



St. Peter’s Parish
Port Hood
Dec. 8, 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.

Website

www.saintpetersporthood.com

Email

stpetersporthood@gmail.com

Pastoral Council Chairperson

Leon Livingstone
(902) 787-3041

CWL President

Anne E. MacDonald
(902) 787-2213

KOC Grand Knight

Ron Schmidt
(902) 787-3484

Baptisms

By appointment, please call.
Parish Office

Marriages

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

Date	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. Dec. 14, 4:00 pm	Malia Watts	Linda Beaton
Sun. Dec. 15, 10:00 am	Angela Avery	Judy Leadbetter
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Dec. 9 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris	
Tues. Dec. 10 6:00pm	(R) Michael Fawcett by Raymond/Deniese MacEachen	
Wed. Dec. 11 6:00pm	(R) Sonny MacInnis by Teresa MacDonald, Ann Rankin	
Thur. Dec. 12 6:00pm	(R) Margaret Moran by Cathy Bowen	
Fri. Dec. 13 6:00pm	(R) Isaac Goswell by Jack & Dena Redden	

From the Pastor’s Desk

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight” (Luke.3: 4). We always see preparations being made for the public appearances of Kings, Presidents, Prime Ministers, religious leaders like the Pope, or public figures. The preparations can begin well in advance depending on who the VIP is. The concerned people will make certain that the proper protocol will be observed, and the VIP’s security will be assured. Careful planning is done. Programs will be scheduled, choral presentations will be practiced, gifts will be bought, and special persons will be chosen to present them in the most gracious manner possible, so that the honored dignitary is duly recognized and appreciated. In case of celebrity entertainers, preparations will be elaborate: their entourage would arrive ahead of time to get things ready for their concert. Stages would be set; lighting would be adjusted, sound checks made; every care would be taken so that the needs and whims of each guest would be fully accommodated.

Today on the second Sunday of Advent the Gospel presents John the Baptist who came to prepare the way for the greatest VIP of all time, the **Messiah**, the Son of God, “**proclaiming the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins**”. He challenges the people of his time to prepare their lives for receiving their long-awaited Messiah. They are to prepare a highway in their hearts for their Messiah by levelling the mountains of pride and the valleys of impurity, injustice, and neglect and straightening their crooked ways. They are to get ready by repenting of their sins, changing their lives, and expressing their repentance by receiving the baptism of repentance and living out the reformations they have promised. John the Baptist, like he called people of his time to repent as a way of preparing their hearts and lives for the Lord’s visit, is calling us today to get ready for something so great that it fills our emptiness with expectation. We are called to prepare the way for the Messiah in our hearts. We have to fill in the “valleys” of our souls which have resulted from our shallow prayer life and a minimalist way of living out our Faith. We have to straighten whatever crooked paths we’ve been walking. If we have been pushing God off to the side of our road, if we have been saying to Him that we don’t really have the time for Him, now is the time for us to get our priorities straight. And we all have to level the “mountains” of our pride and self-centeredness. We are also called to repent and seek forgiveness from God and our fellow human beings. John’s message calls us to confront and confess our sins. We have to turn away from them in sincere repentance in order to receive God’s forgiveness. As we pass through this season of Advent let us prepare a royal road in our hearts for our Savior, a way that will take us away from the wilderness of sin and our alienation from God and back into His loving embrace.

Parish Council: There will be a parish council meeting on Tuesday, **December 10th at 7:00pm in the glebe.**

Eucharistic Ministers: There will be a short meeting for the Eucharistic Ministers on Sunday, Dec. 8 immediately after the 10am Mass. Some things have changed, and this will give us the opportunity to go over the procedures we follow. We welcome your input. As well, if anyone else would like to become a minister of the Eucharist, you are welcome to attend. If you are unable to attend, I will pass on any pertinent information. *(Linda Beaton)*

The 2025 Envelopes are at the back of the church. If anyone that doesn't currently use envelopes and would like to, there are blank boxes there also. Please put your name and address on the first few you use. Please discard old envelopes as our number may change in 2025.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Dec.8): On **Monday December 9th** the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated. Let us seek the intercession of Blessed Virgin Mary by saying Rosary and attending the Holy Eucharist on this day at **6.00pm**.

