

+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.

Third Sunday of Advent – Dec. 17, 2017

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., Dec. 18 – St. Michael's – 6:30 p.m.(before Penance Celebration) – Evelyn LeBlanc req. by Leo LeBlanc

Tues., Dec. 19 – St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m.- Jimmy Gillis req. by Mr. & Mrs. John MacLellan

Wed., Dec. 20 - St. Patrick's – 6:30 p.m. – Archie Murphy req. by Helen Gillis

Thurs., Dec. 21 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Wilfred Delaney req. by Mr. & Mrs. A. Simon LeBlanc

Fri., Dec. 22– St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. – R.J. MacLellan req. by Billy Carroll

Sat., Dec. 23 – Margaree Manor – 10 a.m. – Levi LeBlanc req. by Gary & Leona Tompkins

Communion calls: St. Joseph's – Tues., Jan. 2 after Mass; St. Patrick's – Wed., Jan. 3 in the morning; St. Michael's – Jan. 5 beginning at 10 a.m.

Confessions Penance Celebration – Dec. 18 at 7 p.m. and any time before weekday Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent– Dec. 24, 2017

<u>Church</u>	<u>Greeters/gift bearers</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</u>
St. Joseph's	Billy Carroll	Laurie	Bill, Marie, Lawrence
St. Michael's	Rose Anne Chiasson	Emilia, Noah	Therese, Archie, Art
St. Patrick's	Wilfridine	Barbara, Ethna	Brooks, Mose, Jackie

Christmas– Dec. 25, 2017

<u>Church</u>	<u>Greeters/gift bearers</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</u>
St. Joseph's	Chris, Colyn & family	Sophie	Jannette, Joan M., Karen
St. Michael's	Harold & Liza	Hannah, Nadine	Mary H., Jeanette, Wilfridine
St. Patrick's	Mose & Betty	Carmel, Campbell	Cecile, Allen, Shaun

MEETINGS

Prayer Corner: Please pray for healing for Joe & Marilyn Gledhill, Barry Guihan, Harry Timmons and Fr. Vern Boutilier..

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 family of Joseph Chiasson, uncle of Odette LeBlanc, Angus MacIsaac, father of Jimmy MacIsaac and Cheryl MacLean.

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

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 December: God our Father, during this season of Advent, we lift up to you the elderly. We pray that they be sustained by families and Christian communities. May they be able to apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming new generations that praise your name.

Christmas and New Year`s Schedule for Masses and Penance Celebration

Penance Celebration – December 18 - St. Michael`s – 7 p.m.

Christmas Mass – December 24 – St. Michael`s – 10 p.m.

Christmas Mass – December 25 – St. Patrick`s – 9:30 a.m.; St. Joseph`s – 11 a.m.

New Year`s – December 31 – St. Joseph`s – 4 p.m.

New Year`s – January 1 – St. Patrick`s – 9:30 a.m.; St. Michael`s – 11 a.m.

Ministry News

Small Faith Communities` Initiative – The next meeting will take place in St. Michael`s Hall in the New Year. All are welcome!

Family Life Ministry of Diocese of Antigonish Parenting Tip : Christmas is a time of great joy and excitement for children who wait with anticipation to receive presents from Santa and other loved ones. Keeping Christ`s birth at the heart of the celebration can be hard, but not impossible. We can help our children focus on the true meaning of Christmas in the following ways: place the nativity scene as a focal point in your home; assist with or contribute to charity drives; read the story of Christ`s birth daily; engage in a small advent lighting ceremony each week of advent as a family; on Christmas morning sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus before you open up the gifts under the tree. Christmas holds a deeper meaning for all when we stay focused on its true meaning. - Used with permission from the Family Ministry Office of Diocese of Hamilton

Response to suggestions/questions:

Letter re finances - Please pick up your letter re finances if you have not done so already. The letters are at the entrance of each church.

Notice from the Inverness North Pastoral Planning Zone Committee - The committee has been meeting and working diligently on stage 1 of the implementation of the zone for Inverness North. This stage 1 will be implemented June 2018. A meeting will be held with all finance committees on January 20, 2018. An information meeting for all parishioners will be held at a later date.

