

Weekday & Sunday Mass Schedules & Mass Intentions for the week of Jan. 15- Jan. 21

Mon. Jan. 15 & Tues. Jan. 16	St. Anthony's 6:30pm	
Wed. Jan. 17	St. Augustine's 9:00am	
Thursday Jan. 18	St. Augustine's 9:00am	Garth Murray & Robbie Murphy (Healing)
Saturday Jan. 20	St. Patrick's 4:00pm	
Sunday Jan. 21	St. Augustine's 9:00am St. Anthony's 11:00am	Pro populo Betty Mantin – requested by Ron & Jackie O'Flaherty

Sunday School - St. Augustine's Sunday School program will begin classes for the winter term today, Sunday, January 14th. Students will meet at the Chester Glebe following the 9am Mass. If there are any parents interested in our catechetical program or who have questions regarding Sacramental preparation please contact Jennifer Paterson at 902-275-4427.

Steubenville Atlantic Draw Deadline -It's hard to think about summer when you're scraping ice off your car every morning... but it's coming! Steubenville Atlantic 2018 will be here before you know it, so don't wait to start a group! **For every participant spot purchased by January 31, 2018 you will be entered in a draw to win a free youth night for your group!** This includes supplies, snacks, and (if desired) support from an experienced youth minister. This is a great way to bring your youth together to prepare for the conference, or to give them a chance to re-unite afterward. Steubenville Atlantic is our annual high school youth conference, held this year **July 6-8, 2018** at Dalhousie University. All registration is done online at www.steubenville.ca. **Need help? Not sure where to start or whether this is right for you?** Contact Elizabeth at (902) 429-9800 ext 311 or ecraig@halifaxarmouth.org for more information!

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 14, 2018

*St. Augustine's Parish, Chester
St. Anthony's, Hubbards & St. Patrick's, New Ross*



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Collection for Jan. 7 – Envelopes - \$1624.00; Loose - \$91.75 –
Total - \$1715.75

“Come and see.”(Jn 1:39)

If we ask God to speak to us in Christ, if we wish to abide with him, he simply tells us to follow, to look, and to hear.

Should we do so, however, all things will look different.

Paul does not let us escape this fact. In the transforming mission of Jesus, even our bodies will look different. If God can inhabit human flesh, it cannot be made for immorality. If our bodies are temples of God, we must not desecrate them. They are, Paul says, the very glory of God.

This is difficult for us today. How dare someone tell us “You are not your own”? We pride ourselves on autonomy. Our bodies are our property, there for our use or abuse, our pleasure or management, ours to begin or end at will.

We heed a different voice. And we look at the human body as a temple, transformed by the eyes of faith.

And yet the body is a big problem for us, whether we want to admit it or not. Even the late, great psychologist Abraham Maslow, no churchy or Pauline preacher to say the least, warned us of the body’s degradation in our time. In his essay “Self-actualization and Beyond,” what he said of youth could be said of all of us:

[They] have learned to reduce the person to the concrete object and to refuse to see what he might be or to refuse to see him in his symbolic values or to refuse to see him or her eternally. [They] have desacralized sex, for example. Sex is nothing; it is a natural thing, and they have made it so natural that it has lost its poetic qualities in many instances, which means that it has lost practically everything. Self-actualization means giving up this defense mechanism and learning or being taught to resacralize.

Say what we may about the differing meanings for “fornication” in the first century and our own, try as we might to deflate Paul’s challenge as a form of Manichaeism and rejection of the body, the practice of human sexuality in contemporary culture is in no way worthy of a temple.

Familiar statistics reveal that more than one-half of our youth have had intercourse by the age of seventeen, and half of their pregnancies end in abortion. Births to unmarried teens rose 200 percent between 1960 and 1980. Chlamydia, genital warts, herpes, gonorrhea, and syphilis have increased, despite the doubling of condom use among teenagers in the last ten years. Stories of sexual violence against women and the abuse of children fill our network news and our newspapers. One estimate is that a woman is raped every six minutes in the United States. One of the most frequently used words for women in low rap music on MTV was the same that once rarely was heard applied to a female dog. And the September 1992 Vogue magazine featured

a sleazy article called “Chain Reactions” about sadism-photographer Helmut Newton with a gaudy photograph of a topless, bound woman, nipples pierced, pointing a gun to her head. A caption read, “Making a virtue out of vice.”

Maslow would wince.

St. Paul, for his part, has already advised us: We are called to a different way. We heed a different voice. And we look at the human body as a temple, transformed by the eyes of faith.

John Kavanaugh, SJ

A note from Fr. Jose....

Mission Trip to Sierre Leone - Ben John, one of our parishioners from St. Anthony’s, is the Executive Director and Founder of Help 2 Overcome (www.help2overcome.org). H2O is a Registered Canadian based charity. Ben has travelled to Sierre Leone to build washrooms in schools. Ben plans to travel this year in May to build a washroom for 320 girls in a girls’ school. The girls currently do not have a washroom and have to attend school daily knowing that they would have to make use of the forest to relieve themselves. They are constantly subjected to sexual abuse, rape and possible death. Please let me know if you would be interested in joining myself and Ben on this Mission trip to help him construct this washroom for the girls. We want to also directly engage with the school with assisting the teachers with books, stationery, etc. An information session/meeting is scheduled for January 18 at 6:30pm at the Glebe. Please email Ben at benjohn@help2overcome.org or myself at josephthomas15@gmail.com should you be interested in the mission or if you have any questions.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees: January 14th, 2018 -The theme chosen by Pope Francis for the upcoming World Day of Migrants and Refugees is “Welcoming, protecting, promoting, and integrating migrants and refugees.” Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (Matthew 25:35-43).” Our Archdiocesan ministry of refugee sponsorship, a concrete expression of compassion and respect for the fundamental dignity of every human person, has continued to grow exponentially since its inception decades ago. We would like to take this time to celebrate the accomplishments of our parishes, to welcome and explore new opportunities for participation, and to give thanks for the many contributions from volunteers, dedication from sponsors, and the newly arrived refugees in our country that make the ministry of refugee sponsorship possible.