Blessing of the Chapel: The renovated chapel will be blessed and opened for public worship on **Sunday 22, December 2024 after the 10.00am Holy Mass** by Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick.

Theatre Play and Carols: The Parish Religious Education Program is presenting **Theatre Play and Carols** on **Monday 23, December 2024 at 7.00pm** in St. Peter's parish hall by the Family Program Children and the special guest musicians. The Theme: **"What can I Give Him-The Other Wise Man?"** Free admission-donation box at the door. All are welcome!!!

Advent Notices:

- ❖ **Decorating the church: after Holy Mass on Sunday, December 15.** (Donations for Christmas flowers will be appreciated (put in envelope marked "Flowers" with your name on the envelope)
- ❖ **Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday December 15 at 2pm. (Several priests will be available)**

Mass Schedule for Christmas & New Year

- ❖ **Christmas Eve.**
 - **Cantata** : 3.30pm
 - **Christmas Family Mass** : 4.00pm
 - **Christmas Evening Mass** : 8.00pm
- ❖ **Christmas Day Mass** : 10:00am
- ❖ **New Year Eve. Mass** : 4.00pm
- ❖ **New Year's Day Mass** : 10.00am

Advent Mission in Our Lady of Grace Monastery: **Rev. Fr. Bill Burke** Pastor of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys parish in Sydney will be leading an **Advent Mission** in the Our Lady of Grace Monastery from **December 9 to 11 (Monday-Wednesday)**. The mission begins with **Holy Mass at 7:00 pm** each evening. Light refreshments available in the Retreat House Dining Room following each presentation. Anyone wishing accommodations may contact Lucille Fougere at **(902) 623-0075** or by e-mail: **ladyofgracemonastery@gmail.com**

CWL: We would like to say thank you to all the businesses and individuals who donated to our annual Old Time Auction this past weekend: everyone who canvassed to the businesses, those who worked at the hall, set up, baked for the bake table and all those who bought tickets on our quilt, and to everyone who came out that night in support of our fundraiser. As well our musicians for the evening, our auctioneer and Sharon MacEachern for the delicious appetizers. Thank you all so much!

Christmas Social for CWL: On **Tuesday, December 17**, the CWL will be having their annual Christmas social for members: Turkey dinner with all the trimmings at the **Admiral Lounge beginning at 6:00 pm**, as well we will be doing our Christmas gift exchange. If you are interested in attending. please contact **Ann** by Tuesday Dec 10th. Cost is \$ 20.00 plus your beverages.

KOC: Please support the annual **Christmas tree and Wreath** sale in the parking lot of the Port Hood Co-Op which began on Thursday 5, 2024. Proceeds from this fundraiser go to support many projects in our community. **Regular KOC monthly meeting** will be held on **Sunday, December 15th, 2024, at 7:30 pm** in the Church Hall with **Rosary at 7:00pm**.

Plaques: The Plaque Fundraiser, once again taken up a few years ago in memory of our loved ones, has been very successful. There are only 3 more spots left for anyone who may be considering doing so. Thank you to all those who have so far contributed to this privileged cause. Contact Mary Buchanan.

Inverness County Singers and Young County Singers present: **"Tell the Story"** under the direction of Laurel Browne and accompanied by Lawrence Cameron on **Tuesday, December 10th, 7:30 pm**, St. Mary's Church, Mabou. Free Will offering will go to local charities after payment of expenses.

The Judique KOC is having a **Brunch on Sunday, December 8th** at the **Judique Community Center** from **10:30 to 12:30**. Adults \$12.00, Children \$6.00

The November winners of the weekly \$500 lottery held by the JCC are: November 4th: Ashli Campbell, #576, Judique; 11th: Lorraine MacDonald, #613, Judique; 18th: Lindsay Griffith, Calgary, #556; 25th: Robert MacDonald, #616, Judique.