

# Welcome to Stella Maris Parish Go and Make Disciples!

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday, February 11, 2024

## *Our Vision Statement - To be a beacon of Faith, Hope & Love!*

Welcome Joanne Thibeau! - We are very pleased to announce that Joanne has joined our staff at Stella Maris in the position of Parish Operations Manager. She will be responsible for the overall administrative, operational and financial functions within the parish as well as for coordinating and managing employees, volunteers or contractors who provide administrative or facilities support. As you know Susan Hann will be retiring soon and she has years of knowledge to transfer, so we are very grateful that they will be able to spend some time together. Please join us in giving Joanne a warm welcome.

### CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY EARLY on Tuesday February 13!

First:  
It's Shrove Tuesday - From 4:30 till 6pm in the Church Hall we will be holding a Pancake Supper *in support of parish youth who will be attending the annual Steubenville Conference held in Halifax in July.* Please join us to kick off the Lenten Season. Donation at the door.

#### Secondly:

Also on Tuesday evening, join us for prayer and praise at the Upper Room from 7-8pm in the church. This week Fr. Al Ray will be speaking about *How to be a Beacon of Love.* All are welcome.

### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

Ashes will be distributed at three masses: 7am, 9am & 7pm.

We Need Your Palms from last year!! - Please bring in last year's Palm which will be burned to create ashes for Ash Wednesday. There will be a collection container in the foyer between Jan. 20th and Feb. 11th. Thank you.

### **New Year - New Opportunities!**

#### **Lenten Bible Study**

- Did you know that on Thursday, we regularly have a bible study after 9am Mass? Join us every **Thursday** in Lent starting on **February 15th** for the first in a new series - **When You Pray: A Clear Path to a Deeper Relationship with God.** What God did in the lives of countless saints, he wants to do in the lives of ordinary people like us. And that's what this study is about: the journey of prayer God wants to take us on.

#### **NEW PROGRAM!!! Adult Faith Formation**

- Welcome to Adult Faith Formation, a new, vibrant, and enriching program designed for adults in our parish seeking a deeper connection with their faith in the Catholic Church. Join us in the hall after 10am Mass, every other week **beginning Sunday February 18th at 11am in the hall**, for a unique blend of social engagement, insightful discussions on scripture and the Mass, and meaningful small group discussions.
- Recognizing that discipleship is a lifelong journey, this program is crafted to meet the ongoing needs for spiritual growth in our community. We will delve into the richness of Catholic teachings so your faith not only deepens but flourishes through continuous learning. Come, be a part of this transformative experience, where fellowship, knowledge, and spirituality converge.
- No registration required, and you can join at any time!

Tax Receipts for 2023 - are now available at the back of the church. Any questions please contact Susan Hann at 902-477-3362 or susan.h@stellamarishalifax.com

Food Bank: The Food Bank still really needs the support from Stella Maris Parish. They are in need of any variety of hearty canned soup, Kraft Dinner, canned meat and juice. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Items can be dropped off in the Food Bank basket as you enter the church. Thank you

**Update on our Refugee Family** - The Immigrant Support Committee of Stella Maris Parish is happy to share the good news that our sponsored refugee family (Osman, Sawsan and Judy, 2 yrs.) have completed all the necessary steps in order to come to Canada and will likely be travelling to Halifax in the next month or so! Our most pressing need is a short term furnished accommodation suitable for this young family of three. We intend to find more permanent accommodations for our family within a month or two. If you know of a suitable rental accommodation for our family, and/or if you are willing to be part of a welcoming and support team for the family, please contact the Committee at [newcomers@stellamarisparish.com](mailto:newcomers@stellamarisparish.com). Thank you!

**Lenten mission at Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica** - *How to Die Well (and Live Forever)* with Dr. David Deane, Associate Professor of Theology at the Atlantic School of Theology. He will delve into the Catholic understanding of life and death and offer thoughts on how Lent can be a time to prepare for our dying, confident of the resurrection. The mission is February 16-18, 2024 and begins at 7:00pm each evening in the Cathedral.

