



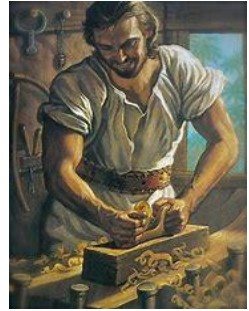
PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

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

E-MAIL: stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Northsydneyparish.com holycrosscemeteryns.com

Facebook at St. Joseph's Parish North Sydney



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

† OCTOBER 31ST, 2021 †

REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR

New address: parishministry@aol.com

GLEBE HOUSE: 902-794-4599

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

Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK 

Date	Location	Time	Details	
Mon. Nov. 1st	Private Mass		All Saints	For First Responders
Tues. Nov. 2nd	Private Mass		All Souls	For All Health Care Workers
Wed. Nov. 3rd	St. Joseph Church	6:30 pm		For Special Intention
Thurs. Nov. 4th	Private Mass		Mem. Of St.Charles Borromeo, Bishop	For the Lonely
Fri. Nov. 5th	Private Mass			For All Government Workers
Sat. Nov. 6th	St. Joseph Church			For All Hospitality Workers
Sun. Nov. 7th	St. Joseph Church			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	Charlotte Monroe	Joan Byers
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

Feast of All Souls' Day

This occurs on Tuesday, Nov 2nd but will be observed during the weekend masses of October 30 - 31. The names of this year's deceased parishioners will be read at both masses. Families of the deceased will be called to invite them to attend mass on Saturday or Sunday.

Finance Council Meeting

A finance meeting will be held this Sunday after mass at 11 am in the Parish Meeting Room in the Hall.

Funerals and weekday mass

When a funeral takes place on the same day as regularly scheduled weekday mass, the weekday mass is cancelled. Thank you for your understanding.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes will take place again this year. However, the ongoing pandemic has resulted in some supply shortages. We have a limited quantity of shoeboxes for parish distribution, but you can use any standard size shoebox to pack for a boy or girl. We will have instructions available plus Age Category Labels for your use.

These shoeboxes help put a smile on the faces of children around the world suffering as a result of war, poverty, famine, disease, and disaster, demonstrating that they are loved and not forgotten.

A donation of **\$10 per box for shipping** is requested. This can be done by cheque (payable to Samaritan's Purse) placed in a marked envelope inside the box, or online at **SamaritansPurse.ca**

If you can't get one of our shoeboxes, or a standard shoebox, you can also pack a shoebox(es) online and follow your box(es) at **PackBox.ca**

Tax-deductible receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 or more.

The designated location for the return of filled shoeboxes is a table in the bell tower lobby area. These will sit for 72 hours before being packed for shipment.

Please return your shoeboxes no later than Monday, November 15th. The shipping crates will be collected promptly thereafter by Samaritan's Purse, so they can arrive at their destination before Christmas.

The CWL thanks you for your ongoing support.

Food Bank

The North Sydney Food Bank is in need of the following items: cranberries, stove top dressing and can milk. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

What is the meaning of the word "Amen" with which we conclude our profession of faith?

The Hebrew word "Amen", which also concludes the last book of Sacred Scripture, some of the prayers of the New Testament, and the liturgical prayers of the church, expresses our confident and total "yes" to what we professed in the Creed, entrusting ourselves completely to him who is the definitive "Amen" (Revelation 3:14), Christ the Lord.

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

Oct. 23rd & 24th

Envelopes		1550.00
Fuel		5.00
Holy Cross		
Special Collection		
Candles		25.00
Faith Formation		45.00
Fuel		
Total		1625.00
Hall Fund		1550.00

DIOCESAN NEWS

CWL AND KOC NEWS

KOC

4th Degree KOC will have their regular monthly meeting October 31st at 2:00 pm at the KOC rooms in Sydney River (Coady House). Masks and proof of double Vax are required but no social distancing is required. Masks must be worn throughout the meeting. Thank You.

Kyte Power
0797 Assembly

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Matthew - Wesley United Church
Fishcake & bean supper

2 Peppett Street, North Sydney

Friday, NOVEMBER 19TH

4-6P.M. take out ONLY!

price- \$10.00

Tickets available at the church office

902-794-3651

Or Charlie Maclean 902-794-3573

(Anyone holding paid tickets from

april 30th will be honored)

(All tickets must be purchased by NOVEMBER 15TH)

DESSERT INCLUDED!

Covid Restrictions Apply

Home Energy Saving Program for Seniors

You may qualify for Efficiency Nova Scotia's *Home Warming* program (www.homewarming.ca). The *Home Warming* 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

"ARE YOU GRIEVING? WE CAN HELP!"

Bereaved Families of Cape Breton will be offering a six-week grief support program for people who are grieving as the result of the death of someone they love. The sessions will take place over ZOOM, on Tuesdays from 7:00pm – 8:30pm beginning November 2nd. Each week we will explore a grief-related topic to help you move through and beyond your grief. ***REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED***. These sessions are free of charge. Please register by calling Bereaved Families of Cape Breton at 902-564-6795 or email infobfcb@gmail.com “

Contemplative Writing Program for Family Caregivers

Family caregivers in Cape Breton are invited to participate in a contemplative writing program. Two-hour sessions, held weekly for six weeks, will include guided meditation, writing practices, and time for sharing with other caregivers. To learn more, contact the research team at Contemplative_Caring@cbu.ca or call 902-563-1410.

Quote of the Week

"Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do... but how much love we put in that action."

Mother Teresa

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
info@abuse-free-sport.ca

Compassionate Community Care – 1-855-675-8749

Euthanasia Prevention Advice, Support, Confidential and Free.

