

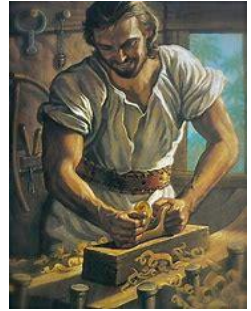


# PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

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

E-MAIL: stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Northsydneyparish.com holycrosscemeteryns.com



## March 27th, 2022

### 4rd Sunday of Lent

† MARCH 27TH, 2022 †

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

**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

**Mass Intentions**  
 FOR THE WEEK

Date	Location	Time	Details
Mon. March 28th	Private Mass		For Maureen Fyfe
Tues. March 29th	Private Mass		For All Clerks
Wed. March 30th	Private Mass		For All Fire Fighters
Thurs. March 31st	Private Mass		For All Homeless
Fri. April 1st	Private Mass		For All Truck Drivers
Sat. April 2nd	St. Joseph Church	4pm	For All Volunteers
Sun. April 3rd	St. Joseph Church	10am	For All Parishioners

Ministries	4 pm Mass Saturday	10 am Mass Sunday
SACRISTAIN & LINENS	Deacon Roy Smith, Team	Deacon Roy Smith, Team
CHOIR		
GREETERS		
USHERS		
READERS	Ellen McNamara	John Ratchford
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

### Furnace Fund

As you may know, we are in need of a new furnace for our church. Under ordinary circumstances we do not fundraise, but this is an example of extra ordinary circumstance. If you are able to help out during these difficult times, you can place your donation in an envelope with your name and envelope number on it and place it in the collection basket. For those who do not have an envelope number, you can write your name and address on the envelope and a tax receipt will be issued to you. Donations can also be dropped off at the office. Your support is greatly appreciated.

### Covid Restrictions removed

After two years the restrictions are all being removed, yet the pandemic continues. We are inviting people to accept individual responsibility for their health and the safety of others e.g. wash hands, stay home if sick, wear masks if you want to etc.

The Church teaching says there is no obligation to be vaccinated, however the same document states if you are not vaccinated you

must take preventative measures not to expose yourself or others to the virus. We all have a responsibility to care for others. As people everywhere are getting Covid after being fully vaccinated, many are questioning the effectiveness of vaccines; therefore we need to be cautious as all restrictions are lifted on Monday, March 21st, 2022.

If you are a vulnerable person, you may wish to stay home during this cautious time of transition or take as many precautions as possible and those who are healthy are invited to be considerate of others needs

Next weekend March 27th when you come to mass there will be some changes:

- No vaccine passports at funerals
- Masks are optional
- Social distancing is optional
- Plexiglass removed for communion
- Singing beginning, but hymn books will only be phased in over time.
- Bulletins will be printed again for some, but only those without email. Please continue to read the bulletin on

your computer, since only a few dozen bulletins will be available for those who do not have email.

- Office is now open at the widow on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am-12pm.

Transition time:

During this transition time, Ministers of Communion are encouraged to continue to wear their masks only when giving Holy Communion, however it is optional.

We are invited not to shake hands at the sign of peace and after mass. However people are invited to give the peace of Christ verbally or with a gesture.

Pews will continue to be cleaned weekly. Hand sanitizer is available for all who want it, but this is optional too.

Finally the Church Verification team at the door will be phased out, but continue until May 1st. Special thank you to the entire team of volunteers who worked so hard for the past two years.

They include:

Co-chairs: Janice Rose and Cathy MacDonald; Monica Shebib, Iris Young, Pam Hall, Cavelle Young, Deacon Roy Smith, Taralee MacInnis, Sally Ryan, Elaine MacNeil, Susan Spurrell, Rebecca Gracie, Ellen MacNamara, Kim Dooley, John Ratchford, Viola Smith, Georgie Bonnar, Joe Howell, Bob Jardine, Yvonne MacDonald, Debbie Reashore and Calvin Gracie.

Thank you for your service and May God Bless you all for being there for the community.

