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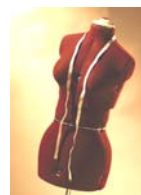
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*Best alterations in Metro.  
Done fast for Christmas and New Year's.*



And also for sale: wedding gowns, mother of the bride, suits for the groom and ring bearer. Graduation dresses and suits.

**Present his ad and receive 10% off on your next visit!**

## Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society

2267 Brunswick Street, Halifax, NS B3K 2Y9

902.429.4170 (p)

902.461.0744 (f)

www.givesaintpatrickahand.com

givesaintpatrickahand@ns.aliantzinc.ca

## Quarterly Report

Volume 2 Number 1

September 2011

### Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society

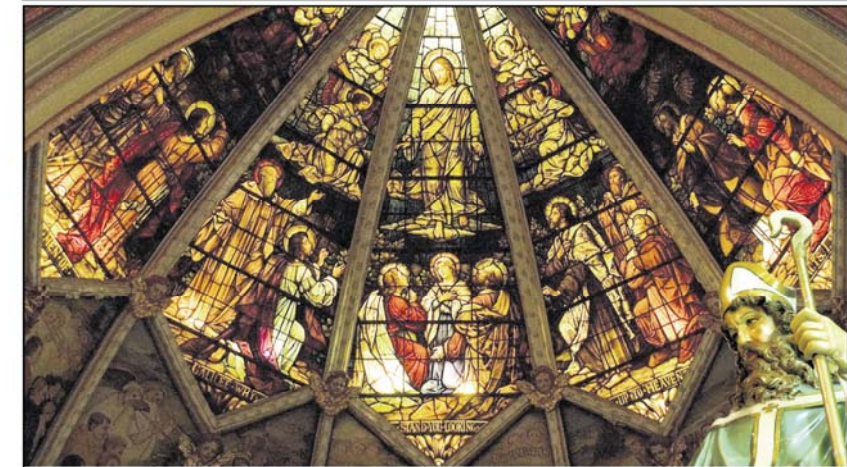
## Fifth Annual Dinner & Auction

World Trade & Convention Centre, Halifax

Friday, October 22nd, 2011

Reception 6:00

Dinner 7:30



*Please join us for the induction of  
Monsignor A.R. Donahoe (1885-1945)  
into the Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society's  
Hall of Honour*

Tickets \$100.  
Table of 10 \$1000.  
(Partial tax receipts available)  
84454 1953 RR0001

Options	Cost	Tax Receipt
Supporter	\$100.	\$100.
Sponsor	\$2,000.	\$1,470.

Visa, Mastercard or cheque  
Mail, call or email to order:

**902-429-4170**

**Sponsorship gives you:**  
A table for 10 guests (value \$1,000.)  
A Tax receipt of \$1470.

**Supporter and Sponsorship gives you:**  
Prominent listing in the program  
Donor recognition 12 month website listing  
Public acknowledgement at the dinner  
Corporate Signage at dinner  
Our sincere gratitude



# Upcoming Events

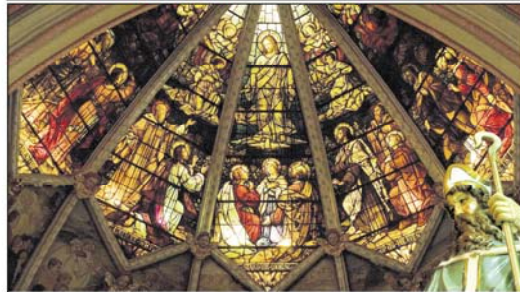
For tickets or information on our upcoming events, please call the office at 429-4170, or e-mail givesaintpatrickahand@ns.aliantzinc.ca. Payment can be made by cash, cheque, Visa or MasterCard. Cheques should be payable: Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society.

## October 22 - Evening - Annual Dinner

### Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society

## Fifth Annual Dinner & Auction

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Friday, October 22nd, 2011  
Reception 6:00 Dinner 7:30



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Our sincere gratitude

## October 30 Noon Open House

Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society  
warmly invites you to an



**OPEN HOUSE**  
12 Noon, Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>



Celebrate with us the official opening of the

**Hall of Honour  
&  
The Halifax Explosion Irish Interpretation Centre**

Everyone Welcome!

Complementary Coffee, tea, & muffins will be available.

