

EPIPHANY

Holy Family Parish

Pastor: Father James Oliver

Email: jvoliver@bellaliant.com Phone: 736-8788

Deacon: Greg Murphy (736-6726) ~~~~ Caretaker: Pat Hall (736-3072)

Caretaker for St. Stephen Cemetery: Chuck Porter (736-6680)

9 MacKay Street, Sydney Mines, N.S., B1V 1R5

PHONE 736-8333 FAX 736-0413

<http://sydneyminesparish.com>

WISE MEN
+ STILL SEEK
+ HIM



The Epiphany of the Lord – January 8, 2017

PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIR: Terry Jerrett (736 2041)

VICE-CHAIR: Stephen MacDougall (736 8419)

SECRETARY: Winnie Burt (736 2490)

Cecil Snow (736 9350) – Sheila MacCormick (736 6583) –
Rosalind Forrest (736 3797) – Bunnie DiPersio (736 6143) –

Cathy Viva (736 6171) – Victor Jenkins (736 6083) –

Sharon Iannetti (794 8905) – Brenda Walsh (537 1603) –

Iris Sampson (544 0745 – Deacon Greg Murphy (736 6726) –

Fr. Oliver (736 8788) – Bob Blinkhorn (544 0008) –

Frank MacDonald (736 2190)

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIR – Deacon Greg Murphy (736 6726)

SECRETARY – Gisselle Pero (736 -0959)

Wilson Carey (736 9726) – Dennis Crosby (736 1248)

– Lorne Penny (736 3601) – Rose Jenkins (736 0802) – Claire

Aucoin – Blowers Mac Lean (736 9688) – Lorena Capstick

(Office Secretary) (736 8333) – Fr. Oliver

(736 8788)

PARISH SECRETARY

Lorena Capstick (736 8333) or

holyfamilysydneymines2013@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday from

10 AM - NOON

FAITH FORMATION

Rosalind Forrest (736-1887)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

To register your child for baptism phone

Georgie Edwards (736-9715) ONE MONTH before.

Baptismal Preparation Classes for parents and godparents take place on the **first** and **second Tuesdays** of every month at 6:30 PM in the Glebe Meeting Room.

You may attend the classes any month according to your convenience. If you belong to another Parish please bring a letter from your Pastor. **There will not be any Baptisms during Lent.**

If you have any serious concerns please call Fr. Oliver, at 736- 8788.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples planning on marriage are expected to take a Marriage Preparation Course. Anyone planning marriage please contact the office at 736-8333.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 2:30 - 3:30 PM.

BULLETIN EDITOR

Sandra Haley (736-1314 or smhaley@ns.sympatico.ca)

[Please submit info by **Thursday** noon **at the latest**]

BEREAVEMENT TEAM

Cecil Snow (736 9350) – Iris Sampson (544 0745) – Ann Marie

Gillis (736 3132) – Daryl Burton (736 3342) – Mary Hall (736

9252) – Rachael Smith (736 3908) – Judy Harron (241-2019)

Sunday Gatherings for Eucharist

Saturday – 4 PM

Sunday – 10 AM

Weekday Gatherings

Mass Monday to Friday at 9 AM
(in the Glebe Chapel)



MEMBERS OF ST. JOSEPH/ST. MARY CEMETERY SOCIETY

Chair – Vic Jenkins (736-6083)

Treasurer – Brenda Blinkhorn (544-0008)

Members-at-large:

Corinne MacDougall (736-3901)

Jake Cantwell (736-9789)

Wilson Carey (736-9726)

Cecil Snow (736-9350)

Clive Hatton (241-2843)

[In the event of a funeral OR when school is cancelled, the 9AM Mass will be cancelled]

What is the Epiphany?



The Epiphany, called Theophany in Eastern Churches, celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles and the visit of the Wise Men. Epiphany is traditionally celebrated on January 6th, although in Canada it is transferred to a Sunday. It marks the official end to the festive season for many Christians.

The story of the Magi travelling from the East to see the Christ child appears only in the Gospel According to St. Matthew. The word Magi, in Greek “magoi”, comes from the Latin word meaning "sage." These particular sages were possibly Zoroastrian astrologers from Persia. Upon seeing a star rising in the East (the Star of Bethlehem), they realized it was a sign that the king of the Jews had been born. The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem of Judea, and to Jesus' dwelling there. Having arrived, they worshipped the infant Jesus, and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

There have been numerous traditions that have grown up about the Wise Men. Typically we think of there being three wise men because of the number of gifts, but Matthew doesn't tell us the exact number. Since the 3rd century, Christian writers have referred to them as kings, even though Matthew doesn't specifically tell us that they were royalty. Their names in the West – Gaspar (or Caspar), Melchior, and Balthasar – date to the 6th century. The names mean: Master-of-Treasure, King, and Protect-the-King, respectively. The gifts were symbolic of the importance of Jesus' birth, the gold representing his royal standing; frankincense his divine birth; and myrrh his mortality.

