



# 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*

## **Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Oct. 12, 2025**

**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 Mass:**

**Tues., Oct. 14 – St. Joseph's – 6:30 p.m.** – Donna Gillis req. by Lawrence & Jesslyn MacLellan

**Wed., Oct. 15 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m.** – Geraldine Kennedy req. by Marlene Fortune

**Thurs., Oct. 16 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m.** – Joan Burns req. by Anne Marie & Gordon LeBlanc

**Fri., Oct. 17 – St. Michael's – 10 a.m.** – John Gillis req. by Donald & Ann Gillis

**Memorial:** Oct. 15 – St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor; Oct. 16 – St. Marguerite D'Youville, Religious; Oct. 17 – St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr; **Feast:** Sept. 18 – St. Luke

### **From the Pastor's Desk** - My dear people in Christ,

Fall is beautiful with all the colours in Margaree. The hills and valleys are dressed in gold, red, and orange, and I see many visitors who come here to behold this scenic beauty. We are truly blessed to live in such a place where nature itself seems to lift its voice in praise of God. The changing of the seasons reminds us of God's constant presence and the many blessings we often take for granted.

Today's Gospel also speaks about blessings and gratitude. Jesus heals ten lepers, but only one, a Samaritan, comes back to thank him. The other nine are healed, but they forget to return. This story is not just about healing; it's about recognizing and responding to God's grace with a thankful heart.

**1. God's blessings are abundant but often unnoticed.** Naaman in the first reading was a great commander, yet he suffered from leprosy. When the prophet Elisha told him to wash in the Jordan, he almost refused because it seemed too simple. But once he humbled himself, healing came and with it, faith. He returned to Elisha full of gratitude, saying, "Now I know there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

Sometimes God's blessings come in simple, ordinary ways through people, daily routines, or even small sacrifices. But like Naaman and the ten lepers, we can easily overlook them if our hearts are proud or distracted.

**2. Gratitude completes the miracle.** All ten lepers were healed, but only one was *saved*. Jesus says to the thankful Samaritan, "Your faith has made you well." Healing of the body is good; healing of the heart is greater. Gratitude opens our hearts to deeper faith, to a relationship that goes beyond receiving gifts to knowing and loving the Giver.

The ungrateful nine missed that second miracle the miracle of a transformed heart. Gratitude, then, is not just politeness; it is a form of worship. It keeps us aware of God's presence and keeps our faith alive.

**3. Living gratitude and faith in the face of suffering.** In the second reading, St. Paul writes from prison, "Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead." Even in hardship, Paul remembers, gives thanks, and remains faithful. Gratitude and faith go together. When we truly believe that Jesus is risen and with us, even suffering cannot steal our hope.

As we reflect on these words, let us also remember our brothers and sisters who suffer for their faith. In Nigeria alone, nearly **125,000 Christians have lost their lives in recent years** at the hands of violent Islamic extremists. They, too, hold onto faith in the midst of great trials.

Let us take up the **rosary** this month of October the month dedicated to Our Lady and pray for peace, justice, and protection for all persecuted Christians, especially in Nigeria, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India and Middle Eastern countries. May Our Blessed Mother wrap them in her mantle and bring comfort to those who grieve

As we move through this beautiful autumn season, let's take a moment each day to notice the gifts around us the colours of the trees, the smile of a neighbour, the gift of health, the food on our table, and the people who love us. Every one of these is a sign that God is near.

Let's not be among the nine who forget to thank God. Let's be like the Samaritan who came back, knelt before Jesus, and praised God with a full heart.

May this Eucharist which literally means *thanksgiving* deepen our awareness of God's mercy and strengthen our hearts to live in continual gratitude and faith.

