Volume 2 Issue 5 May 2021

# The Bessette Gazette

St. André Bessette Parish

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH, ENFIELD

ST. ROSE OF LIMA CHURCH, FALL RIVER

"AN INCENSE FREE PARISH"



All in-person Masses are cancelled until further notice. The LIVE-STREAMED MASS (Sunday @ 11AM) may be found on Facebook at St. André Bessette Parish or go to our parish website <a href="strosefallriver.com">strosefallriver.com</a> and click on the live-Mass link.

All **parishes** in the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth must abide by the following restrictions at this time:

- NO faith gatherings and churches are closed to the public.
- Wedding and funeral ceremonies can be celebrated with 5 people plus the officiant.
- Other sacraments including, baptisms, confirmation, and reconciliation are not permitted during this current strict lockdown period. However, individual confession can be heard under extenuating circumstances.
- NO in-person meetings or training sessions are to take place with the exception of mental health support groups.
- Virtual Masses can be held with a maximum of 5 people in one location. This includes liturgical and technical staff. Physical distancing and masking must be maintained.

PARISH OFFICES are closed until further notice. Please telephone or email and we will make every effort to respond as soon as possible: St. Bernard's (902-883-2660) and St. Rose of Lima (902-860-0475). Fr. Michael Walsh can be contacted by email (pastorstbroandreparish@gmail.com).

During the current shutdown it is more important than ever to keep each other in prayer. Please remember our Confirmation and First Communion candidates as they journey towards the celebration of these sacraments. Also please remember those whose health is affected by all that has happened since the beginning of 2020 and be kind in prayer and deed.

A prayer for times of COVID-19 by the Right Rev. Richard Bott.

When we are not sure, God, help us be calm; When information comes from all sides, help us to discern;

When fear makes it hard to breathe, and anxiety seems to be the order of the day, slow us down, God;

Help us to reach out with our hearts, when we can't touch with our hands;

Help us to be socially connected, when we have to be socially distant; Help us to love as perfectly as we can, knowing that "perfect love casts out all fear."

Help us, O God, that we might help each other.

In the love of the Creator, in the name of the Healer, in the life of the Holy Spirit that is in all and with all, we pray. May it be so.

#### St. Andre Bessette Parish - Catechism Corner

The sacrament preparation programs have been completed and we have more than 50 children and youth prepared to receive First Communion and Confirmation. We thank God and celebrate these young people! The youth who were prepared for Confirmation in 2020 will make the sacrament with the youth of this year.



Our planned dates for the Confirmation celebration have been moved to June 8 (7pm) at St. Bernard's and June 9 (7pm) at St. Rose of Lima.

Archbishop Dunn will celebrate the sacraments at both churches. These dates are tentative and may change based on public health restrictions. Dates for First Communion celebrations have not yet been determined and will also be dependent on public health restrictions. We look forward to the celebrations of these sacraments with the youth of our parish. Please continue to pray for these youth and their families that they experience the joy and power of the sacraments they receive. We have tried carefully to ensure names are spelled correctly and all candidates are included. Errors, however, can occur. Please contact either parish office if a correction is needed

#### **St. Bernard's Confirmation Candidates** (15)

Matti Allison Megan Bitonti Joshua Chisholm Maria Hadjipetrou Maria Kinney Trinity Miller

Alison Morse

Jordan Nicholson

Liam Nolter

Amelia Pelly Mya Pettipas

Blake Pilgrim-Edwards

Abigail Rushton
Jacqueline Steele
Claire Underhill

#### St. Rose of Lima Confirmation Candidates (20)

Grace Brown
Jack Brown
Ryan Clarke
Daphnee Doucet
Noah Doucet
Maddox George
Gabrielle Kim
Nicholas Kim
Courtney Knight
Jill Legere

Jacob MacKenzie Ronald MacKinnon Kaitlyn McQuillan Julian Morris Ava O'Carroll Lauren Peveril Danielle Poirier Dominic Sorhaindo Emma Townshend Adam White

