

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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bulletin announcements: ccl.mllr@gmail.com

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

The Resurrection of the Lord, Easter Sunday, Mar. 31, 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

Weekday Masses:

Tues., Apr. 2 - St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. – Kay Stedman req. by Christy Giles

Wed., Apr. 3 - St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Christina Hannigan req. by Mary L., Bernard & Elaine Burton

Thurs., Apr. 4 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Marie LeBlanc req. by Mr. & Mrs. Isidore Doucet

Fri., Apr. 5 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Hughie Dunn req. by Agnes Smith & Hughie MacDonald

Divine Mercy Sunday is next Sunday, April 7. A Divine Mercy Celebration will be held at St. Joseph's Church that afternoon. Beginning at 2 p.m., there will be Adoration, and Fr. Silvan will be hearing Confessions.

From the Pastor's Desk: My Dear People in the Risen Lord,

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The celebration of Resurrection is the first feast that early Christians ever celebrated. In fact, it was such a powerful event that they celebrated it every Sunday. Yes, even today... Sunday is the day of the Lord, the day of Resurrection. Belief in the Resurrection is central to Christian life. It is the event and experience of Easter that confirms our belief in Jesus as the Son of God, as it confirmed the belief of the apostles. St Paul tells us, "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain." (1Cor 15:14)

Easter reminds us that even in our darkest moments, there is always hope. It reminds us that love is stronger than hate, and that forgiveness has the power to heal even the deepest wounds.

As we celebrate Easter this year, let us not only rejoice in the resurrection of Christ, but let us also recommit ourselves to living lives of love, compassion, and service to others. Let us reach out to those who are hurting, marginalized, or in need, and extend to them the same grace and mercy that we have received.

May this Easter be a time of spiritual renewal and transformation for each and every one of us. May we emerge from this season with hearts full of gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose, ready to share the good news of Christ's love with all whom we encounter.

On Easter morning, the stone was rolled back from the mouth of the tomb. Is my heart being like a tomb awaiting resurrection? Can I identify any "gravestone" that is holding me back from a fuller, freer life? It could be an addiction, a compulsion or some dark secret I have never shared with anyone. We can be sickened by our secrets. But as Pope Francis said, we are meant to be "people of joyful hope, not doomsday prophets!" If we too discover the risen Jesus, we can all find hope and joy, and go out to share them with others.

So, my dear people, let this Easter be a time of reflection and renewal, a time to recommit ourselves to the values of kindness, forgiveness, and generosity. May the resurrection of Christ fill our hearts with hope and our lives with meaning.

Thank you to Mary Louise Burns for her years of service to the Parish Pastoral Council for St. Michael's and welcome Alphonse Cormier to the Council.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Easter filled with joy, peace, and the presence of the risen Lord.

With prayers, Fr. Silvichan Dominic CFIC

MINISTRY

Annual General Meetings

St. Michael's – Sun., April 14 at 2 p.m.
St. Joseph's – Sat., Apr. 20 after the 4 p.m. Mass
St. Patrick's – TBA

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.

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.

CWL/KofC News

Knights of Columbus will meet on Thurs., April 4 at 7 p.m. at St. Michael's Hall.

St. Patrick's CWL will meet on Wed., April 10 following the 6:30 Mass. Members planning on attending are asked to bring in the equivalent of what they would spend on our \$.25 game. All monies collected will go to Share Lent. We are also collecting donations for Leaside Transition House in Port Hawkesbury. Toiletries, hand towels, face cloths, feminine products, soaps, shampoo, etc. will all be appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at any Church or with Anne LeBlanc (St. Michael's) or Cathy Miller (St. Joseph's).

OTHER NEWS

Food Handlers Course – Tuesday, April 16; 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; St Michael's Parish Hall, East Margaree Road 30 min lunch break (Bring your own.); Manual & 5-year certificate provided; \$50/person; Please register with Paula Fortune by calling or texting to 902-224-0236. You can pay the instructor on the day of training or pay by e-transfer to missfortunep@hotmail.com

PRAYERS

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April – For the role of women – We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

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.

Condolences are extended to the families of Marie Theresa Arsenault, sister of Leonard & William LeBlanc; Murdoch Carmichael, Paulette Cadman, niece of Theodore Aucoin, and Amelia (Digout) Cormier.

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.

Members of St. Michael's Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council – Vice-Chair – John Gillis; Alphonse Cormier and Lorna Chiasson

Finance Committee – Hubert Chiasson, Paula Cormier and Aurea Gillis

Liturgy Committee - Chair - Lawrence Cameron, Mary Hilda MacIsaac, Dorothy MacKenzie and Denise Olson

Building & Maintenance Committee – Contact person: Cyril LeBlanc and other members: Dennis Doucet and B. Emile LeBlanc, Belle Cote If you see anything which needs to be done, let the contact person know.

Bereavement Committee – Helena Chiasson, Elaine LeBlanc, Odette LeBlanc and Dorothy MacKenzie

Cemetery Committee – Chair: Donald Fortune; **secretary** – Tommy LeBlanc; Contacts: Freddie Burns & Emile A. LeBlanc; Recorder: Anne LeBlanc; Member-at-large: Barry MacIsaac

Quote: “Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song!” – Pope St. John Paul II

A Blessed Easter Season to all!