Saint Patrick's Church, 2263 Brunswick Street, Halifax, NS  
429-4170 or email: givesaintpatrickahand@ns.aliantzinc.ca

## October 30 - Evening - Scott Macmillan

Scott Macmillan  
2011 'Musician of the Year' Music NS nominee  
presents  
"Within Sight of Shore"  
&  
"Currents of Sable Island"



An evening of music and live painting  
featuring:  
Composer/Guitarist, **Scott Macmillan**.  
Soprano Soloist, **Laurel Browne**.  
Visual Performance Artist, **Holly Carr**.  
Screening of Ian Macmillan's documen-  
tary "Within Sight of Shore"

Sunday October 30th 2011  
St. Patrick's Church,  
2267 Brunswick St.  
Hfx. NS

Documentary Screening at 6pm  
Concert starts at 7:30pm  
Sandwiches & light refreshments  
will be served at the screening.

Admission:  
\$25 for film & concert  
\$20 for concert only

Tickets at the door or by calling 902.429.4170 or  
902.455.6325 www.scott-macmillan.ca



## November 4 - Evening - Bobby Arvon



Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society  
is pleased to present

"Livin' the Happy Days"

Starring

**Bobby Arvon**

as heard on TV's

"Happy Days Theme Song"

with the  
Mike Cowie Orchestra

Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 pm at 2263 Brunswick Street  
(including after show reception Cash Bar)

Tickets \$20

Concert Sponsorship available \$500.00 (includes a 6pm  
deluxe lobster dinner for 4 people, 4 VIP seats for the concert & CD)

Saint Patrick's Church, 2263 Brunswick Street, Halifax, N.S.  
For Tickets call 902-429-4170 or email: givesaintpatrickahand@ns.aliantzinc.ca

# Call In, Write In, Email Campaign We NEED Your Help!

## Joseph Purcell, Artist

The following are excerpts from the Speaking Notes for The Honourable Wilfred P. Moore, Q.C., LL. D., at the ceremony Honouring Joseph Purcell, Artist. The ceremony was held at Saint Patrick's Church, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sunday, 17 April 2011.

It is an honour and a privilege for me to participate in this celebration of the talent and works of Joseph Purcell - incomparable artist, painter of our maritime life and my friend.

In the time allotted I shall attempt to give you a snapshot of the lengthy, remarkable Joseph Purcell saga. Born in Halifax in 1927, Joe's artistic talent was evident in his early years. While still a teenager Joe exhibited his paintings with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and the Nova Scotia Society of Artists. As a teen he made the first sale of one of his paintings - to Wallace R. MacAskill, the late famous Nova Scotian maritlyme photographer. That was followed with sales of some of his early works to the Nova Scotia Museum and the Nova Scotia Archives.

While on 18 years old, Joe received his first commission. It was from Canadian National Railways, then owner of the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel in Halifax. At CNR's request, Joe painted three fabulous 19-foot murals in the hotel, and they can be seen today on the second floor - two in the Lunenburg Room and one in the Commonwealth Room Alcove.

Joe attended the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax. One of his classmates and a close friend was the late Jack Gray, a noted painter of maritime life in his own right. Together Joe and Jack polished their innate talents, living in fishing communities, sailing in fishing schooners, and speaking and "socializing" with many of those coastal folk, all the while sketching and painting scenes of our traditional maritime life. Those experiences cemented Joe's love for the sea and those men who toil for their livelihood on it, and it led to his settling in Lunenburg.

Speaking of NSCAD, another student at that time was one Cecilia Monaghan, affectionately known as "Tela". Upon meeting Tela at an exhibition of his artworks Joe was smitten. Romance budded and they married a year later on June 5, 1950 - Joe 21, Tela 17 1/2 years. Through her dedicated work Tela became an outstanding watercolourist. The parents of five bright and talented children, and many canvasses later, Joe and Tela have become Nova Scotia's premier painting couple.

Back to Joe and his accomplishments. In 1950 he placed second in the O'Keefe Art Awards, a national painting competition. That year Seagram Distilleries of Montreal commissioned a "Cities of Canada" collection and Joe was the artist selected to do the painting of the City of Halifax. That collection toured the major cities of the world.

The years that followed saw Joe's career blossom as his paintings were acquired by individuals, schools, public buildings and churches. The list of corporate collectors of Joe's works reads like the Top 100 of the Toronto Stock Exchange. His paintings have also been presented to heads of state and members of The Royal Family.

