



This Month in the Diocese

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Giving thanks for family, home and finding the time!

Between school, soccer, and work, the David family (from left, Jaden, Morgan, Carla, Jeremy, James and Jensen) of Our Lady of Assumption Parish in Arichat makes every moment together count, especially when Jeremy is home from working in Alberta. We give thanks they made time to gather for our photo, and wish everyone a blessed Thanksgiving and autumn season.



In Our World
Federal Election Day is Oct. 19: are you ready?
The Synod on the Family is meeting in Rome Oct.4-25. Want to know more?
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A new chapter
Donna Luedey came to work for the Diocese for 5 weeks. Eleven years later, she has retired from the Emmaus Centre.
Read her reflections on a decade with the diocese on Page 2.

A new season
Mass for Shut-Ins begins its 53rd season on Oct. 18 under the direction of Fr. Patrick O'Neill. Learn more of this valuable outreach on Page 3.

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We welcome your ideas and comments!
Contact Jennifer Hatt, Communications Officer: jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca
Or visit our website: www.antigonishdiocese.com



A new chapter

Newly-retired Emmaus Centre manager reflects on a decade of diocesan work and her new life ahead

By Jennifer Hatt
Communications Officer

Donna Luedey came for a five-week work term, and stayed for 11 years. She came to work for the Diocese of Antigonish in the midst of a career change. The former bank employee had returned to school, and was taking Information Technology at Nova Scotia Community College. While searching for a work placement to complete her course, she discovered the Pastoral Centre could use some part-time help, and the match was made.

"I went in as a worker bee," Donna said. "The bookstore was one job. I worked wherever there was a need." Following the end of her work term, Donna returned for vacation fill-ins. When a full-time job became available, she was ready and eager to step in.

At the time she started, the Emmaus Centre was The Resource Room, and the Pastoral Centre was in downtown Sydney. "What we did then, like we do now, is sell and loan materials to the catechetical program, as well as formation programs and preparation for the sacraments," she explained. When the property was sold, she oversaw the move of the Resource Room's inventory to its current location in Sydney Mines. "There were boxes and boxes to unpack and sort," she recalled, adding with her customary cheerfulness: "We got it done."

The move brought a couple of changes. In addition to the new location, inventory was reduced and an order-on-demand system was introduced to reduce costs. "There aren't a lot of walk-in customers now," she said, "and I started doing a lot of deliveries, for our older customers."

What hasn't changed are the busy seasons and the demand for quality gifts, books, and teaching resources that explore and celebrate our Roman Catholic faith. Sacramental seasons are the busiest, Donna recalled, and the Emmaus Centre would close to the public in the summer to prepare for the start of catechism in September. Donna's daily routine expanded over the years from a steady stream of mail orders to include email and phone orders as well. The loan program was also very active, she said, and in response, the centre over the years built both a significant children's library and a collection for adult learners. And in this age of on-line shopping, many customers still prefer to deal with the Emmaus Centre. "They like the personal touch," she said.

Her favourite part of the job? "Talking to people, either when they visited the centre or when I was making deliveries, the computer work, the mailouts ... I love it all," she said. "I am going to miss it, but the time has come to retire. After all," she chuckled, "I can't work forever."

Donna's last day was Sept. 29. How will she fill the pages of this new chapter of life? "I like exercise class. Maybe do some dancing, too." She is also looking forward to spending more time with family, including her seven grandchildren. "Three of them live in Nova Scotia, and the rest live in Ontario and Calgary," she said. "It will be nice to have time to spend with them."



A New Season

Mass for Shut Ins on Sunday, Oct. 18 will launch the 53rd season for this landmark show, and the first for new producer Rev. Patrick O’Neill.

In his 11 years as a parish priest in Cape Breton (four at his current parish, St. Joseph’s in North Sydney), Fr. Patrick was a celebrant at least annually on the program. As for his new role behind and in front of the camera? “It’s exciting,” he says. “It’s also gratifying to be part of something that is so well-established and so well-run.” As producer Fr. Patrick will coordinate operations, oversee liturgy, and introduce the show on air each week. Working with him is a team of volunteers, some of whom have been involved with the show for years. Broadcast from the CTV Atlantic studios in Sydney, some shows are aired live, others are taped the Tuesday before, depending on schedules of participating celebrants and groups. More than a half-century after its debut, viewers of all ages, both Catholic and non-Catholic, are tuning in from across the Atlantic region, Ontario, and Florida.

Mass for Shut Ins airs Sundays 11:30 a.m. on CTV. Here is this year’s schedule so far:

October 18: Antigonish 4th Degree KOC with Fr. Paul Abbass

October 25: Our Lady of Fatima CWL, Sydney with Fr. Duaine Devereaux

November 1: St. Joseph Parish in Port Hawkesbury with Fr. Conrad Edwards

November 8: St. Ninian Liturgy Committee, Antigonish with a presider to be named

November 15: St. Leonard CWL with Fr. Patrick O’Neill

November 22: St. Vincent de Paul Society with Fr. Duaine Devereaux

November 29: Moses Coady KOC with Fr. Albert Maroun

April 17: Vocation Committee

Remaining Sundays are available for booking, which can be done by contacting Darlene Stephenson at the Pastoral Centre, phone 902-539-6188 or email

darlene@dioceseofantigonish.ca.

Upcoming Events

World Mission Sunday

Oct. 18

A day to celebrate the lives of service given by missionaries around the world

www.missionsocieties.ca

Benefit Concert for St. Mary’s Polish Church rebuilding fund

Sunday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m., United Heritage Church, Sydney

Featuring St. Mary’s Polish Church, CB Chordsmen and others. Admission by donation.

www.stmaryspolishparish.ca

New Beginnings Retreat Weekend

Mabou, Oct. 23-25

Is a program of sharing and healing for persons who are separated, divorced, or in bereavement. Contact Ron Currie, ph (902) 564-0788



In our World

Election Day Oct. 19, 2015: Are You Ready?

If you're still comparing promises made by the various federal candidates or discerning who should receive your vote, the **2015 Election Guide** from the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops may help. Issued by the CCCB's Commission for Justice and Peace, the guide focuses on respect for life and the dignity of the human person, social justice, the family, world peace, and the environment, and lists some basic principles from Catholic moral and social teaching to help voters analyze and evaluate public policies and programs. Also available is a guide prepared by Development and Peace. Both guides are found on the CCCB website.

In English: <http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/media-room/4243-guide-for-2015-federal-election>

en français: <http://www.cccb.ca/site/frc/salle-de-presse/4243-guide-des-elections-federales-de-2015>

On Care for our Common Home

is a series of workshops facilitated by the Social Justice Committee of the Diocese to deepen our knowledge of Catholic social teaching

Workshop 2: Taking Action on Climate Change will take place

Saturday, Oct. 17, 10-11:30 a.m., just before Election Day.

Workshops will be held at St. Ninian's Place, Antigonish and the KOC Building, Sydney River

For more information, contact Fr. Paul McGillivray, paulmcg@ns.sympatico.ca

Workshops are also planned for Nov. 7 and 28.

Synod of the Family: Oct. 4-25, 2015

"The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and the Contemporary World" is the theme of the 14th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops now under way in Rome. The synod brings together 270 Synod Fathers, 18 lay couples, two priests and 13 persons in consecrated life for discussions and prayer.

To follow the proceedings:

In English:

<http://saltandlighttv.org/>

<http://www.cccb.ca/site/eng/media-room/announcements/4303-synod-on-the-family-2015>

en français:

<http://seletlumieretv.org/>

<http://www.cccb.ca/site/frc/salle-de-presse/annonces/4303-synode-sur-la-famille-2015>