

‘PILGRIMS OF HOPE’



St. Peter’s Parish
Port Hood
Nov. 16, 2025

Contact Information
Fr. Sunny Sebastian, Pastor
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
Finance Council Chairperson
Charley MacDonald
902-631-6533

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. Nov. 22 4:00 pm	Coline MacEachern	Donnie McIlhone
Sun. Nov. 23 10:00 am	Mary J MacDonald	Darlene Watts
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Nov. 17 6:00pm Special Intention by Fr. Eugene		
Tues. Nov. 18 6:00pm Deceased members of CWL by CWL		
Wed. Nov. 19 6.00pm (R)Glen MacDonald by Annie Mae/Melanie MacDonald		
Thur. Nov. 20 6:00pm (R)Angus MacDonald by Keith/Lorelei MacDonald		
Fri. Nov. 21 6:00pm Souls in Purgatory by Keith/Lorelei MacDonald		

Parish Pastoral Council: There will be a meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council on Tuesday, **November 18 @ 7:00 pm** in the glebe.

KOC Meeting: Regular monthly council meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 16, 2025 @ 7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. **Rosary at 7:00 p.m.**

Knights of Columbus: Your Knights will once again be selling Christmas Trees and Wreaths beginning the first week of December.

2026 Living with Christ Missals: The new missals will be sold the weekends of Nov. 22/23 and Nov. 29/30. They are \$5.00.

National Relics Veneration: As part of the Jubilee year the major **Relics of St. Kateri Tekakwitha and three Canadian Martyrs-St. Jean de Brébeuf, St. Charles Garnier and St. Gabriel Lalemant**-will be brought to **St. Ninian Cathedral Antigonish on Monday, November 17, 2025, at 1.00pm** for veneration. All are welcome to the Holy Mass and the Veneration of the Relics.

Feast of Christ the King: Next Sunday (**November 30**) we celebrate the **Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**. Let us welcome Jesus Christ as the King of our lives and families.

Advent Presentation: All are invited to an Advent Presentation (Drama & Carols) by St. Peter’s Parish Family Programs (Religious Education) on **December 1, 2025, at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall**. The Theme is **‘As For Me and My House: From Creation to Christmas’**. Donations appreciated at the door.

Dates to Remember:
First Sunday of Advent : November 30
Christmas : Thursday December 25
Ash Wednesday : February 18
Palm Sunday : March 29
Easter : April 5

Retreat with Fr. Mark Cherry: All are welcome to the retreat talks in **Our Lady of Grace Monastery** by Fr. Mark Cherry from **November 28 to 30 (Saturday to Monday)**. The Retreat will help us to prepare ourselves for the holy season of Advent. For more information and to register for the on-site retreat package, please contact **Lucille Fougere at (902)623-0075**.

Looking for anyone who may be coming from Halifax to Port Hood, with a ½ ton truck, that would have room to bring back an armoire, it would be greatly appreciated. The armoire is 69” high, 20” deep and 44” wide. It is to be used for storage in the Church. **Please call Mary Buchanan at 902-787-2723.**

The Judique Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Brunch at the Judique Community Center on Sunday, November 16th and 30th from 10:30 to12:30. Adults \$12.00, Children \$6.00.

The ICHM Auxiliary will be holding the Annual Christmas Tea & Sale on Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025 from 2-5 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion, Inverness. Sales include Bake Table, Parcel Post, Jewellery, Fudge, Christmas Crafts and Silent Auction upstairs. Take Out or Eat In Tea downstairs \$5.00. Our area is asked to supply wrapped articles for Parcel Post worth \$2.00 marked Man, Woman or Child. A canvasser will call on you for a donation. For further info contact Alice Landry at 902-302-0627.

From the Pastor's Desk

"By your endurance you will gain your souls" (Luke 21:19). There was once a nurse named Rachel, working in a busy hospital. Her life was marked by daily challenges: long overnight shifts, emotional distress from patients' suffering, and the relentless pace of modern health care. Many times, Rachel felt overwhelmed and considered leaving her profession for something less demanding. Yet, she remembered the words from the Gospel of Luke: **"By your endurance you will gain your souls"** (Luke 21:19). One winter, an outbreak of influenza filled the hospital wards beyond capacity. Rachel, already exhausted, found herself working double shifts. One evening, she cared for an elderly patient, Mr. Jenkins, who was frightened and alone, with his family far away. Rachel spent every spare minute at his bedside, offering not just medical care but also comfort and her presence. Mr. Jenkins began to recover, and as he prepared to leave, he took Rachel's hand and said, "You didn't just heal my body-you gave me hope and reminded me I wasn't alone." Rachel's heart swelled. In that moment, she understood what endurance truly meant: not simply surviving hardships, but persevering with compassion and courage, even when the road is steep. Years later, Rachel would recall that difficult winter and the comfort she gave and received. Through her perseverance, she realized she was not just tending to others but also nourishing her own soul. The endurance she showed in those challenging times shaped her character and deepened her faith, bringing the words of Jesus to life in her own journey.

