



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

138 Granville Street, Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia B9A 2G1

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Parish Email: st.joe.ph@ns.sympatico.ca

PASTOR

Rev. Fr. Joby
Augustin

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday.....4pm

Sunday.....10am

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Wed, Thurs, Fri.....9am

Online Mass from St. Joseph's:

Sunday.....10am

<https://www.facebook.com/StJparish2020/>

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9:30am-2pm

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Berkley
Guthro

This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd.

Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees.

Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow.

The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognize their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd.

Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd. *Used with permission from Loyola Press*

APRIL 25/26 IS VOCATIONS SUNDAY

This weekend we observe the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and you are invited to support the Antigonish Diocesan Society in its work to financially support priestly formation by making a contribution. Donations can be made in the special envelope provided in your parish envelopes, or by cheque mailed directly to The Antigonish Diocesan Society, 20 East Main Street, Antigonish, NS, B2G 2E9. An option for electronic contributions will be available later this spring. Donations are tax deductible, and are accepted year-round. Please also consider the ADS when planning your estate.

Hope. Compassion. Care.

"As Christians, we are called to witness hope and compassion. We must advocate for a culture that affirms life and the dignity of every person, especially those most vulnerable to being discarded or overlooked."

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick

Dignity Sunday this past weekend raised awareness of the importance of protecting life at every stage and of opposing the expansion of MAiD to include mental health as the only qualifying condition.

We are still encouraged to contact our Members of Parliament and tell them to stop the expansion of MAiD for those with mental illness and to support Bill C-218 - An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying), "The Right to Recover Act."

<https://antigonishdiocese.com/medical-assistance-in-dying-a-catholic-response/>

Welcome to St. Joseph's!
We're so glad you're here!

This Week's Events in Our Parish:

Monday April 27

10am Funeral for the late Jordan MacDougall

Tuesday April 28

Wednesday April 29

9am Mass

Thursday April 30

9am Mass

Friday May 1

9am Mass

9:30 - 2pm Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament

4:30-6:30pm KOC Roast Beef Dinner

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

Registration on for Years 1-8 - Nancy @ 902-625-1264

Roast Beef Dinner - sponsored by KOC Council 7924

Fri May 1, 4:30-6:30pm \$20/Ticket Eat in/Take Out

St. Joseph Parish Hall No deliveries

For Tickets call 902-625-0746 or 902-631-1038

KOC 7924 Weekly Draw Winners from Apr 24th:

Neil MacNeil #437 \$50

Caley Lynn Langley #172 \$75

Colleen Morgan #248 \$100

St Joseph Spring On-Line Auction

Open for bids! Bids will close on May 1, The URL for the site is <https://airauctioneer.com/st-joseph-parish-spring-auction/auction-items>. Please share this information with your family and friends. We have many interesting items including home made meals and baking. Please support our efforts. Thank You.

REVENUE

April 18 & 19

Envelopes 1825.00 Loose 462.00

Needs Holy 215.00 Cemetery 55.00

E-transfers (April 18-24): Regular 75.00

Antigonish Diocesan Society 10.00

Average PAD amount per week: 722.50

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Thursday, Friday 9-4:30

Tuesday 9-12, administration afternoon

PASTORAL STAFF

Administrative Assistant

Carolena MacKinnon 902-625-1045

st.joe.ph@ns.sympatico.ca (etransfers)/ st.joe.ph@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinator - Nancy Day 902-625-1264

Pastoral Council Chair - Cathy MacDonald

Liturgy Committee Chair - Marina Martens

Finance Committee Chair - Kevin MacEachern

Fundraising Committee Chair - Louise Campbell

Property Committee Chair - Sandra Praught

Cemetery Committee Chair - Gelas Boudreau

Catholic Women's League - Grace MacDonald, President

Knights of Columbus - Joe Praught, Grand Knight

Upcoming Meetings:

CWL Meeting - Sun May 3, following 10am Mass downstairs in the Prayer Room

St. Joseph Parish Cemetery is hiring a Database Specialist

Salary: \$22 hourly/35 hours per week Languages: English
Seasonal employment Must be 15-30 years old, have a valid SIN, be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident
Send resume to: st.joe.ph@gmail.com by April 29

Inverness County Cares will conduct community presentations on their six week visit two schools for blind, albino, and visually impaired children in Zambia. Come and learn about their life, the challenges they face, their resilience and how donations from Canada have changed their lives:

St. Peters Parish Hall, Port Hood April 28/ 7:00 PM

Judique Community Center May 6th 7:00PM

Margaree Forks Firehall, May 11/7:00PM

St. Mary's Parish, Mabou May 14th/ 7:00 PM

Creignish Community Center May 20th 7:00PM

Skye Glen Community Hall May 25/7:00PM

Inverness Legion, Bottom Floor, June 1st/ 7:00PM

May 3-9: National Hospice Palliative Care Week

Palliative care remains a focus and deep concern for The Catholic Women's League of Canada. Palliative care affirms the intrinsic value of every life, given to us by God. It neither seeks to hasten nor postpone death. It manages pain, helping individuals navigate their symptoms while in treatment or helps alleviate physical pain until natural death.

During National Hospice Palliative Care Week, the Antigonish Diocesan Council of The Catholic Women's League of Canada invites councils and parishes to unite in prayer interceding for those who suffer, their caregivers and all who provide palliative care. We also urge support for Resolution 2025.04 which calls on the federal government to complete the development of the Office of Palliative Care and ensure early, universal and equitable access for all Canadians.

The following resources are available: ·
[12 Hours of Care for Palliative Care \(2025\)](#) ·
[CCCB Horizons of Hope](#)

PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK - Lord hear our prayer for those who are sick, and for those who care for them, may they find strength and courage through faith. Please keep Mark Britten, Paul Steele, Joanne MacDonald, Alexander Lamey, Jessica MacDonald, Carolyn Boudreau, and Segundina Maqui in your prayers this week. If you would like to have your loved ones prayed for please call the parish office.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Baptism Preparation/Marriage - Please contact the parish office, for Marriage, one year prior to making arrangements
Pastoral Visits - Communion is brought to sick and shut-ins on the first Friday of the month. If you or a family member would appreciate a visit, contact the Parish Office

WAYS TO DONATE:

ETRANSFERS: (st.joe.ph@ns.sympatico.ca) Please specify the fund in the message portion, otherwise, it's credited to the regular operating fund.

PRE-AUTHORIZED DEBIT: Call our office to get started
MASS CARDS/MEMORIALS: Please phone the office
Please remember your parish in your will.