## St. Bernard's First Eucharist (5)

Lochlann Davis Clare Foley Kieran Manthorne Bridgette Miller Sutherland Miller

## St. Rose of Lima First Eucharist (9)

Jack Campbell
Jack Downey
Peyton Kyle
Travis MacDonald
Brody MacDonald
Ronan MacNeill
Declan Madden
Aine McCormack
Zach Peyeril

We want to thank the dedicated catechists and those who helped with planning and communication. This has been a challenge for everyone involved but through dedication and prayer we have completed our programming for this year. God Bless and stay safe.

## PARISH STRUCTURE FOR SAINT ANDRE BESSETTE PARISH Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth



Named after St. Brother André of Montreal, who was canonized in 2010, our parish strives to follow the way of Jesus Christ, with an emphasis on the virtues present in the life of our parish patronal saint: hospitality, care of the sick and prayer. Our parish has three churches where we strive to fulfill this vision.

- Holy Cross Church, Middle Musquodoboit
- St. Bernard Church, Enfield
- St. Rose of Lima Church, Fall River

#### **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The Pastor has a team of parishioners with diverse gifts to assist in the day-to-day operation of the parish. The Leadership Team was appointed by the Pastor following prayer/consultation with parishioners and following the direction of the Archbishop. It meets regularly (currently bi-weekly) to discuss and plan temporal and spiritual matters and is accountable to the Pastor. The present Leadership Team is, in addition to the pastor: Shannon McDonald, Phil Francis, Elaine Morrow and Deacon Dan Bowden. The Leadership Team may establish committees responsible for matters that affect the mission of the whole parish (e.g. Care and Companionship Ministry, Communication, etc.)

#### PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

The Parish Finance Council assists the pastor with financial matters in the parish. At present it is composed of three members (one from each church) plus a Chairperson. Members are:

Mr. Pat McCarvill, Chairperson.

Howard MacDonald (St. Bernard),

Maxine Thibault (Holy Cross)

Paul Miller (St. Rose)

This committee follows the universal church law (Canon Law) and particular-law (Archdiocesan policy) for financial matters in the parish.

#### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council is a group selected from parishioners to assist the pastor in visioning the life of the parish. It assists the pastor in implementing the pastoral priorities of the Archbishop Brian Dunn, who has asked for the following four areas to receive attention going forward:

1. *Evangelization:* "What programs do we have in place? What should we work towards? Who are we trying to reach? "

- 2. *Homelessness:* "Are we close to the poor and the marginalized in our communities? Is there an opportunity to coordinate with existing programs?"
- 3. *Strengthen our Parish Identity:* "What have we learned so far? What holds us together? How can we provide an opportunity to gather information from and listen to our three church communities?
- 4. *Faith Formation:* How are our liturgies being supported? "What opportunities are we providing for learning about our faith?"

The Pastoral Council will begin its work by creating a vision and mission statement for our new parish, keeping in mind the priorities of our Archbishop. The Pastoral Council <u>does not</u> address administrative matters but focuses on the areas our parish needs to give attention in order to fulfill her mission. The implementation of the work of the Pastoral Council lies with the Leadership Team and Church Councils, in cooperation with the Finance Council. The Pastoral Council is composed of a minimum of seven members and meets four times per year. Parish Pastoral Council members will be published on the parish website when they are finalized.

#### **CHURCH COUNCILS**

Given our large parish territory (almost an hour's drive from St. Rose to Holy Cross) it makes sense for our parish to have a group of people in each church to attend to local matters. This structure is needed for us to fulfill the mission of Jesus Christ entrusted to us. We call these groups "Church Councils". They have five areas of local responsibility: Catechetics (children and adult - our goal is to work with families), Spirituality and Liturgy, Property Maintenance, Hospitality, Cemetery (for St. Bernard and Holy Cross) and Social Justice/Charity. Other committees may be structured as needed and required. The Church Councils meet on a quarterly basis. The Church Councils are accountable to the Pastor and Leadership Team. The Pastor is a member of all the Church Councils. Membership on the Church Councils will be published on the parish website once it is finalized.

