

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

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), June 2, 2024

Weekend Masses: St. Patrick's – Sat., 6 p.m.; St. Joseph's – Sun., 9:30 a.m.; St. Michael's – Sun., 11 a.m.

Weekday Masses:

Tues., June 4 - St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m. –John Joseph MacDonald req. by Donnie MacLeod

Wed., June 5 - St. Michael's – 10 a.m. – Brandon MacLennan req. by Marlene Fortune

Thurs., June 6 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. — Pearl Dawson req. by Mr. & Mrs. Steve Chiasson

Fri., June 7 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m. - John, Victoire, Norman, John Jr. req. by Pauline Berry

Memorials, Solemnity – June 3 – St. Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs; June 5 – St. Boniface, Martyr; June 7 – The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus – Solemnity; June 8 – The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

From the Pastor's Desk: My dear people,

Thank you to the Parish Pastoral Council (with a big thank you to Mose Fortune), the Knights of Columbus and the CWL for the beautiful meal on Sunday. We had a good turnout.

Dominic Tang, the courageous Chinese Archbishop, was imprisoned for twenty-one years for nothing more than his loyalty to Christ and to the Catholic Church. After five years of solitary confinement in a dark cell, he was told by his jailers that he could leave it for a few hours to do whatever he wanted. Five years of solitary confinement and he had a couple of hours to do what he wanted! What would it be? A hot shower? A change of clothes? Certainly a long walk outside? A chance to call or write to family? What would it be, the jailer asked him. "I would like to say holy Mass," replied Archbishop Tang.

Today, we celebrate the solemn feast of Corpus Christi. It is a doctrinal feast established for three purposes: 1) to give God collective thanks for Christ's abiding presence with us in the Eucharist and to honor him there; 2) to instruct the people in the Mystery, Faith and devotion surrounding the Eucharist, and 3) to teach us to appreciate and make use of the great gift of the Holy Eucharist, both as a Sacrament and as a sacrifice. The Catholic Church teaches that in the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of the Our Lord Jesus Christ are really, truly, substantially, and abidingly present together with his soul and divinity by reason of the Transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. This takes place in the unbloody sacrifice of the Mass."

Vatican II states that as a sacrifice "the Holy Eucharist is the center and culmination of Christian life" (Lumen Gentium, 11). Why? 1) Because it enables us to participate in Christ's sacrifice as a present reality and to benefit from its fruits in our own lives. 2) Because it helps us to worship the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the most perfect way. 3) Because it strengthens our charity and unity with Jesus and each other in a joint offering of His Body and Blood to the Father. 4) Because it gives us a lasting memorial of Christ's suffering, death and Resurrection, reminding us of our obligation to make loving sacrifices for others. The Eucharist is the Mystery of our Faith, the mystery of our Hope, the mystery of our Charity. Why do we celebrate the Eucharist some 2,000 years later? We do this because Jesus told us to do so: "Do this in memory of me." St. Augustine in the 5th century said, "It is your Mystery, the Mystery of your life that has been placed on the altar."

This Holy Memorial is known by various names: 1) "The Eucharist" because Jesus offered Himself to God the Father as an act of thanksgiving; 2) "The Lord's Supper"--or "Breaking of the Bread"- because we celebrate it

as a meal; 3) "Holy Communion" because, we become one with Christ by receiving Him; and 4) "Holy Mass" (holy sending), because it gives us a mission: "Go in peace to love and serve others."

1) The Eucharist, (the Body and Blood of Christ), teaches us the importance of community, the bond that results from this sacrifice. Just as numerous grains of wheat are pounded together to make the host, and many grapes are crushed together to make the wine, so we become unified in this sacrifice. Our sharing in the same Bread and the same Cup tells us about unity and love.

2) We need to prepare properly to receive Holy Communion: We should remember the warning given by St. Paul: "Whoever, therefore, eats the Bread or drinks the Cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the Body and Blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the Bread and drink of the Cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the Body, eat and drink judgment against themselves." [1 Cor. 11:27-9]. Hence, let us receive Holy Communion with fervent love and respect -- not merely as a matter of routine.

