

# Margaree Family of Catholic Churches

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

Pastor: Fr. Silvichan Dominic, CFIC

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

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## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 16, 2022

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. Remember to call to reserve your place: St. Joseph's - Rosita 902-248-2612; St. Michael's - Mary Hilda 902-235-2944; St. Patrick's - Cecile 902-248-2305.

**Weekday Masses:** Mass will be preceded by Adoration, one hour before and Rosary, one half hour before Mass.

**Tues., Jan. 18 - St. Joseph's - 4 p.m.** - John Maclean req. by Mary MacKinnon

**Wed., Jan. 19 - St. Michael's - 10 a.m.** - Allena Phillips req. by Verna Phillips

**Thurs., Jan. 20 - St. Michael's - 10 a.m.** - Marie Bushor req. by Josephine Cormier

**Fri., Jan. 21 - St. Michael's - 10 a.m.** - Harriet Aucoin req. by Marie Tompkins

**Please note:** If anyone would like a visit from Fr. Silvan, baptism, anointing of the sick, house blessing, or Communion to the sick and shut-ins, please contact Father (email and numbers above).

**Proof of Vaccination (POV)** will be mandatory for all wedding and funeral Masses as well as receptions. POV will not be necessary for other Masses.

### From the Pastor's Desk:

My dear friends. Greetings of peace and love in the name of Jesus. I hope that you had a good Christmas and new year. I missed the New Year celebration here as I was away on my holidays. I did have a wonderful time with my friends. I am safe and sound thanks to your prayers. A special thanks to Fr. Peter for filling in for me when I was away. I came into a totally different and beautiful rectory after my holidays. The cracks are filled and the walls and ceilings are painted. I don't have enough words to thank the volunteers for this beautiful job. Hats off to you, my dear friends. By the way, I did a rapid test for Covid and I am happy to declare that I am negative.

This week we are at a wedding in Cana where Jesus reveals his Divine power by his first miracle, transforming water into wine. The Bible begins with one wedding, that of Adam and Eve in the garden (Genesis 2:23-24), and ends with another, the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9, 21:9, 22:17). Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the Covenant relationship between God and His chosen people. God is the faithful Groom and humanity is His beloved bride. Let us pray for God's daily miracles in our families.

Symbolic meaning of the miracle as seen by the Fathers of the Church: The love of God is manifested at its most powerful in the love between husband and wife, in marriages that are sacraments, that is,

in marriages in which Christ is the ever-present Wedding Guest. As ministers of the marriage sacrament, husbands and wives, in their love for one another, mirror for all of us the great love of God in our midst. The symbols used and their meaning: 1) The fruit of the vine is used in the Old Testament as an emblem of the joy associated with the Messianic age and a gift and blessing of God (Dt 7:13; Prv 3:10, Ps 105). The water in the jars represents the old order of Jewish law and custom (Jer 31:12, Hos 14:7, Amos 9:13), which Jesus was to replace with something better, namely his sweet and inspiring Gospel. 2) The fact that the abundant wine (120 gallons) provided by Christ was of such superior quality and taste also reveals the glory, satisfaction, sufficiency, and lavishness of the grace, Divine Life, He provides to sinners. Since it is God Who provides, we will lack nothing; however, to receive it, we must be emptied, giving all we have to Him. There are three steps

found in the text which lead us to the sufficiency of Christ: a) Ask God for help (v 3). b) Obey His commands (vv 7-8). c) Expect Him to be glorified as He provides (v 11). 3) Mary's comments, "They have no wine" (v. 3) and "Do whatever He tells you" (v. 5), can be understood as a reflection on the barrenness of the Jewish purification rituals and as a directive to look to Jesus as the new means of salvation. 4) The new wine made by Jesus signifies the "new rich wine" of the Gospel and it points to the "wine of the New Covenant" and the "Bread of Life" which Jesus provides for his disciples in the Lord's Supper or Eucharist. The wine that Jesus had to offer, i.e., his words and works, was far superior to any other teaching or wisdom. This first sign is the manifestation of the grace and truth that has come through Jesus Christ (Jn 1:17), and serves as a summons to us all to join in the celebration. It also points to the Messianic banquet which Jesus will provide at the end of the age when He comes again in glory.

Looking forward to worshipping the Lord in the Eucharist this weekend!