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Our parish has the following employed staff persons who serve the needs of the parish in accordance with their gifts and talents in the ministries entrusted to them.

Rev. Fr. Michael J. Walsh, J.C.L., Pastor Rev. Mr. Daniel G. Bowden, Deacon (attention to the care of the sick and dying) Claire Guyette, Secretary/Finance, St. Bernard Office Linda Ferguson, Interim Secretary, St. Rose Office (Kathleen Powell is on Maternity leave until late summer in 2021) Susan Burke, Parish Bookkeeper

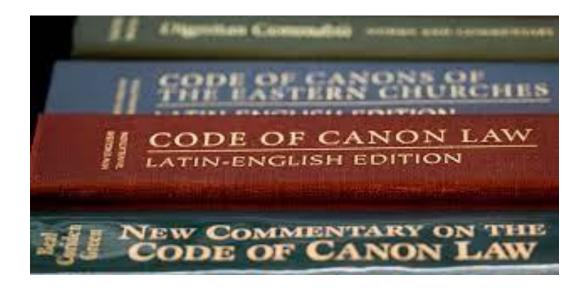
It is our hope to have a salaried person in some capacity for catechetics later this year.

This is a brief synopsis of the structures we have in our new parish of Saint André Bessette. All the groups mentioned in this letter strive to work together to build the kingdom of God in this portion of the Lord's vineyard. We will have at least one gathering per year of all groups in order to build relationships to help us work together better. Pray for us that we may be faithful to what God asks of us as his beloved children in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ in our new Parish under the patronage of St. André Bessette.

I look forward to continuing as your pastor in this new parish. May God who has begun this good work in us bring it to fulfillment.

Fr. Michael J. Walsh, JCL, Pastor

## **Q&A** with Father Michael



Recently I included an item in my weekly email called "Ask a canon lawyer?", inviting parishioners to send me questions to answer here in the Bessette Gazette. I hope to put my knowledge of the church's legal system to answer any questions you may have about the church and why we do things the way we do.

One question that came to me is in the past week: *What is a canon lawyer?* This seems like a good place to start. A canon lawyer is someone with significant knowledge about the legal system of the Catholic Church. Most canon lawyers spend 2 or 3 post-college academic years studying canon law, earning a licentiate (J.C.L.) degree. Some canonists continue their education and earn a doctoral degree (J.C.D.).

The Catholic Church has two Codes that govern her members: The 1983 Code of Canon Law and the 1990 Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches. The 1983 Code is called the Latin Code and is the law governing most Catholics. The Eastern Catholic Churches are governed by the 1990 Code. An example of an Eastern Church is the Maronite Catholic Church in Halifax.

In our Archdiocese, we have three clergy canon lawyers:

- Most Rev. Brian Dunn, who has a doctorate;
- Very Rev. Paul Morris, who has a licentiate;
- Rev. Michael Walsh, who has a licentiate.

Please send me your questions, and I will answer one per month. I hope this will be helpful to you in understanding the legal system of our beloved Church.

Rev. Michael J. Walsh, J.C.L.

Email: pastorstbroandreparish@gmail.com



If you or someone you know wishes to be remembered in prayer, please contact Anne Marie Frame (902-883-2703). Please have the permission of the person before asking to have them added to the list and remember to contact Anne Marie to remove the person from the list when the need for prayers ceases.



Winfred Baker was overjoyed with the special blessing Fr. Walsh bestowed on him last month on the occasion of his 100th birthday and all the best wishes from his many friends throughout the parish. In particular, he wishes to thank members of the St. Rose of Lima Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Women's League for the Mass dedications, cards and gifts presented to him. Mr. Baker received 109 birthday cards from family and friends from across the country!

