

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

## 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'



### St. Peter's Parish Port Hood July 20, 2025

#### 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](http://www.saintpetersporthood.com)

#### Email

[stpetersporthood@gmail.com](mailto: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. July 26 4:00 pm	Leon Livingstone	Donny McIlhone
Sun. July 27 10:00 am	Isabel Calder	Darlene Watts
Weekday Masses		
Mon. July 21 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris	
Tues. July 22 6:00pm	(R) Michael Faucette by Ian Batherson	
Wed. July 23 6:00pm	Special Intention by Anita Dwyer	
Thur. July 24 6:00pm	AJ Beaton by Annie Beaton	
Fri. July 25 6:00pm	(R) Sonny MacInnis by Michael & Jean Anderson	

**KOC:** Regular monthly council meeting will be held **on Sunday, July 20 at 7:30 pm** in the Church Hall. **Rosary at 7:00 pm**

**The funeral for Ken MacNeil**, son of Stan and the late Margie MacNeil, will take place on July 28th at 11am. Visitation will be in the church starting at 10am.

**Cemetery Mass:** Holy Mass will be celebrated at the **Crossland** (Southside of the church) on **Tuesday, July 29, 2025, at 6:00pm** (weather permitting). Some chairs will be set up, but those who wish, may bring their own. The Mass will be followed by a short theatre play in the parish hall, performed by the children attending the Summer Camp.

**SUMMER CAMP 2025:** The Camp 1 by Religious Education ministry of St. Peter's Parish, Port Hood, continues on **Mondays July 21 & 28 at** the St. Peter's Parish Hall from **9.00am to 12.00noon**. The Camp is for children of **ages 5-12 (Older students are welcome as leaders)**. A short theatre play (**I Can, I Ought, I Will! A Sea Rescue**) will be performed by the children attending the Summer Camp on **July 29, 2025, at 7.30pm** (After the Cemetery Mass). **Camp 2 will be in August (11,18 & 25)**. For more information or to register contact: **Sheila MacIsaac: 902-631-2512. Registration Fee:** \$15 /child; \$ 30/family.

**Lobster Raffle:** The Finance Council is putting on a second lobster raffle. Three grand prizes of 20lbs of lobster each will be drawn August 1. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and are available at the back of the church. Parishioners are asked to take some to sell; tickets and money can be turned in to Louise MacInnis, 902-631-2068. Tickets will also be available from any member of the Finance Council. This includes Melanie MacDonald, who accepts e-transfer at [melanie\\_mac@hotmail.com](mailto:melanie_mac@hotmail.com). Please send her an email with your name, contact info and number of tickets to be purchased, in addition to sending an e-transfer, to ensure you are entered into the draw.

#### From the Pastor's Desk

**"There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her".** (Luke. 10: 42) Many years ago, in a quiet parish, an elderly woman named Evelyn was known for her tireless work on behalf of the church. She organized bazaars, baked for every occasion, and rarely missed a committee meeting. When asked how she managed, she would smile and say, "There's always work to be done." One Sunday, the pastor placed a single empty chair at the front of the sanctuary. "This chair," he explained, "is for anyone who wishes to come and simply sit with God, to listen, to pray, or to just be still. If you're weary, this chair is for you." It took weeks before anyone dared to use the chair. One morning, the congregation was surprised to see Evelyn quietly seated, eyes closed, hands open in her lap. She remained there for the entire service, not bustling about, but simply present. Afterward, she explained, "I realized I was doing so much for God, I'd forgotten to just be with God." Evelyn's experience echoes Mary's choice in today's Gospel passage from St. Luke: the empty chair became, for her and others, an invitation to choose the "better part"-the gift of presence that cannot be taken away.

