

Margaree Family of Catholic Churches

St. Joseph's

St. Michael's/St-Michel

St. Patrick's

Pastor: Fr. Silvichan Dominic, CFIC

Contact: Tel: (Office) 902-235-2435; In emergencies (Fr. Silvan) 1-780-932-5163; silvichen@gmail.com
bulletin announcements: ccl.mllr@gmail.com

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Mar. 24, 2024

Weekend Masses: St. Joseph's – Sat., 4 p.m.; St. Patrick's – Sun., 9:30 a.m.; St. Michael's – Sun., 11 a.m. (See below for the hours for Easter Sunday Masses.)

Weekday Masses: Confessions will be heard during the Stations of the Cross.

Tues., Mar. 26 - St. Joseph's – 6 p.m. – Stations of the Cross; 6:30 p.m. – Mass – Jim MacFarlane req. by Mr. & Mrs. Gerard MacFarlane

Wed., Mar. 27 - St. Patrick's – 6 p.m. – Stations of the Cross; 6:30 p.m. – Mass – Ernie Stepaniak req. by Sandy Murphy

Thurs., Mar. 28 – Holy Thursday - See below.

Fri., Mar. 29 – Good Friday Services - See below.

From the Pastor's Desk: My dear people in Christ,

Greetings of peace in the name of Jesus Christ,

The Church celebrates today as both Palm Sunday and Passion Sunday. It is on Palm Sunday that we enter Holy Week, and welcome Jesus into our lives, asking him to allow us a share in his suffering, death and resurrection. This is also the time we remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation. That is why the Holy Week liturgy presents us with the actual events of the dying and rising of Jesus.....

Proper participation in the Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God, increase our faith and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. But let us remember that Holy Week can become "holy" for us only if we actively and consciously take part in the liturgies of this week.

Today let us ask a few questions to ourselves. Do I welcome Jesus into my heart? Am I ready to surrender my life to Him during this Holy Week and welcome Him into all areas of my life as my Lord and Savior, singing "Hosanna"? Today, we received palm branches at the Divine Liturgy. Let us take them to our homes and put them some place where we can always see them. Let the palms remind us that Christ is the King of our families, that Christ is the King of our hearts and that Christ is the only true answer to our quest for happiness and meaning in our lives.

Friends... Let us prioritize and place Christ the King as the primary concern in our lives. It is only when we have done this that we will find true peace and happiness in our confused and complex world.

Judas had the best pastor, the best leader, the best adviser and the best counselor. Yet he failed. The problem is not the leadership or the church you go to. If your attitude or character doesn't change or your heart doesn't transform, you will always be the same.

Wishing you all a blessed Holy Week.

With prayers, Yours in Christ,
Fr. Silvichan Dominic, CFIC

MINISTRY

MEETING

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Tues., Mar. 26 at 7 p.m. in St. Joseph's vestry.

Attention, Parents: If you have a child who is eligible for First Reconciliation or First Communion (in grade two or higher), please contact a member of the Liturgy Committee from your parish to register for the program, as classes will be starting in the spring.

EASTER TRIDUUM CELEBRATIONS

Thursday of the Lord's Supper, Mar. 28 – St. Michael's – 7 p.m.

Friday of the Passion of the Lord, Mar. 29 – St. Joseph's – 11 a.m.; St. Michael's – 3 p.m.; both followed by Stations of the Cross

Easter Vigil, Sat., Mar. 30 – St. Michael's – 9 p.m.

Easter Sunday – St. Patrick's – 9:30 a.m.; St. Joseph's – 11 a.m.

The Margaree Food Security Program offers assistance to all people in need of financial help for grocery items. If you, or someone you know, could use a little financial boost, please call 902-248-2888 on Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. A volunteer will assist you in obtaining a Co-op Gift Card that can be used to purchase whatever items you require with the exception of alcohol, tobacco products and lottery tickets. This service is confidential.

The Margaree Food Security Program is accepting monetary donations from individuals, businesses and organizations. If you would like to make a donation, please forward your donation to Cecile Miller c/o St. Patrick's Parish, N. E. Margaree, NS B0E 2H0 if you would like to be issued a tax receipt.

Jubilee Year 2025 – Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as the year of prayer in preparation for *Jubilee 2025* under the theme, *Pilgrims of Hope*. Parishioners are encouraged to consult the Vatican website, vatican.va, about the tradition and significance of a jubilee year and to join in prayerful preparation for *Jubilee 2025*, which the Pope will inaugurate with the rite of opening the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Advent 2024. To prepare, the Pope has invited the faithful to study and reflect on the four constitutions of Vatican II and the meaning of these documents for the life of the Church today. You will find the Jubilee Prayer below for sharing and praying in preparation for the Jubilee Pilgrimage.