**"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." (Psalm 136:1)**

### **1. Prayer for Persecuted Christians**

Lord Jesus Christ, You carried the cross for our salvation and taught us to love even in the face of suffering. We lift up to You our brothers and sisters in Nigeria and in every land who suffer violence, persecution, and loss because of their faith in You. Strengthen their courage, Lord. Protect their families. Console those who mourn, and bring peace to their hearts. May their steadfast faith be a light to the world and a reminder of Your victory over darkness and death. Through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, may peace and justice flourish where hatred now reigns. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, your pastor,

Fr Silvichan Dominic CFIC

## **MINISTRY**

**Margaree Food Security Society** – 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 Society is accepting monetary donations from individuals, businesses and organizations. If you would like to make a donation, please forward your cheque, made out to St. Patrick's Parish, to Cecile Miller, % St. Patrick's Parish, N.E. Margaree, NS B0E 2H0. You can also drop your donation in the church collection in an envelope marked "Margaree Food Security Society".

**St. Michael's and St. Patrick's Cemetery Committees** wish to advise that traditional burial sites cannot be bought or reserved in our cemeteries. Traditional (body) burials are by rotation which became the "law" many years ago. Thank you for your understanding.

**Confirmation** preparation will begin in the fall. Parents are encouraged to submit names of candidates for this final sacrament of initiation into the Catholic Church.

## **CWL/KOC NEWS**

**What's Your CWL?** – GOOD WORKS - Imagine if you knew the great works done by Catholic Women's League members. As social justice activists, we pray and work for family, friends and all people to change current issues and make this world a better place. We hope you will join us

**St. Patrick's CWL** – St. Patrick's CWL met on Wed., Oct. 8 at 2 p.m. in St. Patrick's Hall with 17 members and prospective members. The next meeting will be held on Wed., Nov. 12 at 2 p.m. in **Margaree Meeting Place**, Margaree Forks.

**Knights of Columbus** - The KOC crib game for Sunday, Oct. 12 is cancelled. See you again on Oct. 19.

## **OTHER NEWS**

**Breakfast in the South West** will be held in St. Joseph's Parish Hall on Oct. 15 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Breakfast includes: bacon, sausage, eggs, hash browns, muffins, tea, coffee and juice. Cost is \$18. – sponsored by the Hall Committee and St. Joseph's Pastoral Council members.

**Soup & Biscuit Luncheon** as part of Celtic Colours will take place at St. Patrick's Hall on Sat., Oct. 18 from 11 – 1 p.m. There will be turkey and squash soups available. Cost is \$10. – sponsored by St. Patrick's CWL

**"Our River, Our People, Our Stories "** - Celtic Colours Storytelling Afternoon, Thurs. October 16, 2 to 4 p.m. at the Margaree Firemen's Club, Margaree Forks. Admission - \$10.00; Refreshments All are welcome.

**Monday afternoon gatherings** at St. Michael's Hall will resume in early November. Exact date will be announced as we draw nearer. Plan to join us for a social afternoon including tea and a sweet treat. Bring your own craft projects, work on our puzzle, help us with our fundraiser quilt or just come for tea. All are welcome. Donations are accepted.

Margaree Highland Games and St. Michael's Hall Committee are collaborating with Celtic Colours International Music Festival to bring you a **"Crisp & Cozy Community Supper"** on Thursday, Oct. 16 at St. Michael's Hall The cost is **\$40** per person for a 3-course dinner: butternut squash soup, chicken pot pie with mixed greens, and apple crisp à la mode. Most dishes are made with local seasonal ingredients! It will be yummy! With this new undertaking, the format is a bit different than dinners usually hosted in our parish. Tickets are being sold ahead of time at the Visitor Information Center in Margaree Forks. CASH ONLY. Seats can be reserved at three different times: 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., or 6 p.m.

## **PRAYERS**

**Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for October 2025** – *For collaboration between different religious traditions* – Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

**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: Karen Baer, Jessie Murphy, Hector LeBlanc, Ann Gillis, Kathleen Deveau, Avelyn Lown, Bob Fortune, Reggie Chiasson, Mary Murphy, Cathy Aucoin, Odette (Emile) LeBlanc, Thomas LeBlanc, Marie Tompkins (Sydney) and Rose Anne Chiasson. 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**

*Quote:*

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