Peace and Love, Fr. Doug

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### To Be An OFFERING With Christ

Lord Jesus,  
 May everything I do begin with Your grace,  
 continue with Your help,  
 and be done under Your guidance.  
 May my sharing in the Mass  
 free me from my sins  
 and make me worthy of Your healing.  
 May I grow in Your love and service  
 and become a pleasing offering to You,  
 and with You to the Father.  
 May this mystery I celebrate  
 Help me to reach eternal life with You.

**Amen**

**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

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Envelopes		1155.00
Holy Cross		
Special Collection		
Candles		30.00
Faith Formation		
Fuel		25.00
Total		1210.00
Hall Fund		255.00
Preauthorized Debit		
Furnace Fund	March 20th	175.00

## DIOCESAN NEWS

### March 25 Marian Consecration Prayer for Ukraine, Russia Released by Vatican

*Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world.*

March 25th, 2022

The Vatican has sent bishops around the world the text of the prayer that [Pope Francis will lead on March 25 for the consecration of Ukraine and Russia](#) to the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you.

As our Mother, you love us and know us: no concern of our hearts is hidden from you.

Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence!

You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace.

We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars.

We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations.

We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young.

We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns.

We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons.

We stopped being our neighbour's keepers and stewards of our common home.

We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters.

We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves.

Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life.

He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity.

By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart.

We are your beloved children.

In every age you make yourself known to us, calling us to conversion.

At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort.

Say to us once more: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?"

You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times.

In you we place our trust.

We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid.

That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs.

To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (Jn 2:3).

Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity has faded.

We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace.

We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness.

How greatly we need your maternal help!

Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer.

Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war.

Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation.

Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world.

Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness.

Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons.

Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love.

Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity.

Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts.

May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew.

Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace.

May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs.

May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land.

May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: "Behold your son" (Jn [19:26](#)).

In this way he entrusted each of us to you.

To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: "Behold, your Mother" (v. 27).

Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history.

At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ.

The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine.

Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love.

Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world.

The "Fiat" that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace.

We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more.

To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days.

Our Lady of the "Fiat," on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God.

May you, our "living fountain of hope," water the dryness of our hearts.

In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion.

You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace.

*Amen.*

## **Synod Prayer Cards**

The worldwide Synod is taking place whereby the Church is consulting with the people of God about how to navigate forward in the world. Diocesan prayer cards are now available at the entrance of the Church to pray during this process of listening to the people. If you have any suggestions for the Church please email the parish office and your point of view will be brought forward to the Diocese.

Email your letters to St. Joseph Parish:

[stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca)

## **Lenten Calendar for your Synod Journey**

### **March 24-31**

**Fast From Lethargy; Feast on Enthusiasm**

*Let someone else do it. I'm too tired.*

We are tired. Life demands much from us. Our faith asks only that we allow and be present. In these moments of quiet, we can hear and choose.

#### **Almsgiving:**

Invite someone to Mass. Share our survey or website on your social media. Deliver a note of encouragement or an invitation to your parish or Synod event with a donation to your local food bank.

#### **Prayer:**

Offer up prayers to someone you know in need

#### **Thank you!**

To date we have received **75** online surveys thanks to your promotion and participation.

Keep them coming!

Links to share:

## Synod Survey:

<https://fs26.formsite.com/DioceseofAntigonish/codp3edovo/index.html>

## Sondage synodal:

<https://fs26.formsite.com/DioceseofAntigonish/hqw4kowsnk/index.html>

## We Hold in Prayer:

### **St. Joseph Parish, Parish, Port Hawkesbury, hosting a Synod conversation on Saturday, March 26**

10 am - 2:30 pm

All are invited. Lunch is included

Please register by contacting the St. Joseph Parish Office:  
902-625-1045

[st.joe.ph@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:st.joe.ph@ns.sympatico.ca)

## Calendar:

### **March 23 and 30: Wednesdays 7-8 pm**

#### **Holy Family Church, Sydney Mines**

Conversations and sharing of experiences in church

All are invited.