St. Joseph`s: Parishioners are needed for all ministries: altar servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and readers. Please contact the parish office if you are willing to serve.

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.

YOUTH NEWS

MFOCC Youth Group Announcements:

MFOCC Youth Group has placed a prayer box, along with paper and pencils, at the entrance of the church. We invite you to write down any intention you would like the youth group to pray for (sickness, financial, peace, frame of minds, worries you may have etc.) Every Sunday evening at the youth group meeting, the youth will spend time praying for these intentions. Thank you!

Also, if anyone needs help that you think the youth group could help you with, please contact the following people to discuss your request; Audrey LeBlanc [902-235-2626](tel:902-235-2626) or Elaine LeBlanc [902-224-0152](tel:902-224-0152). Thanks

MFOCC Youth Group Meeting on Sunday, Dec. 10.

Youth Choir - If you are interested in joining a youth choir, please contact Noah Doucette, [902-235-2038](tel:902-235-2038).

Youth Ministry - “Encountering God through Serving – People, Community and Environment” - This is our year to bring back activities and events for Youth of our Diocese. Parishioners are asked to support our Youth by contacting your Parish Priest and the Youth Office to see how you can help! Youth that are interested in joining in the fun while we journey in our faith can “like” us on facebook and keep updated on pending activities and events. email: youthministry@dioceseofantigonish.ca; facebook: Dioceseofantigonishyouth; 902-863-3335, ask for Cathy Walsh

We're Listening....Youth of the Diocese - Youth are invited to lend their voices to the upcoming Bishops Synod 2018: *Young People, The Faith and Vocational Discernment*. The survey can be found at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/K2RBCH9>

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.

Knights of Columbus – The next regular meeting of Fr. Robert F Wicks Memorial Council # 9936 will be held on Thursday, January 11 and not January 4.

St. Patrick's CWL – We are now collecting dues of \$22. for 2018. Please submit your dues to Sheila 902-248-2516 or Barbara Ross 902-248-2511 or drop them in the collection in an envelope marked `CWL Dues` before Christmas.

St. Michael's CWL – Have you paid your 2018 CWL dues? If not, please pay Anne LeBlanc or place in a CWL addressed envelope and drop in the Sunday collection on or before Dec. 31, 2017. A sincere thank you to all who have submitted their dues for 2018. Our next meeting will be held on Wed., Feb. 7 at 1:30 p.m. A very Merry Christmas to all!

Other & Community Events

Christmas Variety Concert - The Margaree Kinette Club is hosting a Christmas Variety Concert at St. Michael's Parish Hall on Thursday December 21 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$3 for students preschoolers are free. Lots of local entertainment. .

Choeur du Havre will present a concert of Christmas music in St. Michael's Church in East Margaree on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 7:00 PM. Michael Aucoin will direct the choir; pianist Brydon MacDonald will accompany. Admission is by donation at the door.

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. Michael's Parish Hall Committee is calling for tenders for exterior renovations (Vinyl Siding and Windows) on the North side and the front (road) side of the Margaree parish hall. Work to be completed in the Spring of 2018. For more detailed information on what is to be included in the tenders, please contact Audrey LeBlanc at [902-235-2626](tel:902-235-2626) or Bernice Miller at [902-235-2280](tel:902-235-2280). Deadline for tenders will be December 31st, 2017. Tenders to be submitted to Audrey LeBlanc (Chairperson of Hall Committee) by mail or drop of at <1035 East Margaree Road, Margaree, NS, B0E 1Y0>. The lowest tender won't necessarily be the tender chosen.

S.W. Margaree Seniors Card Game - Mondays at 7 p.m.

S. W. Margaree Seniors – The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2018.

Foot Clinic - There will be a foot clinic at Margaree Manor on Thursday, December 21 for regular clients only.

Found – one studded earring. Please contact Marg, [902-235-2829](tel:902-235-2829) if you have lost one.

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 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.