Ten facts about the Feast of the Epiphany:

- The three Kings (Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar) represented Europe, Arabia and Africa respectively.
- Hundreds of years ago, roast lamb was traditionally served at Epiphany in honour of Christ and the three

Kings' visit.

- In some European countries, children leave their shoes out the night before to be filled with gifts, while others leave straw for the three Kings' horses.
- According to Greek Orthodox Church's traditions, a priest will bless the waters by throwing a cross into it as worshippers try to retrieve it. In Bulgaria too, Eastern Orthodox priests throw a cross in the sea and the men dive in - competing to get to it first.
- Epiphany is a big and important festival in Spain, where it's also known as 'The festival of the three Magic Kings' - 'Fiesta de Los tres Reyes Magos', and is when Spanish and some other Catholic children receive their presents - as they are delivered by the Three Kings!



- At Epiphany in Belgium, children dress up as the three wise men and go from door to door to sing songs and people give them money or sweets, kind of like Trick or Treating on Halloween.
- Children in Poland also go out singing on Epiphany.

- In France you might eat a 'Galette des Rois', a type of flat almond cake. It has a toy crown cooked inside it and is decorated on top with a gold paper crown.

There are similar traditions in Mexico where Epiphany is known as 'El Dia de los Reyes' (the day of The Three Kings). It's traditional to eat a special cake called 'Rosca de Reyes' (Three Kings Cake). A figure of Baby Jesus is hidden inside the cake. Whoever has the baby Jesus in their piece of cake is the 'Godparent' of Jesus for that year.

- In Italy, some children also get their presents on Epiphany. But they believe that an old lady called 'Befana' brings them. Children put stockings up by the fireplace for Befana to fill.



HOLY FAMILY PARISH NEWS

PARISH SUPPORT

Weekend of January 1

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Envelopes and loose | \$4,143.00 |
| New Year's | \$1,494.50 |
| Other offerings and donations | \$1112.50 |
| TOTAL | \$6,750.00 |
| Surplus | + \$1,950.00 |

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Liturgy Committee: Monday, **January 16**, at 6:30 PM in Glebe meeting room

Pastoral Council: Monday, **January 23**, at 7 pm in the Glebe meeting room

CHURCH ENVELOPES: Envelopes for 2017 are available at the back of the church. Please make sure to put your name and address on the first envelope you pass in. This will ensure that we have up-to-date information. If you did not receive envelopes, please put your name on the sheet at the church or call the church office and we will make sure you receive them. Thank you.

CWL NEWS

- ★A meeting of the CWL Executive will take place on Monday, January 9, at 1 PM in the Glebe.
- ★The regular January meeting will take place on Sunday, January 14, at 2 PM in the Glebe.
- ★St. Joseph's, North Sydney, CWL Council, has invited our CWL members to hear an address by Honourine MacMullin, RN, on Saturday, January 14, at 2 PM, in their Council room. TOPIC: Parkinson's Disease. Any member who would like to attend is asked to call Lola Tobin at 736-8862 by Thursday, January 12.

PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS: If there are any families in our Parish who wish to take the Chalice home for the week to pray for vocations, please contact Norma Blinkhorn at (902) 736-2972.

IN APPRECIATION: Thank you for once again supporting Christmas Cheer, a great example of giving in the community. Your giving is much appreciated.

NEXT PARISH HALL FLEA MARKET – February 25th, 2017. To book a table or make a donation to the Parish Table, please call Rose - 736-0802.

With Heartfelt Sympathy

Sympathy, prayers and condolences are extended to the family and friends of:

Francis Brian LeBlanc

Elaine Wall

Brendon MacNeil

Henry McKinnon

Jody Frances O'Connor

Eddie MacDougall

James Gouthro

Gloria Boutilier

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

FOOD BANK: For those wishing to donate to the Food Bank, please make cheques payable directly to the food bank. They will issue an income tax for you. Thank you.

ATTENTION LAY MINISTERS: Ministry schedules are available in the vestry; please pick up yours today.