Mass at 6:30 pm for those wishing to attend

#### Topics for Conversation

March 23: Wounds of the Church in Need of Healing

March 30: What is your Dream for the Church

Contact Norma Blinkhorn: [norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca](mailto:norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca)

## April 2

### **Synod Conversation with Catechists, Coordinators, and Graduates of the Lay Formation Program:**

Our Lady of Fatima parish hall, Sydney River

10:30 am - 4 pm, includes lunch, join in person or via Zoom

Contact: Debbie Aker, [daker@dioceseofantigonish.ca](mailto:daker@dioceseofantigonish.ca)

## Resources:

### Print version of the Synod survey

is attached to share with your bulletins or as a handout

### **Synod Posters and Prayer Cards**

are available in both English and French, free of charge.

Does your parish need some, or need more?

Contact Debbie at the Emmaus Centre with your order: 902-

539-6188 or toll-free 1-800-656-5311 ext 226

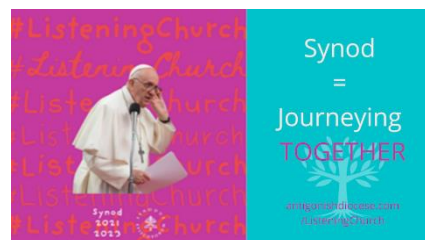
or [daker@dioceseofantigonish.ca](mailto:daker@dioceseofantigonish.ca)

### Thank you for joining us on this journey!

See you next Wednesday.

Jennifer Hatt, Communications Officer

Diocese of Antigonish



### **Synod = Journey Together**

Pray Connect Share Your Story

[www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch](http://www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch)

## Understanding the Permanent Deacon as a Minister of Service

Though all are servants by Baptism, the deacon is ordained as a sacramental sign of Christ the servant. In the name of Christ and the Church, the deacon makes evident the self-sacrificing love of the Lord. Deacons offer direct service to those in need, and also help church members to discover their participation in the ministry of Christ. Service is the trademark of the deacon wherever he goes.

### CWL AND KOC NEWS

#### KOC

KOC 4<sup>th</sup> degree Assembly 0797 will be having a General Meeting at Our Lady of Fatima Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. to 3:00 pm

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Society of St Vincent de Paul, Northside Council, has reopened the clothing and small appliances depot in the Sydney Mines Food Bank on the first three Thursdays of each month. We open from 1 to 3 PM.

Although mandates were lifted on March 21, we will be keeping masking, hand washing and physical distancing in place in order to protect our clients and volunteers.

All items are available free of charge to those in need. Please bring reusable bags.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### NEW STORY

<https://www.gallup.com/workplace/390776/percent-feel-employer-cares-wellbeing-plummet.aspx>

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”.

*Aespo*

### Community Compassionate Care

**Kids Help Phone** – 1-800-668-6868

**Canada Suicide Prevention Service**

1-833-456-4566 or Text. 4564

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

[info@abuse-free-sport.ca](mailto:info@abuse-free-sport.ca)

[www.abuse-free-sport.ca](http://www.abuse-free-sport.ca)

**Compassionate Community Care** 1- 855-675-8749

Euthanasia Prevention Advice, Support, Confidential and Free

**End Human Trafficking**

<https://blocktraffik.org/>

**Vaccine Injury Support Program**

1-833-489-0839 [info@vaccineinjurysupport.ca](mailto:info@vaccineinjurysupport.ca)

<https://vaccineinjurysupport.ca/en>

**Parenting Resources:**

<https://axis.org/resources/>

[www.CatholicMomsGroup.com](http://www.CatholicMomsGroup.com)

[www.DynamicWomenFaith.com](http://www.DynamicWomenFaith.com)

**First Nations Journey Towards Reconciliation**

<https://slmedia.org/healing-reconciliation-journey>

**PEACE BE WITH YOU AND HAVE A GREAT WEEK!**

