

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

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Apr. 28, 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.

Please note: Mass times for St. Joseph's & St. Patrick's will change next weekend (May 4 & 5) to St.

Patrick's – Sat., 6 p.m. and St. Joseph's - Sun., 9:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Tues., Apr. 30 - St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. – Wilfred Aucoin req. by Mary Stewart

Wed., May 1 - St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Harold McLean req. by Allen Ross

Thurs., May 2 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Daniel LeFort req. by Germaine & Gerald LeBlanc

Fri., May 3 – St. Patrick's – 6:30 p.m. – Roger & Yvonne Olson req. by Denise Olson

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

As our AGMs for this year have concluded, I would like to thank the Parish Council, the Finance Committee and the book keepers, Building and Maintenance committees, Cemetery committees, Liturgy committee, Parish Hall committees, Bereavement committee, sacristans, the church custodians and cleaners, music ministers, hospitality ministers, Ministers of Communion, readers, decorators, those who go on Communion calls, the Team, CWL and Knights of Columbus for your time, dedication and service for our churches. Please remember all the volunteers in your prayers as an act of gratitude. A special prayer goes out to the fishers in this new fishing season and farmers.

I want to remind you of changes to our weekend Mass schedule: Starting next weekend, Mass on Saturday will be at 6 p.m. at St. Patrick's and Mass on Sunday will be at St. Joseph's at 9:30 a.m., St. Michael's at 11 a.m.

I will resume parish visits at St. Michael's from May 14 onward. There is a sign-up sheet at the entrance of the Church. If you would like a visit from me, please sign the sheet. Food is optional.

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am? I'm the pastor's mother," she declared indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" the usher asked. "No," she said. "Good," he answered.

There is a scene in the movie, Shadow of the Hawk where a young couple is climbing a mountain with the help of their Indian guide in a desperate attempt to flee from evil people. At one point the young woman slumps to the ground and says, "I can't take another step." The young man lifts her to her feet and says, "But darling, we must go on. We have no other choice!" She shakes her head and says, "I can't go on! I can't go on!" Then the Indian guide advises the young man, "Hold her close to your heart. Let your strength and your courage flow out of your body into hers. The young man does this and in a few minutes the woman smiles and says, "Now I can go on! Now I can do it!" — By telling us the parable of the vine and branches in today's Gospel, Jesus

shows us how He shares his Divine strength with us. The parable reminds us that, united with Jesus, we can do anything, but separated from Jesus, we are good for nothing.

We need pruning in our Christian life. Cutting out of our lives everything that is contrary to the spirit of Jesus and renewing our commitment to Christian ideals in our lives every day is the first type of self-imposed pruning expected of us. A second means of pruning is practicing self-control over our evil inclinations, sinful addictions and aberrations. Cordial mingling in our neighborhood and society with people of different cultures, races, religions and orientations enables us, with God's grace, to prune away our selfish, judgmental, prejudicial tendencies so that we can treat others in our society with Christian charity and openness. Jesus prunes, purifies and strengthens us by enabling us to face with the courage of our Christian convictions, the pain and sufferings, contradictions and difficulties which He permits to enter our lives.

Let us abide in Christ and let Christ abide in us: The four Gospels teach us how to become true disciples of Jesus and how to abide in him as branches abide in the main trunk of the vine and draw their life from the vine. Personal and liturgical prayers, frequenting of the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Reconciliation, daily and meditative reading of the Bible, and selfless, loving acts of kindness, mercy and mutual loving forgiveness, all the fruits of God's Grace acting within us, assist us in abiding in Jesus, the true Vine, as fruit-bearing branches.

In the Risen Lord,
Fr. Silvichan Dominic,CFIC

MEETING
The Joint Finance Committee will meet on Tues., May 7 after the Mass at St. Joseph's.

