

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

Second Sunday of Easter, Apr. 7, 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. 9 - St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. – Johnena MacFadyen req. by Mr. & Mrs. John Veliath

Wed., Apr. 10 - St. Patrick's – 6:30 p.m. – Hughie Murphy req. by Mr. & Mrs. Alex Ross

Thurs., Apr. 11 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Hughie Dunn req. by Agnes Smith & Hughie MacDonald

Fri., Apr. 12 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Leo Paul LeBlanc req. by Gene & family

Divine Mercy Sunday is 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 Christ,

The Second Sunday of Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday. We have Divine Mercy Sunday confession and adoration at St. Joseph Church at 2 p.m. If you can't be there for the celebration at St. Joseph Church, kindly pray the divine mercy chaplet at home or wherever you are at 3 p.m.

Please remember me in your prayers as I am celebrating my anniversary of priesthood on April 5, 2024. I am fully grateful to "My Lord and My God for choosing me as an instrument in his hand to spread his message of love and peace and to serve my brothers and sisters all over the world. I say along with St. Paul at this time "I am what I am by the grace and mercy of God".

Thank you to Annie Wall and Bernice Miller for their years of service to St. Michael's Parish Hall, and St. Michael's Parish Hall is looking for more members.

During Easter time, instead of the Angelus, we pray the Regina Caeli (see below).

St. Faustina Kowalska and the Image of Divine Mercy: St. Faustina of Poland is the well-known apostle of Divine Mercy. On the 30th of April, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. on the Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday, the Feast requested by Jesus of St. Faustina), His Holiness Pope St. John Paul II celebrated the Eucharist in Saint Peter's Square and proceeded to the canonization of Blessed Sister Faustina Kowalska. [John Paul himself would be canonized on this same Feast Day – April 27 in 2014 – by Pope Francis.] Saint Faustina invites us by the witness of her life to keep our Faith and Hope fixed on God the Father, rich in mercy, Who saved us by the precious Blood of His Son. During her short life, the Lord Jesus assigned to St. Faustina three basic tasks: 1. to pray for souls, entrusting them to God's incomprehensible Mercy; 2. to tell the world about God's generous Mercy; 3. to start a new movement in the Church focusing on God's Mercy. At the canonization of St. Faustina, Pope St. John Paul II said: "The cross, even after the Resurrection of the Son of God, speaks, and never ceases to speak, of God the Father, Who is absolutely faithful to His eternal love for man. ... Believing in this love means believing in mercy." The Lord of Divine Mercy, a painting of Jesus based on the vision given to St. Faustina Kowalska, shows Jesus raising his right hand in a gesture of blessing, with His left hand on his heart from which gushes forth two rays, one red and one white. The picture contains the message, "Jesus, I trust in You!" (Jezu ufam Tobie). The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red

for the Blood of Jesus, which is the life of souls and white for the water of Baptism which justifies souls. The whole image is symbolic of the mercy, forgiveness, and love of God.

The Latin word, which is the root of our English word “mercy,” is misericordia. It, in turn, derives from two words: misereri, meaning “to have pity on” or “compassion for” and cor, meaning “heart”. Mercy, therefore, carries the idea of having compassion on someone with all of one’s heart. Compassion is the most repeated attribute or adjective for God found in the Scriptures. In the New Testament, the Greek word, ‘Eleison’ is used. In the Old Testament, there are at least two Hebrew equivalents; the closest would be ‘rachamim’ (also ‘rachem’, ‘rahim’) which literally means ‘womb’, another equivalent of ‘mercy’ in Hebrew would be ‘hesed,’ which means, ‘steadfast love’. Taken together, when we pray, ‘Have mercy on me, God!’ we are actually asking God to have compassion on us, or to hold us in His loving-kindness. And more intimately, we are asking Him to keep us in his ‘womb’ and to re-create or rejuvenate us.

In the Gospels, several people cry out this prayer of “Have Mercy”, and they are re-created:

The blind man, Bartimaeus, cried out to Jesus, “Son of David, Jesus, have mercy on me”, and he received his sight (Mk 10:48; also Mt 9:27; Mt 20:31; Lk 18:38; note that the word ‘pity’ can also be translated as ‘mercy’.)

The Canaanite woman cried out to Jesus on behalf of her daughter, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.” And her daughter was freed (Mt 15:22). The ten lepers called to Jesus, “Jesus! Master! Have mercy on us.” And they were cleansed (Lk 17:13). In the parable of the two men who went up to the Temple to pray, “the tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner” (Lk 18:10-14). The man went home justified.

Yes, let us also cry to God in Jesus, “Have mercy!” and He will re-create us. Today, we want to join the Psalmist and sing: “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his faithful love (mercy) endures for ever.” (Ps 118)

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 – Wed., Apr. 17 after the 6:30 p.m. Mass

St. Michael’s Cemetery Committee Meeting - St. Michael's Cemetery committee will meet on Tuesday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. in Mary's Room.

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 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 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 families of Angus L. MacKinnon and Georgette Skinner, sister of Alfred Gallant.

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 – Cindy McBride, Stella McDaniel and Cecile Miller.

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

Building & Maintenance Committee – St. Patrick's – Contact person Jack Miller and other members: Tom Godreau and John McBride. If you see anything which needs to be done, let the contact person know.

Bereavement Committee – St. Patrick's – Sheila Fortune, Kay Hannigan, Cindy & John McBride and Cecile Miller.

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

Quote: “O Jesus, let every soul trust in [Your] Passion and place its hope in [Your] mercy. [You] will not deny [Your] mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but [Your] mercy will never be exhausted. mercy throughout endless ages (72).” Diary of St. Faustina

A Blessed Easter Season to all!