

+Margaree Family of Catholic Churches

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

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

Second Sunday of Advent, December 6, 2020

Fr. Macdonald is continuing to say private, weekday Masses and offering an intention for each. The intentions for the next two weeks are: Dec. 7 – Yvonne Olson req. by Mary Alice Arsenault & family; Dec. 11 – Tommy Burns req. by Mr. & Mrs. Bob Warner; Dec. 12 – David Doucet req. by Jessie Tompkins; Dec. 14 – Josephine Muise req. by Mr. & Mrs. A. Simon LeBlanc; Dec. 18 – Leo Paul LeBlanc req. by Bell Murphy; Dec. 19 – John Poupore req. by Mr. & Mrs. Fred Burns. Besides these intentions, Fr. Macdonald prays for all health care workers in the whole world.

Masses are being offered in our three churches on the weekend: St. Joseph's – Sat., 4 p.m.; St. Patrick's – Sun., 9:30 a.m.; St. Michael's – Sun., 11 a.m. Please note: Parishioners need to call from Wednesday to Friday each week to reserve a seat for Mass: St. Joseph's – 902-248-2612; St. Michael's – 902-235-2944 and St. Patrick's – 902-248-2305.

Weekday Masses:

Tues., Dec. 8 – St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. – Jessie Walker req. by Alexander Gillis

Wed., Dec. 9 – St. Patrick's – 6:30 p.m. - Mary Doyle req. by Helen Timmons

Thurs., Dec. 10 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – John A. MacKenzie req. by K of C Council #9936

Tues., Dec. 15 – St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. – Jerome Gillis req. by Dorothy Oliver

Wed., Dec. 16 – St. Patrick's – 6:30 p.m. – Raylene Carroll req. by Billy Carroll

Thurs., Dec. 17 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Peter Sheehan req. by Christine & Marion Avery

Prayer Corner: Phil Craig, Jackie Murphy, Marilyn and Joe Gledhill, Joan Burns, Very Rev. Michael MacEwen, Lynne Cameron, Elaine (Murphy) Gillis, Jim MacFarlane, Leroy LeFort and Bernice Munro. If there is someone who is sick and would like his/her name in the Prayer Corner, please contact the parish office.

Condolences are extended to the families of James Cunningham; Paul Dunn, husband of Velma LeBlanc, Johnny Kennedy, brother of Irene MacLellan, Bessie LeBlanc, wife of the late Albert LeBlanc. and **Masses to watch: Mass on Sunday: Mass for Shut-ins** is back on the air (CTV) at 11:30 a.m. **Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth** at 10:30 a.m.; also available at later times. **Also on Sunday** – XFM broadcasts the Mass from St. Ninian Cathedral around 8:30 a.m. **Other Masses in the Inverness Deanery:** Check on the Antigonish Diocesan website (dioceseofantigonish.ca) for other live-streamed Masses on Sundays.

Daily TV Mass is broadcast on VISION TV at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. On Saturday, the Daily TV Mass is broadcast at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. If you are not available at those times, you can find the Mass on You tube. Daily Mass live from St. Mary's Basilica weekdays (Monday to Friday) at 12:15 p.m. (Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth)

There are other Masses also available on You tube. Here is a prayer to say for a Spiritual Communion when you are watching the Mass:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Pope Francis' Prayer for Vocations - LORD of the Harvest, BLESS young people with the gift of courage to respond to your call. Open their hearts to great ideals, to great things. INSPIRE all of your disciples to mutual love and giving— for vocations blossom in the good soil of faithful people. INSTILL those in religious life, of a life consecrated to you. UNITE us to Jesus through prayer and sacrament, so that we may cooperate with you in building your reign of mercy and truth, of justice and peace. Amen.

A plea for your collection envelopes: Even though the Churches are opened, we realize that some people have not returned as yet. We ask that you continue to send your contribution. For St. Joseph's: You can send your envelopes by mail to St. Joseph's Parish, Box 1C, S.W. Margaree, NS B0E 3H0
For St. Michael's: You can send your contribution by mail to St. Michael's Parish, 1181 East Margaree Rd., Margaree, NS B0E 1Y0 Drop it in the slot, **OR** by E-transfer (which is the better way if you have access). Send your E-transfer to paula.cormier@creditunion.ca. Paula's phone number is 902-235-2095.
For St. Patrick's: You can send your contribution by mail to St. Patrick's Parish, N.E. Margaree, NS B0E 2H0 **OR** by E-transfer. Send your E-transfer to ccl.mllr@gmail.com. Cecile's phone number is 902-248-2305. If you prefer, you can make one payment per month rather than weekly payments.
Thank you from the Pastor's desk: Thank you to all who continue to support the Church. We want to recognize you and let you know we appreciate your support. Please continue.

