

+Margaree Family of Catholic Churches

St. Joseph's St. Michael's/St-Michel St. Patrick's

Fr. Macdonald Ibeh Contact: pastor@mfocc.ca Tel: 902-235-2435 © 1-902-565-9994

Mission Statement: Open to God. Open to Others. Open to Transformation.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Feb. 11, 2018

Masses for next weekend: St. Joseph's – 4 p.m. on Saturday; St. Patrick's – 9:30 a.m. and St. Michael's – 11 a.m. on Sunday

Weekday Masses: Mon., Feb. 12 – 10 a.m. - St. Michael's – Josephine Muise req. by Elaine LeBlanc

Tues., Feb. 13 – 6:30 p.m. –St. Patrick's – Chris Tompkins req. by Alice Cormier

Wed., Feb. 14 – 7 p.m. - Ash Wednesday – St. Michael's

Thurs., Feb. 15 – 10 a.m. –St. Michael's – Angus D. MacIsaac req. by Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie MacIsaac

Fri., Feb. 16 – 6:30 p.m. - St. Joseph's – Jerome Gillis req. by Joey Beaton

Communion calls: St. Joseph's, Tues., Feb. 13; St. Patrick's – Wed., Feb. 14; St. Michael's – Fri., Feb. 16

Confessions Penance Celebration – any time before weekday Mass

First Sunday of Lent – Feb. 18, 2018

Church	Greeters/gift bearers	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
St. Joseph's	Donald & Florence	Eileen	Jannette, Rosita, Karen
St. Michael's	Mary Taylor	Jessie M., Mary H.	Hubert, Claudia, Eugene
St. Patrick's	Leonard & Barbara	Olivia, Lowell	Allen, Brooks, Shaun

MEETINGS

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Tues., Feb. 13 in the vestry at St. Patrick's after Mass.

Prayer Corner: Please pray for healing for Joe & Marilyn Gledhill, Barry Guihan, Harry Timmons, Fr. Paul Abbass, Fr. Vern Boutilier, Jim MacDonnell and Danny Gillis.

If there is someone who is sick and would like his/her name in the prayer corner, please contact the parish office either by phone: 902-235-2435 or email: office@mfocc.ca.

Condolences are extended to the families of Anna Rose Bennett, Fr. Joseph Gillis, Fr. Reginald MacNeil, Viola MacNeil, Georgena Phillips and Mary Touesnard (sister of Bill Cameron).

Bulletin announcements may be emailed to bulletins@mfocc.ca no later than 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

World Day of Prayer for the Sick – February 11 – “The ministry of Jesus is central to the life of the Church. Feb. 11 (Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes) highlights the healing ministry of the Church. It reminds us that service to the sick and suffering cannot be neglected. It recognizes the great efforts of doctors, nurses, health care institutions and pastoral care givers to restore health to those afflicted with illness and disease.” – Liturgical Calendar 2017-18

Prayer to Our Lady of Lourdes – O Holy Virgin, in the midst of your days of glory, do not forget the sorrows of this earth. Cast a merciful glance upon those who are suffering, struggling against difficulties, with their lips constantly pressed against life's bitter cup. Have pity on those who love each other and are separated. Have pity on our rebellious hearts. Have pity on our weak faith. Have pity on those who weep, on those who pray, on those who fear. Grant hope and peace to all. Amen.

Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila

Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you. All things pass away. God never changes. Patience obtains all things. He/She who has God lacks nothing. God alone suffices.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for Lent, 2018 – Dear Lord, during this season of Lent, we pray against the evil of corruption in our world. We also pray that any people who have material, political or spiritual power may resist the lure of corruption.

Prayer for Ash Wednesday

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, the all-holy one who gives us life and all things.

As we go about our lives, the press of our duties and activities often lead us to forget your presence and your love.

We fall into sin and fail to live out the responsibilities that you have entrusted to those who were baptized into your Son.

In this holy season, help us turn our minds and hearts back to you.

Lead us into sincere repentance and renew our lives with your grace.

Help us to remember that we are sinners, but even more, help us to remember your loving mercy.

As we live through this Ash Wednesday, may the crosses of ashes that mark our foreheads be a reminder to us and to those we meet that we belong to your Son.

May our worship and prayer and penitence this day be sustained throughout these forty days of Lent. Bring us refreshed and renewed to the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence.

Ministry News

Small Faith Communities' Initiative – The next meeting will take place in St. Michael's Hall on **Feb. 22** at 7 p.m. All are welcome!

