



# Deacons in ACTION



Volume 3 | Number 1 | Autumn 2023

## *Celebrating Our Diaconate*

As the leaves bloomed into a rich variety of colours, we as Deacons began to prepare for a new season of service in our threefold ministry. Like the leaves, we are also continuing to grow and bloom in our humble ministries. It is through the ongoing support of our diaconate community and especially our wives and family, that we are able to be the presence of Christ in the lives of our brothers and sisters. Our newsletter focuses on some of the activities that our wives and fellow deacons participated in over the past few months.

**Deacon Berkley Guthro**

### *Banner Photo:*

Deacon Art Riley was in England earlier this year to meet his newest great-great-grandson, Jaxon. Shown here are five generations of a family tree begun in 1959.

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## Community Work with the Northside Gals

By Doreen Lewis



**A recent gathering of the Northside Gals, community-minded women working together to make a difference**

Hi, my name is Doreen Lewis. I am Deacon David Lewis's wife. While David continues to be very busy with the church and community, I decided to do my own Community work. I became a member of the Northside gals, a women's group that help our community.

I am very proud to be a member. We are a community of women made up of special people who go the extra mile to make things happen. Our primary purpose is to help others in need. We are community-minded women looking to make an impact in our community.

Together we hopefully made a differences in our community by helping with fundraising, a Pre-grading Day party, Back to School party, Halloween party, and Christmas party for kids and parents. We also had six raised garden boxes made for a seniors complex. My most favorite event I was involved in was a Pre-Christmas party for kids. We donated gifts and had tables of the gifts for the kids to pick from. They paid two dollars, and picked out presents for their parents and grandparents which we wrapped for them. If you could see the smiles on their faces, it was priceless.

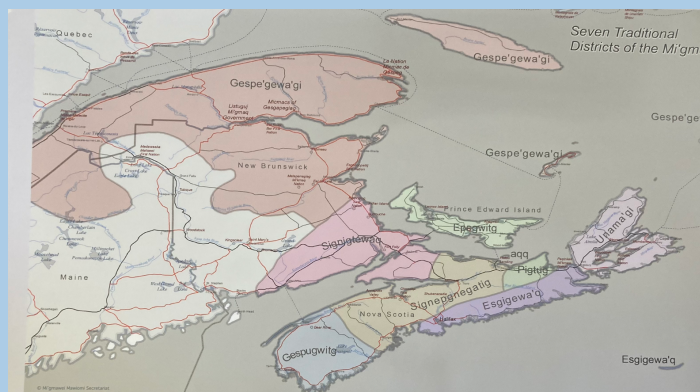
The Northside Gals continue to do community work of which I am proud.

## Honouring Treaty Day:

Treaty Day in Nova Scotia is celebrated on October 1, the first day of Mi'kmaq History Month. Treaty Day in Nova Scotia reaffirms the Mi'kmaq Friendship Treaty of 1752.



On October 1, Archbishop Brian Dunn of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth and Deacon Tom Sylliboy of the Diocese of Antigonish, participated in Treaty Day celebrations. Both the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth and the Diocese of Antigonish are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq.







**Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick and Deacon Art Riley  
in a game of washer toss**



**Deacons Sander Burke and Henry Van de Wiel**



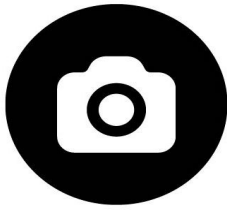
**Spouses enjoying the shade**

## **Diaconate Community Barbecue 2023**

was hosted this year by Deacon Henry and Minnie Van de Wiel at their home in Antigonish County.

Good weather added to the good time had by all enjoying great food, conversation, and a game or two.

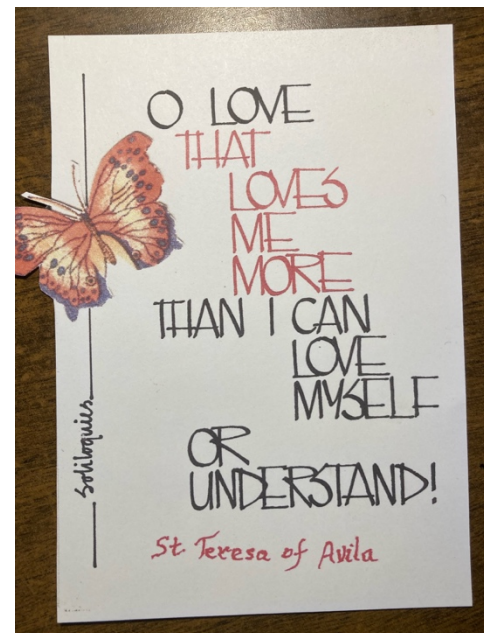




## Photo Gallery



Mainland deacons and their spouses gathered at the home of Deacon Art and Theresa Riley for a wonderful dinner, conversation, and laughter.



Deacon Spouses Day of Recollection this year was with Sr. Theresa Parker. The day was inspired by the words of St. Teresa of Avila.



Deacon Duncan McMaster celebrates the joy of grandchildren



The Atlantic Dioceses Diaconate Formation Program is under way as diaconate candidates from the Dioceses/Archdioceses of Antigonish, Halifax-Yarmouth, Saint John, and Grand Falls begin their four-year discernment.

Our dioceses candidates and their formation team meet once a month at St. Joseph Church in Port Hawkesbury.

### Thought for the Day

"Dear Deacons, this is a grace you can implore in daily prayer. You can offer the Lord your work, your little inconveniences, your weariness and your hopes in an authentic prayer that brings your life to the Lord and the Lord to your life."  
**(Pope Francis)**