

**THE BULLETIN FOR
ST. BARRA PARISH (ST. COLUMBA, ST. ANDREW'S)
ST. MARY'S, FRENCHVALE
ST. MICHAEL'S, BADDECK
QUEEN OF THE WORLD, WAGMATCOOK
HOLY TRINITY, WAYCOBAH**

**Parish Office: 1769 Frenchvale Road, Frenchvale, NS B2A 4E2
Phone: 902-565-0631 Fax: 902-794-2049**

**Parish Priest: Rev. Paul Abbass
Deacon Wally Ivany
902-595-4497**

**E-Mail: abbassp@me.com
E-mail: ivamy1957@hotmail.com**

**Bulletin: stcolumba.iona@ns.sympatico.ca
Website: www.heartofcapebretonparishes.com**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
December 25, 2017**



WEEKEND/NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE 2017/2018

Sunday, December 31	St. Columba, Iona	4 p.m. (New Year's Eve)
Sunday, December 31	St. Andrew's, Boisdale	6 p.m. (New Year's Eve)
Sunday, December 31	St. Mary's, Frenchvale	7:30 p.m. (New Year's Eve)
Monday, January 1	St. Michael's, Baddeck	9 a.m. (New Year's Day)
Monday, January 1	Queen of the World	10:15 a.m. (New Year's Day)
Monday, January 1	Holy Trinity	12:15 p.m. (New Year's Day)

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE STARTING JANUARY 6/7:

Saturdays	St. Columba, Iona	4 p.m.
Saturdays	St. Andrew's, Boisdale	5.30 p.m.
Saturdays	St. Mary's, Frenchvale	6 p.m.
Sundays	St. Michael's, Baddeck	9 a.m.
Sundays	Queen of the World, Wagmatcook	10:15 a.m.
Sundays	Holy Trinity, Waycobah	12:15 p.m.

FAREWELL TO CAPE BRETON: To Parishioners: Gratitude is not gratitude unless it is expressed. During my time with you, you have made me feel accepted. You gave more than I could have asked for, and more than I deserved. Your kindness and kindness will always be remembered and never forgotten. **To Talbot House:** Living on the grounds of Talbot House was a very special time. It was my home away from home. Staff and residents were family to me. I will always have treasured memories of each and every one of them. They were the best of company. Fr. Vincent.

THE PARISH COMMUNITIES OFFER PRAYER AND SYMPATHY TO:

The Family of James (Jim) Ryan, St. Michael's Parish, Baddeck.
May he rest in peace. Amen.

HEALING MASS at Saint Joseph's, North Sydney: On Monday, January 8, starting at 7 p.m. Fr. 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!

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY OF DIOCESE OF ANTIGONISH PARENTING TIP:

In the Christmas carol, 'Do You Hear What I Hear?' the words, "He will bring us goodness and light" are repeated twice at the end of the song. It is an important message to help our children understand – Jesus brings us goodness and light for our everyday living. He shows us how to live through the Gospels, he nourishes us through the Eucharist, and he listens and responds to our prayers. For Catholics, Christmas is about so much more than gifts - it is the promise, through Jesus, of goodness and light in our lives. Parents who help their children know and understand this give their children a gift to last a lifetime.

DEAR PARISHIONERS: I wanted to have the opportunity to express Christmas greetings and blessings for the New Year to all of our parishioners. This past year and more specifically the past six months has been a time of challenge and new experiences. In many ways the diagnosis of cancer never really became real to me until the period of chemo therapy began and it soon became evident that this was going to affect me in a variety of ways (mostly unpleasant) on an almost daily basis. However all throughout this period right up until today I always experienced the presence of many loving, caring and prayer friends, family, and parishioners who; while not actually present their strength, goodness and wishes were always very real and present to me. I am deeply grateful to all of you for this companionship. Thanks to all those who have sent Christmas greetings, reaching across the miles to remind me that I belong to some very powerful relationships. At this point, I am fully feeling the power of fatigue that comes with Chemo and my recent week's stay in hospital demonstrated that while the chemo program was over the effects of the chemo drugs were going to be felt for some time to come. So it is my hope that the New Year brings me renewed strength and healing, but I recognize that this will take time and that I will need to be more patient with the disease and myself. I also want to express my gratitude to Fr. Vince for his outstanding service to our parishioners as I also thank Bishop Dunn for ensuring that all of our 6 churches remained open and served during this time and into the New Year. So, God Bless you all, Merry Christmas and may this be a time of healing and hope to all of us as we move forward....
God Bless, Fr. Paul.

THE WINNER OF ST. MARY'S WOOD TICKET CAMPAIGN is Joe Musgrave of Frenchvale. A total of 2415 tickets were sold for the best ever results. Great effort everyone! Special thanks to MacInnis' Lumber for sponsoring this yearly fundraiser. Parish Life plans to launch a new ticket campaign in January to finance the painting of the exterior of St. Mary's. Stay tuned for more details.

CHRISTMAS ISLAND FIRE HALL will be hosting a New Year's Bingo and Social on New Year's Eve, December 31, at 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. Games, prize payout and cost the same as regular bingo with the addition of a few extras. Social - 10 p.m. - 2 a.m. Adm. \$5, lunch at midnight and music by DJ. 19 years of age or older. ID's must be available upon request.

BOISDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY: There will be a regular meeting of the Boisdale Historical Society in the parish building on Bourinot Rd. on Sunday, January 7, 2018, 2 p.m. All are welcome as we will be working on old photographs.

THE HOSPICE CALENDARS FOR 2018 are now available. The proceeds will go directly to support the needs of palliative care patients in our community. The calendars cost \$20 and will be offered for sale at Stone's Pharmacy and the Herring Choker, Baddeck. To order direct, please contact Carolyn Bowne @ 902-295-1777. Thank you so much for your support!

MINISTRIES - ST. COLUMBA - Sunday, December 31 (New Year's Eve) - 4 p.m. -
 Readers - Peggy MacKinnon, James Redden. Eucharistic Ministers - Florence MacNeil (The Bread), Sharon MacNeil (The Cup), Barry George (The Cup). Hospitality - Cynthia & Austin MacKenzie, Timmy MacNeil, Neil James MacNeil. Altar Servers - Grace, Hannah K., Katherine.

MINISTRIES - ST. ANDREW'S - Sunday, December 31 (New Year's Eve) - 6 p.m. -
 Readers - Paula. Eucharistic Minister - Blaine. Hospitality - Kenny, Joe. Altar Server - Gerard

MINISTRIES - ST. MICHAEL'S - Monday, January 1 (New Year's Day) - 9 a.m. -
 Readers - Holly MacInnis, Leona Perkins. Eucharistic Minister - Leona Perkins. Church cleaning for the week of December 24 - Jackie Gauthier.

OFFERINGS	St. Columba	St. Mary's	St. Andrew's
(Dec. 17)			
Envelopes	\$ 519.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 310.00
Loose	62.00	20.00	47.00
Direct Dep.		245.00	
Building fund	15.00		
Donation		200.00	
Fuel	5.00		
St. Barra Cem.	100.00		
Flowers	120.00	40.00	50.00