Joseph Purcell, the artist, husband, father and twinkle-eyed Irish character, is also a devout Christian and believer in God. It is therefore most appropriate that this event is taking place on Palm Sunday. The Purcell Gallery in Lunenburg has a side room which contains an old-fashioned barber's chair - red leather and all.

Guests could sit in that great chair while listen to Joe's pontifications. During one of our conversations in his Lunenburg gallery, Joe remarked about the human hand and human foot - all the bits and pieces that make up those two body parts, and how they work so perfectly. "Only a Perfect Master could create such perfection" he said. I am sure that his deep belief and love of mercy motivated and fortified Joe as he painted his religious words in numerous churches, including St. Agnes Church in Halifax, St. Peter's in Dartmouth and overhead in his beloved Saint Patrick's.

It is surely clear to all the Joe is a most worthy and deserved recipient of the Queen Elizabeth the IInd Golden Jubilee Medal, which was awarded to him in 2002 in recognition of his artistic creativity and generosity.

In closing, I wish to thank the Saint Patrick's Church Restoration Society for convening today's event. This is a much-deserved celebration of Joseph Purcell, the artist, and our friend. I regret that health challenges have kept Joe from being with us today. However, the good Tela is here, and I'd ask Tela to come forward and receive on Joe's behalf a Certificate of Congratulation from The Senate of Canada.

# Joseph Purcell - Art

## The Joseph Purcell Murals

By Tele Purcell

The Joseph Purcell Murals, painting 1951, are located above the high altar at Saint Patrick's Church. Tele Purcell prepared this commentary on the murals in April 2011.

On the far right of the large arches, Joe has shown the miraculous appearance of the Holy Mother Mary to three devoted shepherd children. She appeared many times, asked the children to pray. Mary gave them three messages, not to be revealed at that time. She warned of a coming, terrible war and asked that people turn back to God and Godly ways.

PRAY FOR PEACE WAS AN ESSENTIAL OF HER MESSAGE AT FATIMA IN 1971. The Catholic Church, cautious about claims of visions, did recognize the Miracles at Fatima as authentic. Thousands of people followed the children as they were apparently spoken to and as they queried Holy MARY about her wishes.

Next we see a depiction of the risen Christ. The tomb is opened, and nearby Roman guards and others are dumbstruck or asleep. The belief that Jesus rose from the dead is a cornerstone of Christian faith.

THE PANEL IN THE CENTER HAS THE FIGURE OF CHRIST CRUCIFIED. His mother, Mary and Mary Magdalene stand with him at the foot of the cross. They and John the Apostle, have the courage and love to remain, while the sky darkens and Jesus dies, the terror stricken people flee the scene.

I cannot say with certainty, but this next scene appears to represent Jesus choosing Peter. "Thou art Peter and upon this rock, I will build my Church", is the quotation we have always heard. Peter will lead the apostles and preach the gospel of forgiveness and love among all the people.

THE NATIVITY OF JESUS is the happy scene on the far right. The young mother and babe are watched over by Mary's husband, Joseph, while shepherds approach in awe and adoration. Angelic hosts have heralded the birth, and Gabriel has announced "Behold I bring you tidings of great joy".

In the interstices above, Jesus is shown seated at the right hand of the Father, God. As you might expect, there are seraphim and cherubim, angels hovering in heaven. On the left Joe has shown some of the faithful and members of religious orders dressed in their habits of earlier times. WE SEE SAINT PATRICK BRINGING THE CHRISTIAN CROSS TO THE CELTIC PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

I SPECULATE WHEN I SAY THAT in another panel, SOME OF THE ROBED FIGURES WOULD BE THE FATHERS, THE DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH, KNOWN POPES, THEOLOGIANS. FOUNDERS OF MONASTIC ORDERS, PERHAPS SAINT AUGUSTINE, AND/OR THOMAS AQUINAS.

Joseph was trying to show a tapestry of history, the beginnings of one of the world's great faiths from the time of Jesus, and coming closer to modern times. I hope it would not be inappropriate for me to state the obvious, that this Saint Patrick's Church, rescued, restored, continues to provide and live out the gospel message of brotherly love and acceptance. Tradition lives here and grows to meet the present aspirations and needs of many people. Thank you to all who make this happen. And thank you for the privilege of being here with you. Joe would thank you too if he were well enough.

A little p.s. note, Joe and I were married here as were his parents and I think, his Grandparents. My sister Libby, Elizabeth and her husband, Ray, were also blessed to be married in Saint Patrick's Church.