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization whose vision is to embrace the world in a network of charity, serving Christ in the suffering, the poor, and the marginalized, bringing them love and respect, aid and development, hope and joy in a more just society. We could not fulfill our mission without the continued and generous support of the parishioners of St. Andre Bessette. Since our last report we have helped community members located in Fall River, Waverley, Wellington, Windsor Junction and Enfield with grocery gift cards, heating oil, meals on wheels as well as personal items. Giving is an important part of our faith journey and for many in our communities' food insecurity and isolation are not new. We ask for your support to help our brothers and sisters who are in need. If you know someone who could use our help, please phone 902-476-8626.

#### St. Bernard's CWL

Please note the June banquet has been postponed to September 14.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry remains active during Covid-19. If you know of someone who would be comforted by a



Prayer Shawl, please contact Marlene Underhill (902-883-8723).

We have a limited supply of "Friends Helping Friends" pins. These pins were designed by a group of ladies who wanted to help abused aboriginal women. The cost is \$15 and they make a lovely gift. If you are interested in purchasing or would like more information regarding the project, please contact Sarah White (902-883-9246) or by email (st.bernardscwl@gmail.com).

New members are always welcome. If you would like to find out more about the CWL, you are encouraged to contact our CWL President Sarah White (contact details above). Our next regular meeting will be October 5.



#### KofC Council 8387 St. Rose of Lima

**Upcoming Meeting** - The next meeting is Wednesday, June 2 at 7pm via Zoom. All members are encouraged to attend as this will be our last meeting of the fraternal year. Please check your email for meeting details.

**Spring Yard Sale** originally scheduled for May 29 has been postponed to the Fall due to the current gathering restrictions. Watch for updates regarding the new date.

During the current "circuit breaker" if you find yourself busy cleaning out your garage, shed, closets, cupboards, etc., why not donate your items for our Fall Yard Sale. Contact Francis White (902-860-1981) to arrange drop-off or pick-up of any items you wish to donate once restrictions have been lifted.

Holy Cross was finally able to host their Pancake



Brunch on Saturday, April 10 after twice postponing due to weather. In all the 32years of their Shove Tuesday Pancake Supper, this was a first one to be cancelled not once but twice! Due to Covid-19 restrictions it was

decided to host a brunch where people called their orders in advance and enjoyed curb-side pickup. We had lots of orders and happy customers who enjoyed a take-out brunch of pancakes, sausages, homemade baked beans, biscuits and cake. All in all, the "brunch" format was a great success. Thanks to our volunteers for their patience and for making the Brunch such a success.

#### DISCOVERING THE MISSION & THE MINISTRY OF POPE FRANCIS

Wednesday evenings from May 5 to June 9, Fr. Owen Connolly is hosting a six-week discovery session on the teachings of Pope Francis. During the past eight years of his Pontificate, Pope Francis has been striving to bring the Gospel to each and every member of the Church. Holiness, he says, is not reserved for a select few but is, rather, a call that comes to us through our baptism, in which we are all called to witness to holiness by simply living the Gospel. Pope Francis speaks about the "Saints next door", all the people whom we encounter, who too have been touched by the Spirit. We will begin a six-week study into the Pope's Works, specifically "The call to holiness in today's world"; "the Joy of the Gospel" and his latest in response to the pandemic, "Let us dream!". Fr. Owen will facilitate these sessions and copies of these letters may be obtained by calling Veritas Catholic Bookstore at 902-429-7216. These sessions will be online on the Good Shepherd Parish Facebook or YouTube page. No need to register, just tune in on Wednesday evenings.