### **Momentum Halifax - a Gathering for Catholic Single Mothers**

We are excited to host another luncheon for single mothers! Saturday, March 2nd, from 11:00 am-2:00 pm join us at Stella Maris Parish hall (6 St Michaels Ave, Halifax, NS). Lunch and childcare will be provided. This luncheon is an opportunity for catholic single mothers to gather, share and pray. If you are interested in attending please register using the following link: <https://forms.gle/HzjgatZy2fQjzLrq8>. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Khrista Jeffrey at 902-717-8025; email: [momentumhalifax@gmail.com](mailto:momentumhalifax@gmail.com) or visit [www.momentummothers.org](http://www.momentummothers.org)

### **Seven Sisters Apostolate**

Are you a woman of faith who can prayerfully support our parish? The Seven Sisters Apostolate is looking to build prayer teams to support our dear priests and bishop through ongoing prayer. The goal is to increase our current team to 3 teams, one for Fr. Rob, one for Fr. Al Ray and one for Bishop Dunn. The commitment is one hour per week. The benefits are community with prayerful sisters and many graces for our parish community. For more info or to become involved in these teams of Seven Sisters check out <https://sevensistersapostolate.org> and email [sherryflemming@icloud.com](mailto:sherryflemming@icloud.com)

**Stella Maris Homeless Shelter Ministry Expanding:** As of next week our four shelters will be fully occupied and need individuals to help us provide parish level care and support to our guests by making a weekly contact visit. If you feel called to serve, please contact Mike Coughlan at [outreach@stellamarishalifax.com](mailto:outreach@stellamarishalifax.com). Or if you would like to help provide hot dinners to our shelter guests. Your commitment would be 2 hot suppers, once every 4 weeks, delivered to our guests between 5 and 6 pm. Please contact Monica at [monica@hfx.eastlink.ca](mailto:monica@hfx.eastlink.ca) or 902-809-4142.

**Book Donations** - Our Little Stella free library needs a fresh supply of Catholic friendly books and other reading materials. Please leave donations in the foyer, to the attention of Carol Bruneau.

**Are you new to Canada and Stella Maris Parish?** Are you looking to connect? Feel free to email the Immigrant Support Committee (ISC) at [newcomers@stellamarishalifax.com](mailto:newcomers@stellamarishalifax.com). We would like to get to know you. The ISC aims to help to create a welcoming environment for everyone associated with Stella Maris parish.

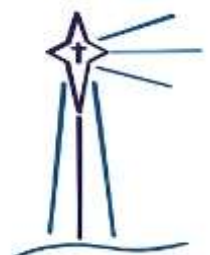
### Stella Maris Parish Contact Information

Mass Times: Tuesday to Saturday-9AM, Saturday-4PM (Confession at 2:00-3:30PM), Sunday-8 & 10AM

Office Hours : Tuesdays 12pm-2pm and Thursdays 10am-2pm

Fr. Rob Elford, Pastor	<a href="mailto:fr.rob@stellamarishalifax.com">fr.rob@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.5
Fr. Al Ray Compuesto, Associate Pastor	<a href="mailto:fr.alray@stellamarishalifax.com">fr.alray@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.8
Ainslea Cardinal, Pastor's Assistant	<a href="mailto:ainslea.c@stellamarishalifax.com">ainslea.c@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.7
Susan Hann, Finances and Cemeteries	<a href="mailto:susan.h@stellamarishalifax.com">susan.h@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.3
Joanne Thibeau, Parish Operations Mgr	<a href="mailto:operations@stellamarishalifax.com">operations@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902-477-3530 ext.3
Parish Office	<a href="mailto:office@stellamarishalifax.com">office@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.2
Ronnie Lunn, Director of Lay Ministries	<a href="mailto:ronnie.l@stellamarishalifax.com">ronnie.l@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.4
Children & Family Ministries	<a href="mailto:maria.p@stellamarishalifax.com">maria.p@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.6
Funeral Information and Bookings	<a href="mailto:funerals@stellamarishalifax.com">funerals@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	902 477-3530 ext.7
Immigrant Support Committee	<a href="mailto:newcomers@stellamarishalifax.com">newcomers@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	
Community Outreach	<a href="mailto:outreach@stellamarishalifax.com">outreach@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	
Home Communion	<a href="mailto:homecommunion@stellamarishalifax.com">homecommunion@stellamarishalifax.com</a>	
Marc Piccinin, Responsible Ministry	<a href="mailto:stellamarisrespmin@gmail.com">stellamarisrespmin@gmail.com</a>	
Monica McNamara, CWL	<a href="mailto:monica@hfx.eastlink.ca">monica@hfx.eastlink.ca</a>	902 809 4142

Website: [www.stellamarishalifax.com](http://www.stellamarishalifax.com)



Please email any bulletin submissions to: [office@stellamarishalifax.com](mailto:office@stellamarishalifax.com) no later than 5pm wednesday.