

+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.

First Sunday of Lent – Feb. 18, 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:

Communion calls:

Confessions – any time before weekday Mass

Second Sunday of Lent – Feb. 25, 2018

Church	Greeters/gift bearers	Readers	Extraordinary Ministers of Communion
St. Joseph's	Michael & Karen	Norman	Bill, Joan C. Cathy
St. Michael's	Eric & Sharon	Adele, Lawrence	Therese, Archie, Art
St. Patrick's	Hilda Phillips	Stella, Wilfridine	Cecile, Mary L., Mose

MEETINGS

Joint liturgy committee meeting will be held on Tues., Feb. 27 at 7:15 p.m. in Mary's Room.

Prayer Corner: Please pray for healing for Joe & Marilyn Gledhill, Barry Guihan, Harry Timmons, Fr. Paul Abbass, 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 Fr. Vern Boutilier, Victoire Chiasson (sister of Harry LeBlanc), and Bishop Joseph N. MacNeil, Edmonton, formerly of the Diocese of Antigonish.

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 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.

Lent – When most people fast they usually give up food. Perhaps we should focus not on food but on avoiding criticisms, resentments and actions that hurt ourselves and other people. Here are some guidelines:

Fast from criticism; feast on praise.

Fast from self-pity; feast on joy.

Fast from ill-temper; feast on peace.

Fast from resentment; feast on contentment.

Fast from jealousy; feast on love.

Fast from pride; feast on humility.

Fast from selfishness; feast on service.

Fast from fear; feast on faith.

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!

Share Lent 2018 – Through their prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent, Christians express their desire to turn toward God and to all God's children in preparation for Easter.

The Bishops of Canada have reserved the Season of Lent for a collection to assist the Global South. Normally this collection is held the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Founded and mandated in 1967 by the Bishops of Canada, and now a member of the *Caritas International* network of Catholic agencies, the *Canadian Organization for Development & Peace* financially supports development and aid projects in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as informs Canadian Catholics on international social justice questions. (Excerpt from the Liturgical Calendar 2017-18)

Share Lent in the name of peace. – For this year's Share Lent, Development and Peace is encouraging us to come together for peace! You will find inspiring testimonials in the Mini-magazine in your bulletin this week. You will also receive a copy of the Solidarity Calendar which you can use with your family. During this first week of Lent, our search for peace takes us to Cambodia to meet ICSO, a Development and Peace partner that works with minority indigenous communities to help them have their rights recognized by the government, defend their land against corporate interests, and develop sustainable economic activities that enable them to live with dignity.

World Day of Prayer: This year St. Michael's is hosting "The World Day of Prayer" worship service which has been prepared by the women of Suriname, South America, with the theme ALL GOD'S CREATION IS VERY GOOD on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 7 p.m. Please come in great numbers. A light lunch will be served afterwards in the parish hall.

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 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 at 7 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.

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. `

Winter Wellness Program - Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Drs. Coady Tompkins Memorial Library. An opportunity to socialize, listen to a presentation and enjoy lunch together; welcoming all area residents with a particular focus on seniors, seasonal workers and women. Sponsored by MADA, with support from a Central Inverness CHB Wellness Grant and Margaree Kinettes. **Our policy is that if local schools are cancelled, our program is canceled for that day.**

Program for Feb.23 - Chair Yoga with Susie Paddon

Program for Mar. 2 - Supporting Mental Health & Fighting Social Isolation - Mireille Bourgeois & Adam Matthews

Program for Mar. 9 - Fall Prevention & Exercise in the Kitchen - Community Links

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.”