

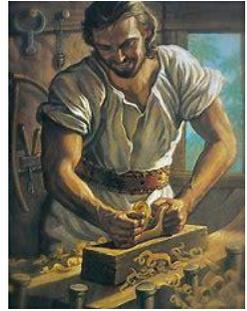


PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

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

E-MAIL: stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Northsydneyparish.com holycrosscemeteryns.com



“Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.” - C. S. Lewis

† DECEMBER 26TH, 2021 †

REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR
Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon
roy.smith@hotmail.com

Leadership Ministry Team

Pam Hall- Secretary /Faith Formation, Cavell Young – Bookkeeping, Sally Ryan- Liturgy, Monica Shebib-Baptism, / Bereavement/Funeral Team, Richard Rose-Finance

OFFICE HOURS:

TUES., WED., THURS, FRI – 9AM – 1 PM

OPEN TO PUBLIC WEDNESDAYS 9AM- 1PM

TEL: 902-794-3951

ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEXT WEEK



Date	Location	Time	Details	Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK
Mon. Dec. 27th	Private Mass		St. John, Apostle	For All Cashiers
Tues. Dec. 28st	Private Mass		The Holy Innocents	For All Hospital Workers
Wed. Dec. 29th	Private Mass			For All Support Staff
Thurs. Dec. 30th	Private Mass			For All Postal Workers
Fri. Dec. 31st	St. Joseph Church	4pm		For All Seniors
Sat. Jan. 1st	St. Joseph Church	11am	Mary Holy Mother of God	For The Homeless
Sun. Jan. 2nd	St. Joseph Church	10am	Epiphany of the Lord	For All Parshioners

Ministries	4 pm Mass Saturday	10 am Mass Sunday
SACRISTAIN & LINENS	Deacon Roy Smith, Team	Deacon Roy Smith, Team
CHOIR		
GREETERS		
USHERS		
READERS	Kay Batherson	Taralee MacInnis
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS		
EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION	Deacon Roy	Deacon Roy
Cleaning of Church	Team	Team
PORTER - OPENS CHURCH	George Quirk	Calvin Gracie

PARISH NEWS

Please Note :50 People maximum at all masses. First come first serve basis

Christmas Mass Schedules:

Christmas Eve - Friday, Dec 24th at 4 pm, 6 pm & 9 pm

Christmas Day - Saturday, Dec 25th at 11 am

Regular Sunday, Dec 26th at 10 am

New Years Mass Schedules:

New Years Eve – Friday, Dec 31st at 4 pm

New Years Day – Saturday, Jan 1st at 11 am

Regular Sunday, Jan 2nd at 10 am

**** All of the above masses are on a first come, first serve basis.**

- Everyone is welcome to the house of God unconditionally
- Masks are required
- Social distancing in effect
- Hand sanitizer available
- First come first served (no pre-registration)
- Maximum of 50 people
- Church disinfected after each mass

The office will be closed between Christmas and New Years and reopening Jan. 4th, 2022.

Bequest from Anne Frances Lionais

Thanks is extended to Anne Frances Lionais for her bequest to St. Joseph Parish in North Sydney.

Anne was a devoted member of the faith community. The Parish is grateful that she is continuing to contribute to the life of St. Joseph Church and the whole of North Sydney. Christmas mass will be offered for Anne Lionais and her family.

Thank you, St. Joseph Parish.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

534. What is prayer? Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God, or the petition of good things from him in accord with his will. It is always the gift of God who comes to encounter man. Christian prayer is the personal and living relationship of the children of God with their Father who is infinitely good, with his Son Jesus Christ, and with the Holy Spirit who dwells in their hearts. Further reading: CCC 2558-2565, 2590

535. Why is there a universal call to prayer? Because through creation God first calls every being from nothingness. Even after the Fall man continues to be capable of recognizing his Creator and retains a desire for the One who has called him into existence. All religions, and the whole history of salvation in particular, bear witness to this human desire for God. It is God first of all, however, who ceaselessly draws every person to the mysterious encounter known as prayer. Further reading: CCC 2566-2567

MASS FOR SHUT-INS

CHRISTMAS DAY

We will be airing Christmas Day Mass, Saturday at 11:30am AT. Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick will be the presider for that Mass this year.

HALL NEWS

Hall Envelopes - Donations to the hall are 100% levy free.

The finance committee created *new hall envelopes* that are available. For tax receipts write: *St. Joseph Hall* on your cheque.

COLLECTIONS ~ THANK YOU

Dec. 18th & 19th

Envelopes		2600.00
Church Improvement		
Special Collection		100.00
Candles		35.00
Faith Formation		
Fuel		175.00
Total		2910.00
Preauthorized Debit		
Hall Fund		125.00

DIOCESAN NEWS

Christmas Card from Bishop Kirpatrick



Office of the Bishop

Diocese of Antigonish
 168 Hawthorne Street P.O. Box 1330
 Antigonish, Nova Scotia B2G 2L7
 Chancery 902-863-3335, Fax 902-863-0037
 Residence 902-863-1557
 Email: bishopkirpatrick@dioceseofantigonish.ca



"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shone." These words from the prophet Isaiah reverberate during our celebration of Christmas. Our experience of life is at times an experience of darkness. This year, there are many who feel plunged into darkness and are finding it difficult to enter the joy of Christmas. People are troubled as we confront yet another wave of the pandemic. We lament not being able to be with family and loved ones. We have become perhaps increasingly impatient with restrictions on our movements and gatherings. Many are struggling with loneliness, financial or health issues, family struggles, the death or illness of a loved one, concerns about the future. In so many ways, we have all been walking in darkness.