Expectant mother Fund-diapers, formula, and baby accessories for parents in need- phone 902- 794- 3951

Week 4

Given the swiftness in which lives are being upended by disproportionate policies, I have had to re-jig the order of my weekly letters. It is just for the government to want to increase vaccination rates, but to fire people from their jobs - does the end justify the means (Principle of Moral Theology)? On Oct. 6th, 2021 the Prime Minister announced that all federal employees have until Oct. 29th to be fully vaccinated or face being placed on administration leave without pay; many private companies, organizations, even some Churches followed suit.

The mandates have caused considerable pain to many across Canada, including one federal employee who asked, what will cause more harm to society – a person unvaccinated or a family being without food and an inability to pay the bills? Constitutional experts say employees are encouraged to stay in their job, don't resign, do not over react to these *announcements* and document everything.

Workers who have done nothing wrong are now encouraged to sign up for the foodbank. People in North Sydney can contact the Parish and we will assist you as we can in your time of need.

Exemptions/Accommodations

“Silence is not a virtue when charity calls for speech” - St. Poemen (4th century Monk).

Medical health information is strongly protected in Canada. It is an individual's choice if they wish to reveal their vaccine status (the decision will lead to limitations or not). There are people who are vaccinated that will not show proof, as they object to this intrusion in a free society. It should never be privacy versus public safety, but rather for mature societies, it has to be privacy and public safety. What happens to the vaccine passport systems information after the pandemic ends? A web of data surveillance is being created that even the most just governments will have a hard time giving up under the guise of public safety, national security and/or climate change. In a nutshell privacy forms the foundation of our freedom, so if you value liberty, you value privacy. **Remember there is no conflict between privacy and public safety, we can do both as we always have, so be cautious of anyone who tries to make a conflict.**

Regarding the vaccine, make an informed decision with your doctor or health care professional. While it is prudent to keep your health information private, some may choose to request an exemption, thus revealing their health status. Mature societies recognize the need for exemptions for a small percentage of people with medical conditions, religious concerns or creed (persons with conscience objections). When vaccines are mandated for work, you have a right to request an exemption; this is your legally protected right.

We respect the conclusions other world religions come to around religious exemptions. For Catholics a religious exemption might not be offered for some dioceses, since we are morally permitted to receive the vaccine. Catholics can still follow the dictates of their conscience and sign a conscientious objector letter. So, no need to see your pastor for an exemption, as the letter is something you write and sign because belief is subjectively defined by the claimant (you), and the focus is on the sincerity of the belief or practice. Both the Charter of Rights and the Human Rights Code distinguish creed/conscience from religion. This means that your freedom of conscience/creed does not depend on any religious affiliation.

[COVID-19 — The National Catholic Bioethics Center \(nbccenter.org\)](https://nbccenter.org)

Creed exemptions for vaccines should work on the same principle of individual autonomy as conscientious objection did during World War II when soldiers on various sides made up their own minds about whether it was just to fight. Canada also welcomed those from the US who followed their conscience, and refused to take up arms in Vietnam. Canada actually strengthened rights for all by accepting conscientious objectors to the war. Historically, it is authoritarian type regimes who have denied conscience rights. Without the right of conscience there is no common good; for a denial of conscience is a denial of the common good. *“Public authorities should make equitable provision for those who for reasons of conscience refuse to bear arms”* CCC 2311.

Respecting this diversity and pluralism in a small segment of the population actually humanizes and strengthens our community, while those same individuals also take appropriate infection protection measures for others. Muhammed Ali followed his conscience and did

not attend the draft, but there was a cost to following his conscience, as the World Heavy Weight boxing champion was stripped of his title. There is always a cost to following your conscience and being true to yourself.

We as a church are at our best when we stand for the least among us, regardless of the cost. I want to acknowledge the people begging not to be cancelled from society. They are our friends, relatives, co-workers and colleagues, so let's give voice to their pain. If we didn't demonize where the virus came from, let's not demonize our neighbours who are victims of the virus. God rushes to those who are suffering, so that is also where the church should be – **accompanying all our people (vaccinated or not)**. Regardless of health status, I will always offer pastoral care to you all, with reasonable infection prevention protocols.

In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, (mandates took effect on his feast day) let us seek to understand the hesitancy of others. I learned of distrust of both State and Church because of past injustices due to residential schools. May we seek to understand others and then accommodate like we always have, with an understanding that some choices may lead to restrictions to keep others safe. Your decision may also impact others, so some choices also require you protect others.

If you cannot get vaccinated for medical reasons or for sincerely held creed or religious beliefs, you may request an exemption/accommodation by completing a letter indicating the exemption ground pertaining to your situation: medical, or creed (conscience), since religious exemptions are not available in this diocese. If you are requesting an accommodation for **medical reasons**, you will be asked to submit a letter signed by your own physician or nurse practitioner confirming you have a medical condition that prevents you from receiving the vaccine.

If you are requesting an accommodation for **creed (conscience)**, you will be asked to submit a letter signed by you (or your parent or legal guardian, if you are under the age of 18) and sworn by a Commissioner of Oaths or Notary Public. **Religious exemptions/accommodations** can be certified the same way, or some employers will accept the seal of the clergy from a recognized Mosque, Temple, Synagogue, Church etc. It is not the Church that grants exemptions, but the employer imposing the mandate, thus your employer will have to give the exemption. Make your request for an exemption in a sincere, polite and thoughtful way.

[Vaccine Exemption Template Letter — The National Catholic Bioethics Center \(nbccenter.org\)](https://nbccenter.org)

Do mature societies make accommodations for those with medical, religious or conscience issues?

Should employers be able to push people to violate their personal beliefs, or interfere in the doctor patient relationship?

Is there a slippery slope that could lead to other requests, if employers are able to tell workers what to do with their body? [Canada's shameful history of sterilizing Indigenous women | Nunatsiaq News](#)