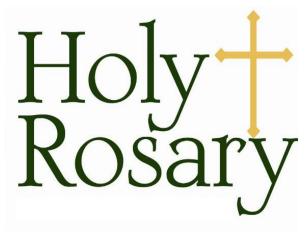


## RiverLakes Syrian Refugee Project

The RiverLake Syrian Refugee Project (Oakfield to Waverley) is a community-based team intent on sponsoring Syrian refugee families and bringing them to Nova Scotia to start a new life of possibilities. The RiverLakes Christian community (which includes St. John's United, St. Thomas Anglican and St. Rose of Lima) were actively involved in sponsoring the Baroud family (Wassem, Nour, Huda, Bodi and Leen) who arrived in 2017. More recently, this group sponsored Nour Baroud's brother, Hala Ibraheem, and his family to come to Canada. While originally approved to arrive in early 2020, their arrival was delayed by several months due to the pandemic. The great news is the Ibraheem family finally arrived in Halifax in October. They are thriving in their new home in Clayton Park and are all so grateful to be reunited with Nour and her family. Hala and Ahmad are taking regular ASL classes on-line and the boys, Hasan and Ghaith, are doing exceptionally well and have enrolled in soccer through the Jump Start program.

Because the family's arrival was delayed by 8 months, an additional \$9,000 in expenses had to be paid for rent, insurance and utilities on an empty apartment. This meant eating into the funds that had been originally raised to cover housing, food and other basic needs until the sponsorship ends in November 2021. Although the volunteers and our faith communities have been working diligently to fundraise (mostly through on-line events) to help recover the funds, it has been difficult to reach our goal due to the COVID restrictions these past several months.

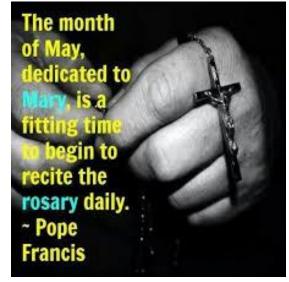
If you would like to help with the funding shortfall, your contribution of any amount would be gratefully accepted, and charitable tax receipts will be provided. Cheques can be mailed directly to: Parish of St. Thomas Refugee Account, 3534 Highway #2, Fall River, NS, B2T 1H7. If you would like details to make an e-transfer, please contact Pat Clahane (patclahane@gmail.com).

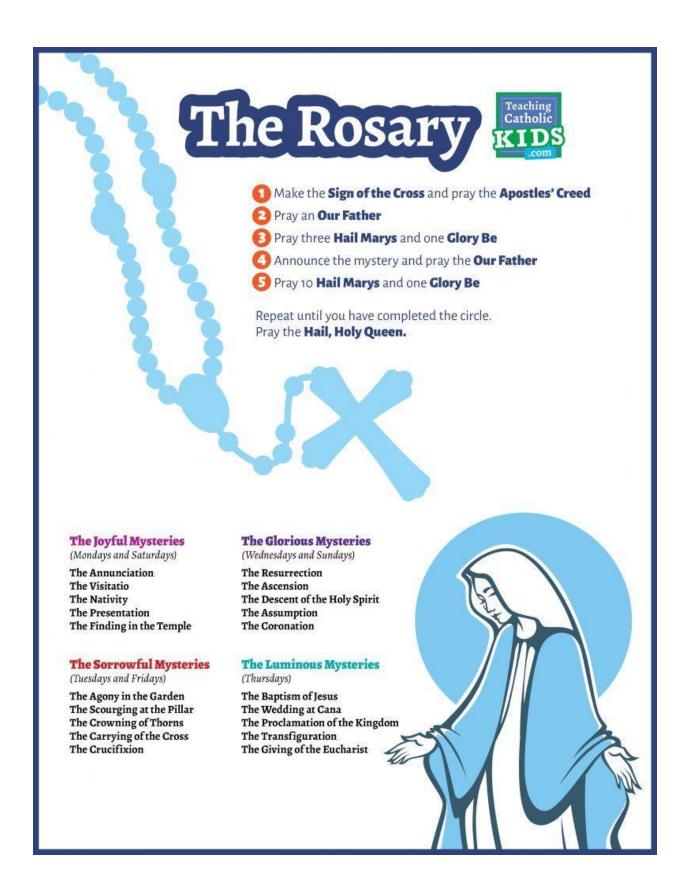


Meditation has become a popular practice in recent times, and our faith has - for many years - provided us with a beautiful and traditional form of meditation in the prayers of the Rosary. You can pray alone or with a family or group. You can pray for specific intentions for each decade. There are many resources online for images and music to use while praying the rosary as well. Let's revive this practice and do our own style of meditation, Catholic style!

