



Parish news for the weekend of June 7th-8th

Farewell and Thank You to Julia Yurchesyn

After completing her one-year contract with us, Julia Yurchesyn has discerned not to seek a renewal of her role as Administrative Assistant. We are deeply grateful for Julia's kind presence, her generous spirit, and her faith-filled service to our parish community. Please join us in praying for God's continued blessings upon her as she steps into the next chapter of her journey. We wish her every success.

As we begin the process of hiring a new administrative assistant, we ask for your patience and understanding. While we will do our best to minimize any disruptions, some may be unavoidable during this transition.

Wednesday morning mass

There will be no 9am mass on Wednesday, June 11th as the priests will be attending their Annual General Meeting.

Hall Renovation

The church hall will be undergoing renovations starting June 2nd. These renovations include creating additional meeting rooms, and modernizing the hall and bathrooms. The duration will be approximately 6 weeks. We look forward to using the new, refreshed space for all our parish ministries!

Stewardship of Treasure Initiative

Please join us on the weekends of June 7th/8th and June 14th/15th as we introduce our annual Stewardship of Treasure initiative. These weekends will be all about celebrating

the wonderful things that are happening at Stella Maris Parish, none of which would be possible without the generous financial support of our parishioners.

June 7th/8th we will release our first edition of the Stewardship of Treasure magazine. We hope you will enjoy reading the many testimonies that highlight our journey to Be-Grow-Go as disciples, both personally and as a parish community.

June 14th/15th will be "Commitment Sunday". We will take a few moments to fill out "commitment cards" which will be collected and placed in front of the altar as a sign of our commitment to financially support the vision of the parish to be a beacon of faith, hope and love.

Immigrant Support Committee Collection: Weekend of June 7th/8th

The annual special collection for the work of the Stella Maris Parish Immigrant Support Committee (ISC) will take place on the weekend of June 7th and 8th. The purpose of this committee is to work with the leadership and parishioners of Stella Maris to facilitate the integration of individuals new to Canada within our parish community. Donations can be made by envelope, or by e-transfer to giving@stellamarishalifax.com (include "Immigrant Support Committee collection" in the message).

Our aim is "To be a beacon of faith, hope and love in our community" by providing accompaniment and support to immigrants, international students and refugees. We very much appreciate your financial support of this work. As St. Paul wrote to the Hebrews, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2)

Communal Rosary in the Herring Cove Grotto: Every Wednesday at 7PM

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm, the rosary will be prayed in the grotto in Herring Cove - all are welcome. The prayer intention is that this stunningly beautiful grotto will become a place of pilgrimage and prayer for parishioners and visitors alike. We are all pilgrim people, so let's make pilgrimage to a place of prayer part of our lives.

Jubilee Year Parish Walking Pilgrimage: Saturday, June 14

Dear Friends of Stella Maris Parish,

As part of the Church's celebration of the 2025 Jubilee Year, I warmly invite you to join us for a Parish Walking Pilgrimage from Stella Maris Parish Church to Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica on Saturday, June 14.

We will begin our walk at 9:00 AM, journey together in prayer and reflection, and celebrate Mass at the Cathedral at 12:15 PM.

What is a Jubilee Year?

A Jubilee Year is a special year of grace, traditionally held every 25 years, dating back to the year 1300. It is a time the Church sets aside for renewal, marked by pilgrimage, prayer, reconciliation, and acts of mercy. It is an invitation to return to the essentials: God's mercy, the joy of the Gospel, and the hope we have in Christ.

Our late Pope Francis declared 2025 a Jubilee Year of Hope, inspired by Saint Paul's words: "Hope does not disappoint"(Romans 5:5). In this year, we are invited to become Pilgrims of Hope, journeying in faith, witnessing to the love of Christ, and sowing seeds of hope in a world longing for peace and healing.

Throughout the year, Catholics around the world will be making pilgrimages to designated churches, praying for the Church and the world, and seeking a deeper encounter with God. The pilgrimage to Saint Mary's Cathedral Basilica, one of our local Jubilee sites, is one such opportunity.

Whether you've walked many pilgrimages or none at all, this is a chance to journey together, physically and spiritually, as one parish, unified in faith.