3) We need to become Christ-bearers and -conveyors: By receiving Holy Communion, we become Christ-bearers as Mary was, with the duty of conveying Christ to others at home and in the workplace, as love, mercy, forgiveness and humble and sacrificial service.

As we celebrate this great feast of faith, let us worship what St. Thomas Aquinas did not hesitate to call, "the greatest miracle that Christ ever worked on earth My Body My Blood". Before the greatness of this mystery, let us exclaim with St. Augustine, "O Sacrament of devotion! O Sign of unity! O Bond of charity!" Let us also repeat St. Thomas Aquinas' prayer of devotion in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament: "O Sacrament most holy! O Sacrament Divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine!"

Soul of Christ, sanctify me

Body of Christ, save me

Blood of Christ, inebriate me

Amen

With prayers,

Fr. Silvichan Dominic CFIC

World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests – June 7 – Catholics worldwide are urged to pray the Rosary for Priests on this day, the World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests. The day was begun by St. John Paul II in 2002 with the objective of having all Catholic faithful join in prayer for the sanctification of Priests. This day coincides with the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

- **Parents, Grandparents** – Bring your children/grandchildren to Mass on Sunday morning Starting in September, there will be Children's Liturgy for them each Sunday. Parents, please volunteer to help with Children's Liturgy (See below.).

Volunteers Needed: In hopes of hosting children's liturgy weekly at St Michael's Sunday Mass (as of September 1), the Margaree Highland Games committee is in need of additional volunteers. Volunteers must complete mandatory paperwork (as per Diocesan Ministry Protocol) prior to starting this leadership. Forms are available at the Parish Office on Thursdays, or other arrangements can be made with Nadine Clark. (Text or call 902-224-0883 or message her on Facebook to sign up!) Ideally, we would love to have two adults per Sunday and enough volunteers that each team has to be scheduled only every 4-6 weeks. Thanks in advance to those who show interest! We appreciate you.

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.

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.

St. Michael’s – Father Silvan will be resuming parish visits in June. Sign-up sheets are available at the entrance of the Church.

CWL/KOC NEWS

St. Patrick’s CWL – CWL members will be going to the Harbour Restaurant for their June dinner on June 12 at 6 p.m. Please register with your call person (Edie Poirier, Sheila Fortune, Bernadette Murphy or Cathy Miller) by June 1 if you plan to go.

Knights of Columbus – The Knights of Columbus will meet on Thurs., June 6 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.

The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine, Mabou is a place of prayer and devotion, of piety and faith, a Catholic Shrine which welcomes visitors of all faiths and interests. Become a “Friend of the Shrine”; enroll a friend as a gift or “In Memory” of a loved one. Our goal is \$50,000. “We need your help.”

The East Margaree Seniors’ Club is hosting a “Seniors’ Grant“ presentation by councillor Blair Phillips at the Belle Cote Community Centre on Wednesday, June 5 at 2 p.m.. All are welcome to attend.

Thank You - A sincere thank you is extended to all who came to help on Cemetery Day at St. Michael's Parish on Saturday. It was a successful mission in spite of being rained out. May our loved ones RIP. - Donald Fortune, chair.

Call for Tenders – St. Michael’s Parish is calling for tenders for the mowing of St. Michael’s church and glebe grounds with a deadline of June 9. Tenders can be dropped off at the glebe on Thursday, June 6 or emailed to margareegirl67@hotmail.com. Must have own equipment.

PRAYERS

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention for June – *For migrants fleeing their homes* – We pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them.

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, Donna McDaniel and Gen Rose. 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.

Quote：“In the Sacred Heart, every treasure of wisdom and knowledge is hidden. In that divine heart beats God’s infinite love for everyone and for each of us as individuals.” – St. John Paul II