In Christ, Fr. Silvichan Dominic

## **MINISTRY**

**Food Bank Project** - The Margaree Family of Catholic Churches invites all parishioners to participate in a Food Bank Project. We will be collecting food for a food bank at St. Michael's. Please bring any donations of non-perishables to Mass and leave them at the entrance of your Church. Some top food bank items are: peanut butter, canned soup, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned stew, canned fish, canned beans, pasta and rice, cereals, juice, oatmeal, tea, coffee, sugar, crackers and cookies. Make sure to check the best before date on the items you donate. The bank will be open on Thursdays at the glebe house for anyone needing food. Thank you for your generosity!

**BREAKING DOWN WALLS: YOUNG PEOPLE, FAITH, AND MENTAL HEALTH** - Young people from all around Atlantic Canada are invited to join a special Facebook Live Event addressing issues around young people and their mental health on **Wednesday, January 26th at 7:00 pm (AST)**. Special guests for this **Bell Let's Talk** event will include Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick, Bishop of Antigonish; Joe Townsend, Community CARES Youth Outreach (Sydney Mines); Paige Cox, Author of "The Berlin Project: Breaking Down Walls," and John Ratchford, Faith Witness. Anyone can join the session through the website for the Diocese of Antigonish ([www.antigonishdiocese.com/](http://www.antigonishdiocese.com/)) or their Facebook Page (<http://www.facebook.com/antigonishdiocese>). This event is a collaborative effort, hosted by the Diocese of Antigonish and sponsored by the Atlantic Association of Catholic Youth Ministers. For more information, please contact (*Diocesan Youth Coordinator, Norma Blinkhorn*) at 902- 202- 2972 or email [norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca](mailto:norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca).

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan. 18 – 25, 2022)** – "We saw the star in the East, and we have come to worship him." (Mt. 2.2)

### **#ListeningChurch**

**Pray Connect Share Your Story** – Our Diocese is inviting us to participate in conversations in preparation for the upcoming Synod, 2021 - 2023. The Synod is an invitation from Pope Francis for us to journey together in conversation about our faith, our church, and the future. We are invited to engage as parishes, families, individuals and community groups - reflecting, discussing, and sharing our experiences, thoughts and views. Our website has information, including the Synod questions, to help launch your journey.

**[www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch](http://www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch)**

**Thank you** – St. Michael's sincerely thanks all who contributed to "Repairs for the Church". A total of \$4 433.38 was donated.

## CWL & KofC NEWS

**St. Patrick's CWL** – No meeting is scheduled during January due to COVID. Dues for 2022 (\$22) are now being collected.

**St. Michael CWL**: 1) 2022 membership dues are \$22.00 and must be paid by Jan. 31, 2022. You may contact Anne LeBlanc (902-235-2064) or Mary Hilda MacIsaac (902-235-2944). You may place your dues in a CWL addressed envelope and drop in the donation basket. 2) Meetings will resume in February. There are important issues to discuss! 3) Please save your used postage stamps and bring to the first meeting in the new year.

## OTHER NEWS

**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.

### PRAYERS

**Prayer to say**: Prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick by Pope Francis during the COVID-19 pandemic: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did in Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test - and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.

**Prayer for the Synod**: We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January** – For true human fraternity – We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

**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, parish ministries, and families with the confidence and grace to invite others to embrace the bold and noble path 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.

**Pray the Rosary:** Continue praying the Rosary each day for an end to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, for all health care workers, government leaders, all who are sick and all who have died, for all others who are being impacted by this pandemic and for the equitable distribution of the vaccines, so we can all be safe.

**Condolences are extended to the families of** Jim Cockriell, nephew of Norman Gillis; Helen Hilsendeger, sister of Martha Buckles; Wilbert MacDonnell and Jimmy White, brother of Alexina Chiasson.

**Prayer Corner:** Phil Craig, Jackie Murphy, Marilyn Gledhill, Joan Burns, Very Rev. Michael MacEwen, Lynne Cameron, Elaine (Murphy) Gillis, Leroy LeFort, Aaron MacLennan, Sophie Gracie, Ann (Donald Angus) Gillis, Jenna MacRae, Shirley Fitzgerald, Jennifer MacLellan, Ernie LeBlanc, Fr. Vincent van Zutphen, Lucas Phillips, Ursula LeBlanc and Cecile Chiasson. If you are sick and would like your name in the Prayer Corner, please contact the Parish Office, Office@mfocc.ca.

**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.

**Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel** – We are praying the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel (below) at the beginning of each Mass.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel -St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the Heavenly Host, cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen