



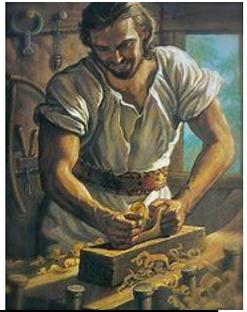
PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

P.O. Box 338 34 ARCHIBALD AVE. NORTH SYDNEY, N.S. B2A 3M4

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Northsydneyparish.com holycrosscemeteryns.com

Facebook at St. Joseph's Parish North Sydney



4th Sunday of Lent

† MARCH 22ND, 2020, ORDINARY TIME YEAR A †

REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR
 Fatherdouglass@gmail.com
 GLEBE HOUSE: 902-794-4599
Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon

Leadership Ministry Team
 Pam Hall-Faith Formation, Cavell Young – Bookkeeping, Janis
 Rose & Cathy MacDonald- Liturgy, Monica Shebib-Baptism,
 Sonny Guy-Communion to Sick, Richard Rose-Finance

OFFICE HOURS:
 MON, TUE, THURS, FRI – 8:30 – 12:30 PM
 WED.-CLOSED
 TEL: 902-794-3951

ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEXT WEEK

Date	Location	Time	Details
Mon. Mar. 23rd	Private Mass		Edith Bonar
Tues. Mar 24th	Private Mass		Michelle MacDonald
Wed. Mar. 25th	Private Mass		Thresa Forest
Thurs. Mar. 26th	Private Mass		Cora Shebib
Fri. Mar. 27th	Private Mass		Emily Irvine
Sat. Mar. 28th	Private Mass		Fern & Yvonne Dufour
Sun. Mar. 29th	Private Mass		For Parishioners

Ministries March 28 th , 29 th	4 pm Mass Saturday	10 am Mass Sunday
SACRISTAIN & LINENS		
CHOIR		
GREETERS & HOSPITALITY		
ALTAR SERVERS		
READERS		
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS		
EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION		
Cleaning of Church		
PORTER - OPENS CHURCH		

PARISH NEWS

Novena to protect against the coronavirus – (Novena is derived from the number nine, so please say for nine straight days that COVID-19 may do no more harm).

Our Father, we trustingly pray to you, asking that the Wuhan coronavirus may do no more harm, that the epidemic may be swiftly gotten under control, and that you restore the health of those affected and peace to the places where the virus has arrived.

Welcome into your kingdom the people who have died from this illness, and comfort their families.

Sustain and protect the healthcare personnel who are fighting it, and inspire and bless those working to control it.

Lord Jesus, doctor of our bodies and souls, we feel impotent in the face of this international health emergency, but we trust in You. Give us peace and health.

Mother Mary, protect us and continue to take care of us, and lead us through your love to your Son, Jesus. Amen

Parish Office Hours – Since our bishop has closed all churches and halls for the time being, the Parish Office in North Sydney will be closed to the public for the time being. The bulletin will continue to be emailed to everyone who has provided us their email address during this shut down. We will give weekly updates and stay connected as a parish, so consider calling the office to add your email address to our parish list. We will get through this difficult time together.

Funerals, Baptisms, Marriages and the Sacrament of the Sick – will continue to take place with immediate family only. They will not be advertised to avoid large gatherings. I am providing my cell number (902) 217-6770 if you need to contact me.

Funerals During Church Closure – Bishop Kirkpatrick has confirmed the following: Funerals will take place during this indefinite period of church closure, however they are not open to the public. Funerals are for immediate family members only, with no choir and no altar servers. There will be no eucharist offered at these funerals, instead a Liturgy of the Word funeral will be celebrated. The mass will

be offered privately by me for each deceased person. Thank you all for your understanding during this difficult time. Peace, Fr. Doug.

Dear People of God – For so many of us around the world, this has been an extremely difficult and surreal week...the spread of the coronavirus (and its now-pandemic status) has caused extreme disruption in our countries, our cities, our parish communities and in our personal lives...and we may need to keep grappling with this outbreak for quite some time.

Please keep up the prayers for those who have been infected, those who are suffering because of quarantines and shutdowns, and all of those (especially the most vulnerable) who are struggling right now, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Let us do whatever we can to be generous and compassionate, even in our isolation and limitations.

We will not be able to have liturgies **this Sunday**, or for some time, but please make use of technology to watch mass on TV or on line. I hope and pray that we will soon come to an end of this outbreak. In the meantime, I pray for all of you, for your families and North Sydney. May you be healthy and safe as you care for others in need at this difficult time. My family is also mourning the loss of my sister, Michelle, so your prayers are appreciated for her and our family. Wishing you the blessings of peace and strength, Fr. Doug.