Here is a brief history and explanation of this quiet and meditative prayer, which we traditionally associate with the month of May - the month of Mothers.

- The Rosary has been a major influence in Roman Catholic thought for over 500 years while paving the way for a greater understanding of the mystery of Christ celebrated within family prayer.
- The historical development of the Rosary begins with the desert fathers (monks) and their need to find a system to ease their laborious and repetitive prayer life.
- It is generally agreed by scholars that a system for counting repetitive prayers began with the Hindus some nine centuries before Christ. Prayer counters such as rocks, sticks or notches in wood were employed to ensure that the proper number of prayers were recited. Over time, counters and psalms were united into a "three groups of fifty" format so that "fifties" could be used for personal and/or penitential prayer.
- The fifteenth century saw the Rosary begin its development into the familiar prayer form we know today.
  - The *Our Father* came intact from the Gospel of Matthew.
  - The Hail Mary developed from the scriptural greetings of Gabriel to Elizabeth to Mary in Luke's Gospel.
  - The *Glory Be* was used as a common doxology from the earliest of Christian times when praying the psalms.
  - The Hail Holy Queen, a later addition to the Rosary, states all relevant medieval themes about the Blessed Virgin Mary.
  - The Apostles' Creed (along with the rosary pendant) were also later developments, being added to the Rosary only in the early seventeenth century.
- Popes John XXIII and Paul VI introduced new teachings on the Rosary while continuing the teachings of their predecessors. For Pope John, the rosary was the universal prayer for all the redeemed.







**BEACON HOUSE** has been helping individuals and families facing financial hardship since 1985. We are operated by a registered charity, *Beacon House Interfaith Society* - a collaboration of churches in Sackville, Fall River, Bedford and Hammonds Plains. Guided by a volunteer Board of Directors with representatives from each of the member churches, the mission is to provide food, clothing and programs for those in need in a caring and compassionate manner.

Beacon House operates a Food Bank and a Retail Thrift Store at 470 Cobequid Road, Sackville. Additional programs offered include: Back-to-School Supplies, Christmas Hampers, Winter Coat Program and Retail Store Vouchers for clothing and household items. Beacon House is a member agency of Feed Nova Scotia.

The Food Bank is open five days a week. Clients can visit the Food Bank once a month and receive a 5-day supply of food based on family size. In partnership with St. Vincent de Paul Society, food can be delivered to those who are unable to travel to the Food Bank due to health or transportation issues.

A food order typically includes protein, fruits and vegetables, cereal, margarine, eggs, canned goods, pasta and coffee as well as snacks for school-age children. Beacon House receives its food from Feed Nova Scotia, food rescue initiatives, individual/church donations and community food drives. Using income from its Retail Store and monetary donations, we are also able to purchase some food items.

Clothing and household donations are sold in the adjacent Retail Thrift Store (open to the public). Acceptable donations are posted on the **Donate** tab on our website. Donated items that are unacceptable require disposal at a cost of \$23,000+ annually to us – funds that could be used for food purchases.

Beacon House depends on a collective community functioning through the many dedicated volunteers in the Retail Store and the Food Bank. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit <a href="https://beaconhousens.org">https://beaconhousens.org</a>, Applications can be printed and returned to the facility or completed on-line.

Beacon House is not funded by any government sources and sustains itself through sales in the Retail Store, donations from churches, community groups, school groups, private individuals and partnered local corporations in food rescue projects. Monetary donations can be made by clicking the blue **Donate Now** button.

