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**St. Peter's Parish
Port Hood
April 28, 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

Jack Redden
(902) 787-2042

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. May 4, 4:00 pm	Melanie MacDonald	Donna MacDonald
Sun. May 5, 10:00 am	Mary J MacDonald	Ann MacDougall
Weekday Masses (In the Chapel)		
Mon. Apr. 29 6:00 Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris		
Tues. Apr. 30 6:00pm Protection of the unborn by Joe & Carmen van Zutphen		
Wed. May 1 6:00pm For a safe & successful fishing season by Joe & Carmen		
Thur. May 2 6:00pm (R) Cyril MacNeil by Jeanette MacNeil		
Fri. May 3 6:00pm In reparation for the sins of Canada		
Sat. May 4 11:00am In reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary		

Message from the Pastor's Desk

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing". (John 15:5) The **Great Vine** in the Hampton Court Palace Gardens in London is the oldest and largest known vine in the world. It's a *Vitis vinifera 'Schiava Grossa'* (also known as Black Hamburg) and has been growing for an impressive 256 years. The vine was planted in 1768 during the time when the renowned landscape gardener Lancelot 'Capability' Brown oversaw the palace gardens. The vine's base circumference is now a huge four meters (13 feet), and its longest branch stretches to 36.5 meters (120 feet). It follows the extension method of growth, where one plant fills an entire glasshouse, a technique Victorian gardeners believed would yield a larger crop. Because of skillful cutting and pruning, the vine each year produces an average of 272 kilograms (600 pounds) of black dessert grapes, but in the autumn of 2001, it set a record with 383 kilograms (845 pounds). Even though some of the smaller branches are more than 200 feet from the main stem, they bear much fruit because they are joined to the vine and allow the life of the vine to flow through them. If we, the branches are not bearing much fruit, it may be that we are not feeding, as we ought, upon the life-giving flow from the vine. **"Abide in me as I abide in you,"** Jesus said. The great truth that Jesus is trying to tell us is that if we want life in all its fullness, then we must be consciously, intentionally connected to Jesus, the "true vine," and the only source of the God-Life/Sanctifying Grace, which begins in us our eternal life here on earth.

On the fifth Sunday of Easter, through the parable of the Vine and branches, Jesus speaks of the importance of the closeness of the relationship of His disciples with Him and the necessity of maintaining that relationship. Jesus asks us that our relationship with Him should become as close as a vine and its branches. Jesus reminds us that we cannot bear fruit unless we abide in Him just as He abides in us. Jesus says, **"I am the vine, you are the branches."** What Jesus means is that by abiding in Him we will bear much fruit, and that apart from Him we can do nothing. "Abiding in Christ" means that God has to be inside us, and we have to be inside God. We abide in Christ by drawing near to God and by experiencing His being near to us, that is, by living every moment as He has commanded us to do, with the radiant presence of Christ all around us. This life of intimate union with Christ in the Church is maintained by the spiritual helps common to all the faithful, chiefly by active participation in the Holy Eucharistic Celebration and being involved in the church activities in whatever way we can.

Blessing of the Boats: The annual blessing of the boats will take place on **Sunday, April 28th**, after the Sunday Mass, beginning at Murphy's Pond, and continuing to Little Judique Harbour and then Pig Cove.

First Holy Communion: The First Holy Communion of our children is scheduled for **Sunday 12th May** during **10.00am Holy Mass**.

Mass Intentions: Those who give Mass intentions **by cheque** may write the cheque in Fr. Sunny's name (**Sunny Sebastian**).

Holy Hour: Holy Hour in honour of **St. Joseph** on **Wednesday, 1st of May 2024** from **4.45pm to 5:45 pm** followed by Holy Mass at **6.00pm**. Holy Hour in honour of **Sacred Heart of Jesus** on **Friday, 3rd of May** from **4.45pm to 5:45 pm** followed by Holy Mass at **6.00pm**. Holy Hour and Benediction in honour of **Bl. V. Mary** on **Saturday, 4th of May** at **10.00am** followed by **Holy Mass at 11.00am**.

CWL: Dues for 2024 is now due. The amount due is \$34.50. It may be sent to Anne MacDougall (902-227-5268), 431 Shore Road, Judique, NS B0E 1P0 or you may put it in the church collection in an envelope clearly marked with **member's name** and "**CWL Dues**".

KOC Bursary: Knights of Columbus are once again offering Bursaries to the 2024 graduates. Applicants must be the members of St. Peter's Parish and planning to attend a recognized Post-secondary education program in the Fall of 2024. Any person applying must complete an application form, which can be found in the back of the church and be returned to our council on or before **June 2nd, 2024**.

The Chisholm Bursary Committee are now accepting application for bursaries for the 2024-2025 year. St. Mary's, St. Andrew's, St. Peter's Parish members who are attending post secondary education next year are welcome to apply. Please email **chisholmbursary@gmail.com** for an application.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday, May 18, at 10:30am** for the souls of the faithful who have departed over the winter months, and whose remains and cremains have not yet been buried in the parish cemetery. The coffins and urns will be interred on **May 16 and May 17**. Following the Mass on Saturday, priests will bless each grave and say memorial prayers. For next of kin who wish to contact the cemetery committee to arrange for burials, please call **Hughie John Beaton (902-787-2322)** or **John Gillies (902-787-3441)**. If this date does not suit the family and you wish to arrange another burial date, please contact the parish office (**902-787-3317**). (*Cemetery Committee: Hughie John Beaton, Bernie Gillies, John Gillies, Martha Gillis, Colleen MacLeod & Fr. Sunny*)

Applications to the Bishop Power Foundation: Diocesan, parish, and other non-profit groups are invited to apply for funding where their programs will either a) empower the poor, b) develop the laity for their Christian role within the church, or c) aid the missionary activity of the church. Individual students may apply for financial support for Catholic Studies programs at the university level. **May 1, 2024, is the deadline to submit applications.**

Plaques: 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-that name on to Mary Buchanan at **maryfbuchanan1@gmail.com**. The cost is \$200. Please make cheque payable to St. Peter's Parish Building Fund.

The Chestico Museum & Historical Society will hold a plant sale fundraiser in the museum yard on Saturday, May 11th between 11 AM and 2 PM. There will be an assortment of shrubs, perennials, herbs, and flowers. Plant donations are welcome! If you have plants to donate, please contact John Gillies (902-787-3441) or Colleen MacLeod (902-227-5425).

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THE CHAPEL

(9.00AM TO 3.00PM EVERYDAY)

"Remember your church in your Will."