Come walk with us. Come be a pilgrim of hope.

In Christ,
Fr. Rob Elford

Seven Sisters Prayer Ministry

The Seven Sisters prayer ministry is looking for 5 prayerful women to join us in praying for our dear priests. The commitment is to pray for 1 hour a week for one of our parish priests. We currently have one full team of 7 sisters and a second partial team, and are looking to fill the second partial team. This will give us 2 teams of prayerful sisters committed to praying for our parish priests. Although it's only one hour per week individually, collectively our priests will have a sister praying for them one hour each day. sherryflemming@gmail.com or call 902-423-3114 if you are able to support this ministry. We're excited to see the fruits of this ministry in our priests and within our

parish.

Stella Maris Parish to Host Relic of Saint André Bessette (Brother Andre)

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

We are thrilled to announce that Stella Maris Parish will host a relic of Saint André Bessette this summer as part of a special Archdiocesan-wide tour from July 25 to 31, 2025.

Saint Brother Andre was a humble religious brother of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Born in 1845 in rural Quebec, he was frail and poorly educated, yet became known throughout Montreal, and eventually the world, for his deep holiness, compassion, and miraculous healings through the intercession of Saint Joseph, to whom he had a profound devotion. In spite of his humble beginnings, Brother André was instrumental in founding Saint Joseph's Oratory, the largest shrine to Saint Joseph in the world. He was canonized in 2010 by Pope Benedict XVI.

Saint André's life reminds us that sanctity does not require worldly power or prestige, only a faithful heart, a life of service, and deep trust in God.

Stella Maris Parish Relic Gathering - Wednesday, July 30

We are honoured to host a morning of prayer and reflection around the relic of Saint André. All are welcome to participate in this beautiful moment of grace:

- 8:00am - Exposition of the Relic & Brief Talk on the Life of Saint André
- 8:30am - Praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary
- 9:00am - Celebration of Holy Mass
- 9:45am - Veneration of the Relic and Blessing with the Oil of Saint Joseph

This is a powerful opportunity for personal prayer, healing, and renewal. Come be inspired by the witness of Saint André Bessette, a simple doorkeeper who opened hearts to heaven.

Saint André, pray for us!

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: November 1st to 13th, 2025 (13 days)

This pilgrimage will take place with Fr. Rob Elford as the Spiritual Chaplain, and Rhonda-Lynn Clarke as the group leader. Cost is \$3699.00 (includes airfare and all airport taxes from Halifax, ground transportation, twin accommodation, breakfast and dinner daily, professional local guide, and gratuity). Single room supplement if available is \$300.00. Contact Sherry Flemming to reserve your seat at sherryflemming@gmail.com or 902-423-3114.

In the Community:

March for Life: RESCHEDULED - New Date is Saturday, June 14th at 1 PM, from St. Mary's Basilica, Spring Garden Rd, to Province House return.

Campaign Life Coalition Nova Scotia (CLC NS) is organizing a provincial March for Life on May 22. At 1PM, Marchers will walk from the meeting point of St. Mary's Cathedral on Spring Garden Rd. to outside Province House where we will peacefully witness to the dignity and humanity of preborn children and pray for an end to abortion.

We are also hosting a Pro-Life Youth Summit that morning from 10AM - 12PM, with lunch provided afterwards, and culminating in the March for Life. The event will be focused on the role of social media in the pro-life movement, and how to approach men and women who have a history with abortion. Tickets are \$35 for a single person. However, group rates are also available. If any youth wish to attend this event, we ask that they RSVP to ruth@campaignlifecoalition.com. Alternatively, they can go to our Eventbrite page [here](#).

Frassati Academy: Accepting Applications

[Apply now](#) for admission to Frassati Academy for the 2025-2026 academic year!

Families may apply for Pre-Primary through Grade 7 with the understanding that the grades offered at [Frassati Academy](#) will be dependent on enrollment.

Frassati Academy is an independent, classically-inspired Catholic school which will be located at the Campbell Centre of the [St. Agnes site of Good Shepherd Parish in Halifax](#). For more information on Frassati Academy, visit our website: www.frassatiacademy.ca or contact: admissions@frassatiacademy.ca