

St. Peter's Parish Port Hood Jan. 7, 2024

Contact Information
Fr. Sunny Sebastian, Pastor
1-902-787-3317

Parish Office (902) 787-3317 Parish Office Hours Wednesday to Friday from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm.

<u>Website</u> <u>www.saintpetersporthood.com</u>

Email stpetersporthood@gmail.com

Pastoral Council Chairperson Leon Livingstone (902) 787-3041

CWL President
Anne E. MacDonald
(902) 787-2213

KOC Grand Knight
Jack Redden
(902) 787-2042

Baptisms
By appointment, please call.
Parish Office

<u>Marriages</u>
Please call Parish Office at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Tuesday to Friday from 5:15pm
to 5:45pm & Saturday from
2.30pm to 3.30pm

To book Parish Hall call: Ann MacDonald 902-787-2213 Ellen Murphy 902-631-0613

Bulletin
parishbulletin@hotmail.com
Send notices no later than 12
noon on Wednesdays.
Please note that bulletin notices
may be edited for
brevity or clarity.
Thank you,
Tudi MacEachern

## **Parish News**

## Mass Schedule 4:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am on Sunday

Ellen Murphy	Linda Beaton	Laina Shanks
Malia Watts	Catherine Trenholm	Kate Calder Samuel Watts
Weekday Masses		
	Malia Watts	Malia Watts Catherine Trenholm

Mon. Jan. 8 6:00pm Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris Tues. Jan. 9 6:00pm (R)Mary Tracey by Sadie MacDonald

Wed. Jan. 10 6:00pm (R)Mary Claire MacDonald by Gerald/Judy MacDonald

Thur. Jan. 11 6:00pm (R)Theresa van Zutphen by Joey Peters Fri. Jan. 12 6:00pm (R)Wayne Murphy by Dougie Gillies

## What exactly is an epiphany?

The word epiphany comes from a Greek word epiphainein, which means "reveal." There are three meanings or usages of the word. The first is the name of a Christian feast, Epiphany, which occurs in early January. The exact day depends upon the location and the culture of the church celebrating Epiphany, but most of the time, it occurs on January 6th, which is also referred to as Twelfth Night. The Epiphany feast celebrates the revelation of God Incarnate and the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus.

Epiphany is also used to describe any divine revelation, including Theophanies (visible appearances of God) and Christophanies (visible appearances of the pre-incarnate Christ). Many times in the Old Testament, biblical characters were visited by "the angel of the Lord," which some scholars believe to have been a pre-incarnate Christ, making all of these appearances Christophanies (Genesis 16:7-14; Genesis 22:11-18; Judges 5:23; 2 Kings 19:35). It is believed that these appearances foreshadowed the coming of Jesus Christ in human form, as "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Other notable epiphanies include the call of Paul the Apostle on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-9), and the appearance of Jesus Christ to the Apostle John on the island of Patmos (Revelation 1:9-20).

A general definition of the word epiphany, and how it is most commonly used today, is "a sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something, or an intuitive grasp of reality through a simple or striking event; an illuminating discovery, realization, or disclosure or a revealing scene or moment." The root word "reveal" is still apparent in this definition. God often uses such moments of illumination to bring people to the knowledge of Himself. This illumination, or epiphany, is one of the central aspects of Christianity, for without God's intervention, none of us would see the truth. This is clearly stated in Ephesians 2:8-9, which says, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." We do not find God because of our upbringing, our opportunities, or our intelligence or education. We find Him because He chooses to enlighten us, to reveal Himself to us, to give us an epiphany, and to open the "eyes of our hearts" (Ephesians 1:18).

<u>Thank you!</u> The Liturgy Committee, along with Fr. Sunny, wish to express our appreciation to all those who prepared for and participated in the Christmas Liturgies. Thank you to those who helped decorate the church, to the KoC for setting up the outdoor creche, to Ed and Barb(Cannon) MacDonald for buying the wreaths and to Vince MacInnis for making the large wreaths. We appreciate the donations for flowers from several parishioners and the CWL.

A special thank you to the various ministries (altar servers, the choir, leaders-of-song, organists, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers) who helped make our celebrations so meaningful. We wish to thank Fr. Sunny for celebrating the liturgies, and Fr. Morris and Fr. Feby for their participation. (Liturgy Committee)

<u>Vacation:</u> Fr. Sunny will be away for vacation from <u>December 28<sup>th</sup> to February 15<sup>th</sup></u>. Fr. Feby Pulikan Raphel from the Diocese of Irinjalakuda, Kerala, India, will fill in for Fr. Sunny. Fr. Feby can be reached at the parish email (<a href="mailto:stpetersporthood@gmail.com">stpetersporthood@gmail.com</a>), over phone **902-787-3317.** 

<u>Envelopes for 2024</u>: The new envelopes for 2024 are at the back of the church. Please take your envelope, and dispose of any leftover envelopes from 2023. Please put your name and address on the first few you use so that we can be sure to credit you for your donation, as your number may have changed. If anyone hasn't been assigned an envelope and wishes to donate, take a box without a label and put your name on the envelope for the first couple of weeks.

<u>Plaques</u>: In the past we offered families the opportunity to place the names of loved ones on a plaque in the back of the church. We plan to continue this practice. We will print and mount plaques on a bi-yearly basis. If you would like to have the name of someone engraved on such a plaque, you may pass that name on to Mary Buchanan at <a href="maryfbuchanan1@gmail.com">maryfbuchanan1@gmail.com</a>. The cost is \$200. Please make cheque payable to St. Peter's Parish Building Fund.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THE CHAPEL FROM 9.00AM TO 3.00PM EVERYDAY

"Remember your church in your Will."