The birth of Jesus, which we celebrate, during the darkest time of the year, is a celebration of light. Jesus' birth, God's entry into our humanity, is a source of pure light that can penetrate and remove all darkness. Jesus' birth speaks to us of the value of every person before God. The light of Jesus' birth announces that the human family is one; we who inhabit the earth are all brothers and sisters. Jesus' birth proclaims that God, who is the source of light, is with us and in us. Indeed, we have every reason to rejoice!

The shepherds at Bethlehem came out of the night into the warmth of the stable drawn by the message of an angel. The light of God's Son filled their hearts with wonder as they gazed upon the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Magi saw the light and made a journey of faith to search for him, to discover him and to worship him. With the journey of the Magi, there is another underlying story within the story, that of travelling in faith toward God. They remind us that God came as a light to the nations. They are a summary of all who journey in faith to Jesus and find in him, their heart's desire. Every time people encounter Jesus, he changes their life. Matthew, the

Evangelist tells us, that the Gentile visitors from the pagan lands of the East left for their country by another road, guided no longer by the light of a star but by the light of faith. Like the Magi we too journey in faith - it may be long or short journey we do not know. The important thing is to be open to our God and continue on the same journey of faith.

The Christmas celebration calls us to draw near to the Lord Jesus in faith and hope. When we listen to his words and when we try to follow his way, we allow the power of his love to shine in the darkness that surrounds us. The presence of Christ that illuminates our lives becomes a light for the world, a light for those who live in a land of deep darkness.

May our faith be so deepened during this holy season that in the midst of any darkness, we may help one another see and appreciate that we are bathed in the glorious light of Christ. With Christ our Saviour who said, I am the Light of the World, we will never be overcome by darkness. May you enjoy a peaceful, happy and blessed Christmas.

Fraternally,
+ Wayne Kirkpatrick
Bishop of Antigonish

Christmas Memorials



In Loving Memory of our Parents, Eileen and Austin Fyfe.

Whenever you are sleeping
And think of the time when we
Shall meet again in a brighter land.
We shall clasp each other's hand in
hand, and the clasp shall not be broken.
We shall meet again in a bright, calm chime and our lives
Shall be filled. Like a Christmas chime with rapture and
With gladness. Love always and remembered by **Ann Eileen,
Maureen, Kevin and Family**



In Loving Memory of Husband, Father and Grandfather, Tom Shinnars

A tender cord of memory
Is softly touched this Christmas
Loving thoughts of you, will never fade away.
Time will never dim our memory
Of the ones we dearly love
Your voices, your smiles are missing
Since God called you home.
Lovingly Remembered by Sandy, Tracy and Family

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Expectant Mother Fund has baby bibs and baby accessories for free for any parents. We also provide free formula, diapers and

baby food for anyone in need in North Sydney. Call the office for help. 902-794-3951.



Envelopes for 2022 are now available at the entrance of the church.

Home Energy Saving Program for Seniors

You may qualify for Efficiency Nova Scotia's *HomeWarming* program (www.homewarming.ca). The *HomeWarming* program retrofits home to reduce heating costs by increase insulation and reducing drafts. These improvements make the home more comfortable and result in lower heating costs. This program is **TOTALLY FREE FOR THE HOMEOWNER** and has been designed for Low-income families and Seniors on fixed income. For further information and assistance with the application, please contact Kevin at 902 202-5700

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“On the 25th day of December, in the 13th moon, when ages beyond number had run their course from the creation of the world, when God in the beginning created heaven and earth, and formed man in his own likeness; when century upon century had passed from the time when the Almighty had set his bow in the clouds after the Great Flood, as a sign of covenant and peace; in the 21st century from the time when Abraham, our father in faith, came out of Ur of the Chaldees; in the 13th century from the time when the People of Israel were led by Moses in the Exodus from Egypt; around the 1,000th year from the time when David was anointed King; in the sixty-fifth week of the prophecy of Daniel; in the 195th Olympiad; in the year 752 from the foundation of the City of Rome; in the 42nd year of the reign of Caesar Octavian Augustus, the whole world being at peace,

JESUS CHRIST,

eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to consecrate the world by his most loving presence, was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and when nine months had passed since his conception, was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judah, and was made man. The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to the flesh.”

—*Martyrologium Romanum*, 25 December

Community Compassionate Care

Kids Help Phone – 1-800-668-6868

Canada Suicide Prevention Service

1-833-456-4566 or Text. 45645

Canadian Sport Abuse Help Line: Call/text: 1-888-837-7678

info@abuse-free-sport.ca

www.abuse-free-sport.ca

Compassionate Community Care 1- 855-675-8749

Euthanasia Prevention Advice, Support, Confidential and Free

PEACE BE WITH YOU AND HAVE A GREAT WEEK!