Thank you - Thanks are extended to Jimmy Murphy and Mark Stepaniak for removing the old cross and installing a new one on St. Patrick's Church. Thanks also to Earl Arsenault's Manufacturing for the speedy production of a new aluminum cross.

Family Life Ministry of Diocese of Antigonish Parenting Tip : Parents have the primary influence on their children's values. Your kids are watching you, they look to you to guide them in how they think and act. They especially watch what you do, more than what you say. They learn from how you use pills and medications, how you use or don't use alcohol, and from how you treat others. They also watch and observe your spiritual self by observing what you say and do. Are you living the life you want your children to live? Used with permission re Family Ministry Office of Diocese of Hamilton

Euthanasia Prevention Coalition Helpline - The number is 1-855-675-8749, and the service is confidential and free and available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

IGNITE ... Your Faith Journey - The next Diocesan Youth Gathering entitled "Ignite ... Your Faith Journey" will be hosted by Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Sydney on Sat., April 14, 2018 starting at 11a.m. and ending with 4:15 p.m. Mass.

New Beginnings Weekend is a weekend of reflection and healing for those who are divorced, separated, or bereaved. Our next weekend will be April 20-22, 2018 at the St. Joseph Renewal Centre/Mabou Resource Centre. For information and to register, please contact Ron Curry: 902-564-0788

Marriages CAN go the distance, and the annual recognition of Canada's Longest Married Couple proves it. Nominate your loved ones by submitting the names of husband & wife, wedding date, current home address and the contact info of the person submitting the nomination to: Ernesto and Analillian Ayala 113-7471 Blundel Rd, Richmond, BC, V6Y-1J6, or canada@wwme.org, or [604-337-5845](tel:604-337-5845) Deadline Feb 28, 2018. All nominations will be recognized.

CWL & K of C

St. Michael's CWL is encouraging parishioners to donate non-perishables (dry and canned goods that are not outdated) for the Food Bank and place them in the box at the entrance of the Church. Be sure that the food is fresh. Only dry goods should be donated. Check the "best before" date!

Knights of Columbus – Crib games will be held on Sundays 7 p.m. at the Margaree Seniors Hall, Margaree. Everyone welcome; bring a partner. There is a Knight's Jackpot.

Used Stamps – Please save the stamps from any envelopes you receive and give them to any member of the CWL from St. Michael's or St. Patrick's. Please leave 1/8 of an inch around the stamp!

St. Patrick's CWL – St. Patrick's CWL will meet on Wed., Feb. 21 after Mass.

St. Patrick's CWL will be having a pancake supper on Tues., Feb. 13 beginning at 4 p.m.

Other & Community Events

Foot Clinic will take place at Margaree Manor Tues., Feb. 20 starting at 8 a.m. for regular clients only.

S.W. Margaree Seniors Card Games – Mondays at 7 p.m.

S. W. Margaree Seniors –

Free Instruction - Adult upgrading classes and GED exam prep. are being offered throughout Inverness County from Oct./2017 to June/2018. Basic computer skills instruction can be provided in your community depending on interest. If you would like more information, please call Shirley Miller at 248-2960, Jesslyn Timmons at 258-2752, daily at the Literacy Office 258-3110, or toll free at [1-877-258-5550](tel:1-877-258-5550). Sponsored by Inverness County Literacy Council.

Open Letter to residents of the Margaree community, business owners, community-based organizations, etc.

You are invited to attend and participate in a planning session to discuss a possible collaboration between Cape Breton University's Shannon School of Business and the greater Margaree community. This is an opportunity for an action-oriented project to support and strengthen the Margarees. Community Studies MBA students from the Shannon School of Business would conduct a research project set in the Margarees. The students' practicum will look at strategies that will facilitate ways of working together as a community.

This project requires community commitment. In that connection, a meeting of interested residents, organizations and businesses is scheduled for **Sunday afternoon, February 25**. This meeting will assist in setting goals on which the students will focus. Some possible areas of interest might be a tourism strategy, website/communication development, business opportunities, shared fundraising, etc. That direction will depend on what we, as a community, deem important.

Please mark **Sunday, February 25, 2 p.m., at the East Margaree Seniors' Hall (behind Saint Michael's**

Church). Dr. Jacquelyn Scott of CBU and Del Muise of the Margaree-Lake Ainslie Heritage River Society, along with myself and Board members of the Margaree Area Development Association, will be present to explore the many benefits this partnership could bring to the Margaree Community.

Sincerely,

Maria Coady, MADA Chair

January 24, 2018

“The Margaree Area Development Association’s mission is to represent all the peoples of the Margaree communities by celebrating their heritages and protecting and developing the area’s environmental, social, cultural and economic resources.”