The Food Bank at Beacon House is considered an essential service and has been open throughout the pandemic. A list of items most needed is updated on the website monthly. Our Beacon House parish representative is Karen Creelman. Please contact her at 902-860-2421 or <a href="mailto:kcreelman@eastlink.ca">kcreelman@eastlink.ca</a> for further information.



#### **CURRENT TOP 10 ITEMS:**

- CANNED FRUIT
- MIRACLE WHIP
- PEANUT BUTTER
- WHOLE GRAIN CEREAL
- NUT-FREE GRANOLA BARS
- CANNED MEAT
- CANNED BEANS IN TOMATO SAUCE
- KRAFT DINNER
- CRACKERS



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

## PARSONS WOOD PRODUCTS LTD

## **FIREWOOD**



~FULL CORD GUARANTEED
~CUT, SPLIT & DELIVERED
~HAND STACKED IN OUR TRUCKS

384-3347(Sue)

Paul B. Miller Law Office Inc.

20 Foster Avenue Fall River, Nova Scotia Canada B2T 1E7

Paul B. Miller, BA, MBA, LLB Barrister & Solicitor c 902.497.0400n 902.861.3908

E pbmlaw@eastlink.ca



#### **Bill Horne MLA**



FALL RIVER WAVERLEY BEAVERBANK

Phone: 902-576-3411 billhornemla@gmail.com WWW.BILLHORNE.CA



Dr. Shannon Coffin - Dr. Christopher Lerner

902-883-1353 www.elmsdalechiro.com

Chiropractic Care for Adults and Children



Serving Your Area for 40 Years

"When Your Plumbing is in a Hassle Call ... CASTLE"

Lee Castle 21 Holland Road Fall River, Hfx. Co., N.S. B2T 1J3 Phone 860-1640 Fax 860-0270 Cell 497-6240

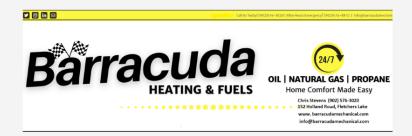
leecastleplumbing@ns.aliantzinc.ca

#### **CIVIL CONSTRUCTION SOLOUTIONS**

Infrasturcture Renewal Consultants

Francis White (902) 860-1981 civilconstructionsolut@gmail.com

Trouble shooting & risk mitigation specialists





## **Maritime Cremation Centre**

(902) 252-6767

Toll free 1-833-252-6767

www.maritimecremation.ca

67 Temple Terrace, Lower Sackville



Wayne Robson
Ascon Paving & Concrete
Lawrencetown, NS

Estimates@ASCONpaving.com

(902) 440-3434

www.asconpaving.com



## Proud Supporter of Saint Rose of Lima Church

A message from your friends at



902-864-1434 atlanticfuneralhomes.com/sackville

Arbor Memorial Inc.



902-468-9800 https://www.gualityconcrete.ca/



Glenn Geddes (902) 860-1746 glenmar@eastlink.ca www.glenmarheating.com





COUNCILLOR CATHY DEAGLE GAMMON DISTRICT 1 Fall River - Waverley - Musquodoboit Valley Phone: 902.717.2718 Cathy.deaglegammon@halifax.ca

Halifax Regional Municipality PO Box 1749 Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

HΛLIFΛX

halifax.ca

311



#### J. R. Eisener Contracting Limited

35 Perrin Drive Fall River, Nova Scotia B2T 1J6

## Jack Eisener, P. Eng.

Tel: (902) 860-0477 Fax: (902) 860-2918 Cell: (902) 476-7770 Email: jack@frecl.com

Website: www.jrecl.com

Installation Contractors for





#### Darrell Samson Member of Parliament

Main office - Fall River 2900 Highway 2 Suite 2nd Floor Fall River, Nova Scotia B2T 1W4

Telephone: 902-861-2311 Fax: 902-861-4620

Email: Darrell.Samson@parl.gc.ca