Bulletin – This bulletin is for two weeks. The next bulletin will be printed on the weekend of Dec. 19 & 20.

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.

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' Intention for December - For a life of prayer - We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

MINISTRY NEWS

SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

St. Joseph's – Thurs., Dec. 24 – 4 p.m.
St. Patrick's – Thurs., Dec. 24 – 6 p.m.
St. Michael's – Thurs., Dec. 24 – 9 p.m.
St. Michael's – Fri., Dec. 25 – 10 a.m.

Parishioners NEED to register for a seat at these Masses. Phone the call person in your parish to reserve your seat. It will be first come, first served.

FORMED – We have purchased the online platform FORMED, and it is available to all parishioners, free of charge, simply by signing in. Here's how to sign in: There are three easy steps: 1) Go to formed.org/signup. 2) Enter St. Michael's Parish; then click on 1181 East Margaree Rd. 3) Enter your name and email. You are signed in!

Advent Offerings on FORMED: - To access programs on Advent, go to FORMED and click on "SEARCH". Type in Advent, and you will find a wonderful series on Advent. Make sure you are signed up for "The Road to Bethlehem", short reflections on the readings each day during Advent.

Journey through Advent – On Monday, November 23 2020, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCC) announced a new online weekly video series created to help Canadian Catholic faithful to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Entitled *Journey through Advent*, the series is a joint project involving the CCCB's *Office national de liturgie*, the National Liturgy Office, and the Office for Evangelization and Catechesis. The initiative was developed as a way, through the modern method of video messaging, to offer a resource that enriches faith formation during a time of joyful anticipation for the coming of the Lord and Saviour into the world.

The videos serve as an introduction to the liturgical Season and present reflections on the Gospel readings for each Sunday in Advent. The Most Reverend Douglas Crosby, O.M.I., Bishop of Hamilton and the Most Reverend Pierre Goudreault, Bishop of Saint-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, provide spiritual and pastoral guidance on the readings that illustrate the true meaning of Christmas.

This video series is especially relevant given the COVID-19 pandemic that places limitations on in-person gatherings for faith communities. It is hoped that *Journey through Advent* will be a source of deep spiritual solace and insightful preparation for all. The videos will be available on the CCCB website each Monday in advance of the upcoming Sunday celebration (23 November, 30 November 7 December and 14 December).

To follow the series in English, go to: <https://www.cccb.ca/liturgy-sacraments/resources-in-english/liturgical-calendar/video-reflections/>

To follow the series in French, go to: <https://www.cccb.ca/liturgie-et-sacrements/ressources-en-francais/reflexions-sur-les-temps-liturgiques/>

CWL NEWS

St. Patrick's CWL - If anyone knows of a needy family for whom we could give a basket at Christmas, please contact Cecile or Sheila. Sheila is now collecting dues (\$22.) for 2021.

A Fireside Chat with the League's Honourary Life Members – You are invited to a one-hour webinar on December 13 at 4 p.m. To register, go to the CWL website, cwl.ca.

OTHER NEWS

Reverse Advent Calendar - Our Diocesan Youth Ministry has been working to support youth and families in maintaining and deepening their faith connections during this pandemic. At the Youth Ministry Advisory Committee in November, a proposal was made for an Advent activity that can engage our youth and families in service to parish and community. This activity is supported by Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick for use in our parishes. Our prayers and participation are invited.

The activity is called Reverse Advent Calendar. How does it work? Families and individuals at home are asked to set up a box or basket. During the season of Advent, a non-perishable food item is placed inside each day. By Christmas Eve, 24 food items will have been collected for your local food bank. You can complete the filling of the box/basket earlier by “paying ahead” your donations. Lorette Yip, at the food bank in Inverness, has agreed to accept your donations on Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. If you cannot go to Inverness at that time, call Therese Doucet at 902-248-2575 or Anne & Simon LeBlanc at 902-235-2064 to make other arrangements.

Suggestions for Advent

1. Read the reflection for the week in your Sunday Missal. Make sure you pick up your Missal.
2. Read a passage in the Bible, as Fr. Macdonald is always telling us to do, and reflect on it. How does this relate to you? Where are you on your journey?

3. Create your own reflection on what is important to you and your family at this particular time in your life.
4. Prepare an Advent wreath and pray with your family daily.
5. Spend time with someone who might be lonely, shut-in or in poor health. The gift of your presence (even if only by a phone call) can be a very special occasion for both of you.