the sense of belonging we all need - as Catholics and as members of the wider community.

Want to Get Involved?

Contact the Parish Office: 902-835-2910
saintignatius@bellaliant.com

Your time, talent, and treasure help our parish thrive. We truly need YOU!



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