You Are Invited! - The MFOCC Pastoral Council is hosting a dinner on May 26 at St Patrick's Hall at 1 p.m. Open to all parishioners, we will be celebrating special milestone birthdays and anniversaries throughout the afternoon. If you would like to attend, please register with Mose, Hilda or Mary by May 19. We hope many people will attend, but we ask that you sign up as soon as you can so we will be well prepared. When you call, we will be asking if you are celebrating a special birthday this year or how many years you and your partner have been together to acknowledge that afternoon. If you've been together a year or celebrating your 100th birthday, no milestone is too big or too small. We look forward to hearing from you!

Blessing of the Fleet – The blessing of the fleet will take place at the Belle Cote Beach on May 6 at 6 a.m.

Attention, Those in Ministry: If you were given forms for the Diocesan Responsible Ministry Protocol and have not filled them out and/or have not had your Police Check/Vulnerable Sector Check, please attend to this matter as soon as possible. For those who will be going to the Police Station in Strathlorne, the office will be open on Friday, April 19 and all the next week (April 22 – 26). To be sure phone, ahead of time 902-258-2213.

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

St. Patrick's CWL – St. Patrick's CWL is 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) on or before May 8, 2024.

St. Patrick's CWL will meet on Wed., May 8 following the 6:30 p.m. Mass. National has chosen the sub theme "Mental Health" for 2024-2025. The topic of "Women and Mental Health" will be addressed by Charlene Cormier at the start of our meeting (7 – 7:30). All members are encouraged to attend.

12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care – St. Patrick's will be hosting the "12 Hours of Prayer for Palliative Care" this year with Adoration from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on May 3. A sign-up sheet is available in each parish. Volunteers are needed to spend an hour praying that palliative care will be available for all who need it. Prayers are needed this year more than ever because some countries/states where euthanasia is legal are cutting back on funding for palliative care. A donation box will be placed at St. Patrick's for donations which will be divided between Cheticamp and Inverness Palliative Care.

Knights of Columbus – The regular, monthly meeting of the Knights of Columbus will be held on Thurs., May 2 at 7 p.m. in St. Michael's Hall.

OTHER NEWS

Call for New Members - St. Michael's Parish Hall Committee is looking for new members. If interested, please contact Annette LeFort at 224-0154

Inverness County Cares Presentation – On Wed., May 15, Inverness County Cares members will be at St. Michael's Parish Hall at 2 p.m. to share stories of their trip to Zambia with interested community members. We are most grateful for the local interest and support received from the surrounding communities. No admission. Visit icc.zambia.blogspot.com for more information.

St. Joseph's Hall Cleaning – Parishioners are asked to come help clean St. Joseph's Hall on May 5 from 2 to 5 p.m. and May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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, Johnny Coady, Claire (Simon) LeBlanc, Vicki MacEachern, David Timmons, Rosita Gillis, Lucy MacIntyre, Denise LeBlanc, Mary Stewart, Margaret Ross, Calum MacDonald and Donna McDaniel. If you are sick and would like your name in the Prayer Corner, please contact the Parish Office.

Condolences are extended to the family of

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.

Regina Caeli (Queen of Heaven) _ V. Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia. R. For He whom you merited to bear, alleluia, V. Has risen as He said, alleluia. R. Pray for us to God, alleluia. V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia. R. Because the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who by the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, granted joy to the whole world; grant we beseech You, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may lay hold of the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

Members of St. Patrick's Ministries

Parish Pastoral Council – Mose Fortune, Alfred Gallant and Hilda Murphy-Phillips

Finance Committee – Sec'y. Cindy McBride, Stella McDaniel and Cecile Miller

Liturgy Committee – vice-Chair – Wilfridine Crowdis, Steve MacLennan and Barbara Wyrwas

Building & Maintenance Committee – Contact person: Jack Miller and other members: Tom Godreau and John McBride

Bereavement Committee – Sheila Fortune, Kay Hannigan, Cindy & John McBride and Cecile Miller

Cemetery Committee – Tom Godreau, Gerard Miller and Cecile Miller, bookkeeper

A Blessed Easter Season to All!