The Gospel passage describes how Martha, wanted to extend the traditional generous hospitality of her people to Jesus by preparing and serving a meal for

him, while her sister Mary spent her time in sitting at the feet of Jesus and listening to him. When Martha appeals to Jesus: “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me”, Jesus gently responds by saying, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.” Even though Martha’s service with diligence is not rebuked, the narrative suggests that anxious service can become a distraction from truly being present before Jesus. Mary’s posture-sitting, listening, receiving-embodies an openness to the words of Christ, a willingness to be nourished spiritually. This account is intended to teach us how we should set our priorities. Traditionally, this passage has been interpreted to mean that the quiet life of contemplation and prayer led by monks and nuns personified in Mary, is superior to a busy life of activity and action, personified in Martha. Jesus did not intend to belittle Martha and her activity, but rather to show that hearing the Word of God is the foundation of all action, that the word of God must permeate all other concerns and that Martha had been distracted by her hospitality. The highest priority must be given to listening to the Word. Prayer and actions must be continuous, complementary, and mutually dependent. Prayer without action is sterile, and action without prayer is empty. We are expected to be “contemplatives in action” because only those who listen carefully to the Word of God know how to behave in the way that God desires when they show deep concern for the well-being of other people. That is why Jesus reminds Martha that proper service for him is attention to his instruction. Mary shows her love for the Lord by listening to him. Here Mary may be seen as a representative of discipleship and Martha of hospitality, with the ideal to combine both. Jesus teaches us that those who minister among God’s people must be actively listening to His words welcoming them into their hearts and attending to the good news of salvation. At every Holy Mass, we are offered the very hospitality of Jesus at the table of the Eucharist to become both Mary and Martha. Both Mary and Martha teaches us that their following of Jesus and their service in His name will require frequent spiritual refueling by prayer, silence, and communion with God. Otherwise, service, instead of being a loving response to the invitation of God, can become a burdensome responsibility. In other words, listening to the Lord and resting in His presence is more important than busying oneself with the duties or routines of daily life. All our good works and services must flow from the word of God, from Faith, and from prayer -in short, from God. Otherwise, our services may become self-services, and our good works may become empty and boring activities devoid of meaning. Mary chose to listen to the Lord; Martha chose hospitality as her first priority. Both are necessary, but in the presence of the Lord, our own agenda must be put aside to hear what the Lord wishes to teach us. Let being at the presence of Jesus and listening to Him be our first priority, without ignoring our responsibility of hospitality and service to others.

**World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Sunday, July 27, 2025:** In 2021 Pope Francis inaugurated this World Day to be celebrated by the universal Church each July, either on or near the liturgical Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus to help “treasure the spiritual and human wealth that has been handed down from generation to generation.” In this Jubilee Year, the theme chosen by the Holy Father is “**Blessed are those who have not lost hope (Sir 14:2)**”. These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, express the beatitude of the elderly and show the hope in the Lord as the path to Christian and reconciled old age. In his message for this Day Pope Leo XIV invites us to recognise the elderly not only as recipients of pastoral care, but as witnesses of hope who are active protagonists in the life of the Church. In this Jubilee Year, this Day aims to provide an opportunity to reflect on the presence of grandparents and the elderly as a sign of hope in every family and ecclesial community. By cherishing the charisms of grandparents and the elderly, and the contribution they make to the life of the Church, this Day seeks to support the efforts of every ecclesial community to forge bonds between the generations.

**Chestico Museum’s summer ceilidh series:** The fourth ceilidh series will be on **Thursday, July 24**. Performing will be by Kinnon & Betty Beaton and Peter MacKenzie. The fifth ceilidh will be on **Thursday, July 31**. Performing will be Koryne MacDonald, Mary Elizabeth MacInnis and the Boys from the Hood. Admission is \$10 and tea will be served

**Chestico Museum Twilight Tales Walking Tours** led by John & Cathy Gillies are offered between July 14 and August 20. The Monday tour includes St. Peter’s Parish cemeteries and begins at 8 PM. The Wednesday tour meets at the Union Protestant Cemetery at 7:30 PM. Please contact the museum@902-787-2244 to reserve your spot.

**Chestico Museum** is offering a series, “Starting the Genealogical Journey”, on Tuesday, July 22, from 7-9 p.m. and on Tuesday, August 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. Brenda (Hawley) Harrison, and Port Hood local residents John and Cathy Gillies and the museum will be providing workshops for the beginner or more experienced person who wants to record and research their family tree. Contact the Chestico Museum@902-787-2244 for more information and to reserve your spot (\$20 registration fee). **Pre-registration is required.**

**The Judique Knights of Columbus** are sponsoring a **Brunch on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>** at the **Judique Community Center**, from **10:30-12:30**. Adults: \$12.00. Children: \$6.00.

**“Remember your church in your Will.”**