The 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time invites us to reflect deeply on a powerful message from Luke 21: 5-19. In the midst of apocalyptic imagery and warnings of trials to come, Jesus offers a profound promise: "By your endurance you will gain your souls." This verse stands as a beacon of hope and strength for all believers, especially in times of uncertainty and challenge. In this Gospel passage, Jesus speaks to his disciples as they admire the grandeur of the Temple in Jerusalem. He warns them that the impressive stones will not remain unturned and that days of turmoil, deception, and persecution lie ahead. The disciples are unsettled by the prospect of wars, natural disasters, and betrayal. Yet, amid these daunting predictions, Jesus reassures them not to be terrified and encourages steadfast faith. Endurance is not simply about surviving or waiting out adversity. It calls for active, faithful perseverance in the face of hardship. Jesus does not promise an easy road, but he does promise that holding firm to faith will result in true spiritual gain-the salvation of our souls.

Endurance is a virtue that calls us to remain committed to our values, to our relationship with God, and to the love of neighbour, regardless of the challenges that arise. It is about trust, patience, and a willingness to walk the difficult path, knowing that God's promise is sure. For us today, endurance may be experienced in big and small ways: enduring personal hardships, facing uncertainty in health or employment, or confronting moments of isolation or anxiety. In our communities, endurance shows itself in the effort to build reconciliation, to care for the vulnerable, and to remain hopeful amid global challenges. Jesus here reminds us that endurance is not a solitary journey. He promises the strength to endure, saying, **"I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict."** (Luke 21:15) We are given the assurance that the Spirit accompanies us, granting courage and wisdom in times of trial. To "gain our souls" is to receive the fullness of life that God desires for each of us. It is the reward of remaining faithful, of trusting in God through every hardship, and of allowing the challenges of life to refine our spirit rather than defeat it. Endurance transforms suffering into growth, patience into hope, and adversity into deeper faith. The journey of endurance is one we walk together as a Church. By supporting one another and by drawing strength from prayer, scripture, and the sacraments, we help each other to remain steadfast, even when the way ahead seems difficult. Today let us embrace the call to endurance; let us trust in the promise that by persevering in faith, hope, and love, we truly gain our souls. In a world that often values quick solutions and instant results, the wisdom of Jesus encourages us to take the longer view, to remain faithful in all circumstances, and to remember that God walks with us through every moment of our life.

Intriguing Implications of AI: This year's Vicar of the Founder Lecture features **Fr. Philip Larrey, PH.D.**, a Catholic priest, author, and professor of philosophy at Boston College, and former Chair of Logic and Epistemology at the Pontifical Lateran University in the Vatican. His scholarly work focuses on the philosophy of knowledge, critical thinking, and the impact of the digital era on society. His presentation takes place on **November 25 from 12.00 to 1.30pm at St. Ninian Place, Antigonish**. Admission is free. All are welcome. Please visit: www.antigonishdiocese.com/vicar-of-the-founder for more information.

"Lights of Love" Campaign 2025: RK MacDonald Nursing Home Foundation Antigonish invites everyone to the "Lights of Love" Campaign 2025 to celebrate Christmas this year by helping the R.K. MacDonald Nursing Home light its tree with bulbs dedicated to love. This is the 28th year that the "Lights of Love". Christmas tree will be lit to honour individuals in whose name donations have been made. You can dedicate one or more bulbs in memory of a deceased loved one or honour someone presently in your life. In addition to a tax receipt for your donation, you can receive a card to send to anyone you have honoured. This year the donations will be used to provide **"Resident Mobility Companions"**. The **Lights of Love Service** is at **2:00 pm on Sunday, December 7, 2025**, and the Lights of Love tree will be lit during the service. For more information, please visit www.rkfoundation.ca or contact foundation@rkmacdonald.ca or 902-863-2578 ext. 223

Fr. Greg MacLeod Lecture Series: The annual **Fr. Greg MacLeod Lecture Series** by **Fr. Damien MacPherson** will be happening at Cape Breton University on **Monday, November 24th, 2025, starting at 6:30 pm**. The topic is **'Can inter-faith (Multi-faith) prayer be a stepping stone for peace at home and abroad?'**

"Remember your church in your Will"