Development & Peace – Share Lent Campaign – March 24

Thank you for giving from the heart to Share Lent 2024!

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the ***Reaping our Rights*** campaign with your Share Lent donation. Thanks to your generosity, our parish collected [\$ amount]. This sum will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. If you have not yet had a chance to give, you can still place your Share Lent envelope in the offertory or donate online at devp.org/give. Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.

CWL/KofC News

Thank you – St. Patrick's CWL thanks all who contributed to the success of our Jiggs' Dinner on St. Patrick's Day. Thank you to the men of the parish: the one who picked up the meat, all those who cooked the meal and prepared the plates; the servers, the set-up crew, the clean-up crew, those who donated vegetables or made

donations, those who collected at the door and all who came to eat. Thank you to the even-split winner who donated \$50! The money raised will be used to benefit others.

OTHER NEWS

Thank you – St. Patrick's thanks everyone who organized, shared their talents, collected at the door and those who supported the St. Patrick's Concert. Thank you to the even-split winner who donated \$50!

PRAYERS

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for March – For the new martyrs – We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

Pilgrims of Hope – The Jubilee Prayer - Father in Heaven, may the faith you have given us in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of Your Kingdom. May Your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, Your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To You our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise forever. Amen.

Prayer Corner – Please remember in your prayers those who are sick: Ann Gillis, Anna Matheson, Karen Baer, Dana Montgomery, Johnny Coady, Jesse Kilfoil, Claire (Simon) LeBlanc, Vicki MacEachern, David Timmons, Rosita Gillis, Lucy MacIntyre, Denise LeBlanc, Mary Stewart, Margaret Ross, Calum MacDonald, Donna McDaniel and Georgette Skinner. If you are sick and would like your name in the Prayer Corner, please contact the Parish Office.

Prayer for World Peace – Father, even when things seem hopeless, we know that through You we are never without hope. We beg your intervention for a world on the brink of war. Beat our swords into plowshares and cause the lion to lie down with the lamb. Intervene in this world that we might avoid the horrors of war and let peace rule in all lands. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joseph - Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

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, by the power of God cast into Hell, Satan, and all the other evil spirits who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. 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.

Prayer of St. Patrick - May the Strength of God pilot us. May the Power of God preserve us. May the Wisdom of God instruct us. May the Hand of God protect us. May the Way of God direct us. May the Shield of God defend us. May the Host of God guard us against the snares of the evil ones; against temptations of the world. May Christ be with us! May Christ be before us! May Christ be in us; Christ be over all! May Thy Salvation, Lord, always be ours, this day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet

Use your Rosary beads. On the first bead, make the Sign of the Cross.

Opening Prayer: You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

On the second bead, pray the *Our Father*. On the next bead, pray the *Hail Mary*. On the next bead, recite the *Apostles' Creed*.

On the *Our Father* beads: Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, R. in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the *Hail Mary* beads: For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, R. have mercy on us and on the whole world.

After five decades, conclude by reciting three times: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, R. have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Closing Prayer: Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion — inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

Close with the Sign of the Cross.

Members of St. Joseph's Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council – Chair – Lawrence MacLellan; secretary – Mary MacNeil and Donald Angus Gillis

Finance Committee – Chair – Cathy Miller; Michael Gillis and Marie MacNeil

Liturgy Committee - Sandra Gillis, Donna MacFarlane and Irene MacLellan

Building & Maintenance Committee – Contact person Joey MacKinnon and other members: Alex MacNeil and Jerald Miller If you see anything which needs to be done, let the contact person know.

Bereavement Committee – Rosita Gillis, Mary MacNeil and Marie MacNeil

Cemetery Committee – Chair: Marie MacNeil; Secretary – Mary MacNeil; Contacts: Marie MacNeil & Roger Mombourquette, Grounds Keeper – Billy MacLeod; other members: John & Stewart Gillis, Elizabeth MacKinnon, Joey & Marilyn MacKinnon, Joan MacLeod, Alex MacNeil, Norman MacNeil and Marilyn Mombourquette

Quote: *“Right from the beginning of my ministry in St. Peter’s See in Rome, I consider this message [of Divine Mercy] my special task. Providence has assigned it to me in the present situation of [humankind], the Church and the world. It could be said that precisely this situation assigned that message to me as my task before God.”* Pope St. John Paul II, November 22, 1981 at the Shrine of Merciful Love in Collevaenza, Italy