What are the essential forms of Christian prayer? – They are blessing and adoration, the prayer of petition and intercession, thanksgiving and praise. The Eucharist contains and expresses all the forms of prayer. Further reading: CCC 2643-2644

COLLECTIONS ~ THANK YOU!

Mar. 14 th ,15 th		
Envelopes		1922.00
Loose cash		80.00
Fuel		
Special Collections		
Change for Change		
Candles		60.00
Other		
Totals		2062.00
Hall Fund		205.00



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March 17, 2020

My dear people,

In facing the most serious health concerns of recent memory we are indeed living in troubled times but “Do not be afraid”. We are not dealing with an unexpected tsunami but rather more with the rising waters of the coronavirus which threaten to overwhelm us and our well being if we do not take appropriate measures. We need to flatten the wave and help slow the spread of this coronavirus called Covid-19. If we have been following the news, we know the situation is very fluid with different rules across the country on different timetables. There have been a patchwork of policies and restrictions which seem to be changing on a daily basis with so many people looking for direction and reassurance. What are we to do amid this turmoil?

We are all concerned about the most vulnerable, given their age and health concerns and this includes our clergy. The medical advice we receive is to avoid gathering in large groups. We do not want to overwhelm our health care system and so we must take all pre-cautions necessary.

We will follow the directives and guidelines of Nova Scotia Chief Medical Officer of Health. We will heed all official advisories, including the latest guidance from federal and provincial governments.

For this reason, as Diocesan Bishop, after having consulted our Council of Priests and College of Consultors and the Bishops of Atlantic Canada, **I am directing that all Sunday and Weekday Masses be cancelled effective immediately until further notice.** We cannot put a time frame on when the situation will improve.

I ask each Pastor to celebrate privately Sunday Mass for intentions of their people. I hereby dispense the faithful from the obligation to participate in the Sunday Mass until we are able to again assemble for the Lord’s Day in accord with directives from our health officials. Daily televised Mass is offered as an alternative, as the faithful gather to pray in their homes. Particular care should be given to ensure that the vulnerable are not alone. Parishes may explore creative ways to connect with the vulnerable through phone calls and visits where appropriate.

I do not believe it is prudent to keep our churches open since visitation by unknown people especially the ill and the vulnerable may also cause unnecessary risk of exposure since the churches are not cleaned daily. All parish and diocesan meetings, events, celebrations, catechetical formation programmes and any other activities in the coming weeks should be cancelled until further notice.

In compliance with federal and provincial health directives regarding the size of the crowd and personal distance between individuals, I direct the following:

- Baptisms may be celebrated privately with just immediate family members present.
- Weddings may be celebrated privately outside of Mass with just immediate family members present.
- Funerals may be celebrated privately outside of Mass with just immediate family members present. There should be no public receptions permitted at the church during this time.
- Mindful of good hygiene and hand washing, pastors are encouraged to reach out to the sick and elderly to ensure they receive the Sacrament of the Sick and pastoral care as needed.
- The Sacrament of Penance may be celebrated at any time as scheduled or when the pastor is available.
- Later on, we will address the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation with the Pastors.

We continue to pray together for those affected by this coronavirus as well as all healthcare providers, caregivers and researchers. We pray especially to St. Joseph who is the patron saint and protector of the universal Church and the principal patron saint of Canada.

Life will be different for a while from the way we live and especially not being able to worship in our churches, such challenging days actually brings out the best in people. We will weather this storm through our common prayer and by working together. “Keep Calm and Carry On.”

(Most Rev.) Wayne Kirkpatrick
Bishop of Antigonish

Community Compassionate Care

Kids Help Phone – 1-800-668-6868

Prevention Through Action – Reporting and healing incidents of abuse or misconduct in our diocese. Rev. Charles Cameron 1-902-863-4373 or email: charleshugh7@gmail.com.

Canada Suicide Prevention Service
1-833-456-4566 or Text. 45645

Canadian Sport Abuse Help Line
Call/text: 1-888-837-7678
Email: info@abuse-free-sport.ca

Compassionate Community Care

Tel: 1-855-675-8749

Euthanasia Prevention Advice, Support, Confidential and Free.

Expectant Mother Fund – Diapers, formula, and baby accessories for parents in need. Please phone 902-794-3951.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Only what is true can ultimately be pastoral.”

PEACE BE WITH YOU AND HAVE A GREAT WEEK!