In Appreciation

We thank those who have generously made the following donations:

For the Cemetery

IMO Nathan Doyle from Annie Mae Higgins

IMO Gerald MacGillivray from Mary Patricia Hall

For St. Stephen Cemetery

IMO Tootie Keeling from Heather Jardine

IMO Tootie Keeling from the family of the late Francie (Bonnar) MacIsaac

For Flowers

IMO loved ones from Ruth Ann & Charles Williams

For the Church

IMO Edward Doyle from Greg and Florence Murphy

IMO Francis Brian LeBlanc from Greg and Florence Murphy

IMO Parents from David and Phyllis King

WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY? AND... WIN! — HMMM...

Here is an idea to start off the year – well – hopefully, more than one idea.

Who – We are inviting everyone in our Parish

What – To get together and share ideas and/or talents

When – Sunday, January 15th at 6:00pm

Where – Parish Hall.

Why – Drop by and help generate new initiatives to financially support Holy Family Parish, plus enjoy some dessert and tea. The idea behind this gathering is to come up with suggestions for fund-raising that we could possibly incorporate in our Parish. Maybe it is an idea that you felt worked well in the past or something new or something you saw in another area. Whatever has you thinking...I wonder if that would work in our parish?

If you can't make it to the meeting but still have an idea to share OR you would like to participate call 736-0802 or 736-8333.

Now, for the twist... **AND WIN!!!**

There are so many people with ideas in our parish that we thought we could host an "Idea Lottery". NO COST TO ENTER – simply pick up a ballot this weekend at mass, take it home, write down your idea for supporting our parish and your name and drop it in the ballot box next week at mass. We will draw a winner at the meeting on January 15th. The winner will receive a homemade dinner for two delivered!

COMMUNITY NEWS

MASS FOR SHUT-INS: Sundays at 11:30 AM on ATV.

THANK YOU FROM L'ARCHE: "We are the house that received and distributed all your gifts. THANK YOU SO MUCH for all this kind attention and thoughts. The generosity of your church really touched us. We wish you all the best for 2017".

Signed, The Waycobites, L'Arche

HEALING MASS AT SAINT JOSEPH, NORTH SYDNEY: On Monday, January 9th, starting at 7pm, Father Patrick O'Neill will be celebrating a Healing Mass. After Holy Mass there will be prayer teams set up for individual prayer. Alan Gale (formerly from the group *Four for the Lord*) will be providing music that is praise and worship and very prayerful. Come out and join us!

MEETING: There will be a meeting of the Northside Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul on Wednesday, January 11th, at 2 p.m. at St. Stephen's Community Hall, Pitt St., Florence. Please come if you're available—important items on agenda !

Dear brother priests, deacons and laity:

Happy New Year to you my brother priests, deacons and lay faithful. In the fall I sent out a letter asking for parishes and groups to book a weekend for Mass for Shut-Ins. Thank you for those who came to offer the Holy Mass with your parish or group.

As we celebrate our 54th year on CTV providing Mass for those unable to attend their own parishes, it is my hope that your parish or group will call Darlene at the Pastoral Center (539-6188 ext 222) and book a weekend Mass. Masses can be done LIVE on Sundays at 11:30am. If it is better for you, we can pre-tape the Tuesday before at 6:30pm.

As of now, I probably will be presiding over all Masses for January since we have no bookings for this month. We have a few bookings for February but need more parishes/groups to help out beyond February as well. Darlene has been awesome to find groups to be our congregation and also to find choirs. Thanks to those groups and choirs who are stepping up to help us. My brother priests please it would be wonderful if you can help us sustain Mass for Shut-Ins by bringing your parish or group.

Father Patrick J. O'Neill, Producer of Mass for Shut-Ins

MARRIAGE PREPARATION FOR ENGAGED COUPLES

The following courses are being offered by Family Service of Eastern NS and our local deaneries. Fee: \$100. Register by calling 902-849-4772.

February 18 & 19, 2017 at Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River

April 29 & 30, 2017 at Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River

June 24 & 25, 2017 at Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River

FRENCH MASS: There will be a Mass in French at the Centre Communautaire Étoile de L'Acadie on Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 5:30PM. Pot Luck supper to follow along with french music from Le Cercle Musicale de la région de Sydney. Everyone welcome !

SYRIAN REFUGEE CONCERT: On Sunday, January 15, at 2:00 pm there will be a fundraising concert at Westmount United Church for our Syrian Family that hopefully will arrive soon. Entertainment includes: Take Not Drummers, Enter Left Productions, Margaret MacPherson, Jenny Tingley & Richard MacAulay, Kelsey Burke & The Inspirational Singers. Admission is \$10.00. Come & join us for a fun afternoon.