

The Catholic Communities of St. Joseph's St. Patrick's & St. Paul's

UNITED IN FAITH

Parish Priest

Fr. Lazarus Guria
Cell: (902) 776-0228
Glebe: (902) 783-2631
lazguria@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Church

590 Highway 7, Lochaber, NS B2G 2L3
Phone: (902) 783-2631

Mass Times:

No mass until further notice

Parish Council Chairperson:

John Gillis: (902) 783-2959
gillis637@seasidehighspeed.com

St. Joseph's Church

2730 Ohio East Rd., PO Box 1022,
Antigonish, NS B2G 2S3

Mass Time:

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Parish Council Chairperson:
Jerome Grant: (902) 867-1160
jerome.grant@ns.sympatico.ca

St. Paul's Church

8033 Hwy 7, Sherbrooke, NS B0J 3C0

Mass Time:

Sunday: 12:30 pm

Parish Council Chairperson:

Rennie Beaver: (902) 833-2341
aubrey.carol@ns.sympatico.ca

Website

www.saintjosephscatholicchurch.org

For unto us
a child
is born,
to us
a son is given
Isaiah 9:6

Epiphany of the Lord

January 3rd, 2021



Thank You

To all of the wonderful people who make our parishes such warm and vibrant communities...

To those who serve at mass: our sacristans, altar servers, lectors, eucharistic ministers, music ministry, choir, and ushers.

To the members of our parish councils, committees, and to all those who help with and contribute to church finances.

To the people who keep our church and grounds in such beautiful condition, to our very talented church decorators, and to those who take care of the cemeteries and graves.

To those who spread the good news of the gospel through their example, and to those who organize our religious education programs.

To the prayer warriors, who pray for the sick, for those who have died, for those who grieve, and for all people in need.

To all those who, behind the scenes, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, comfort the afflicted, visit the sick and the elderly, and give their time, energy and resources to those who need care, comfort, or companionship.

You are the Body of Christ: May Christmas blessings and peace be yours this season, and throughout the New Year.

Website

The bulletin, scripture readings, homily, and resources for prayer and reflection, are available each week on our website by **Friday** evening.

Recent additions: Seven Ears of Grain, December 28th; This Month in the Diocese, January 2021.

Go to: www.saintjosephscatholicchurch.org

Bulletin Submissions

Please send to Jean Collins at jpcollins@eastlink.ca or call **902-863-2482** before **Thursday**.

St. Joseph's Church

A Very Special Thank You

To everyone who helped with our Christmas Eve Masses.

This includes the altar servers, readers, and ushers, registering people to attend the Masses, assigning seating, the many bulletin announcements, information distribution via email, contacting parishioners who do not have email, cleaning of the church in between events on December 24th and 26th, implementation of the Covid-19 restrictions to keep all parishioners safe, to those who made the music and singing possible, and to Father Bernie MacAdam for blessing us with his presence at the 5pm Mass.

A special thanks to all parishioners for their cooperation and generous financial support during this Christmas season.

And a very special thank you to Jerome Grant who did much of the planning, organizing and implementation necessary for our Christmas Masses to accommodate so many people, and to succeed so well during a very challenging time.

Collections for December 24th

Christmas Offering: \$2,497 (44)

Collections for December 26th

Regular \$386 (18); Cemetery Fund \$100 (1); Fuel \$500 (1); Missals \$10

Lector Schedule

January 2nd Jerome Grant

Year of St. Joseph

Pope Francis has declared this year to be the Year of St. Joseph to run through to December 8th, 2021.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html>



COVID-19 Precautions

St. Joseph's Parish Council has conducted a thorough review of the Antigonish Diocese's guidelines for the safe re-opening of churches. While implementing these guidelines provide no guarantee the COVID-19 virus will not be contracted, they are the best and most practical measures to ensure the safety of our parishioners. Our Celebration will be somewhat simplified but we must understand that the health and safety of all is our first concern.

Masks are now mandatory in most indoor public places, including places of worship. Children under two are exempt, as well as children aged two to four when their caregiver cannot get them to wear a mask. People with a valid medical reason for not wearing a mask are also exempt.

We must also ensure that a physical distance of 6 feet between people is strictly maintained. Families of 2 or more, who plan to sit in the same pew, need not maintain the 6 feet distance requirement.

One entrance (automatic door with the ramp) will be used. A volunteer will record your name and phone number as you enter the church. Registration of each Mass attendee is required to ensure we are in a position to perform tracing in the event of a positive test of the virus.

St. Joseph's weekly Masses have been changed to one Mass at 4:00 pm on Saturday. We are asking all parishioners to arrive early (say shortly after 3:30 pm) to ensure Mass starts on time. Sanitization stations for cleaning are available in the church lobby. An usher will lead you to a pew, which is marked with the 6ft. distance requirement, starting at the front and working to the back to ensure we have room for all.

To help prevent the spread of the virus all paper material including Hymn books have been removed. If you wish to bring your own Missal please do not share it and please take it home with you when you leave the church.

- There will be no entrance procession. The Priest will enter from the vestry.
- There will be no singing.
- All Holy Water has been removed.
- Water fountain is not in operation.
- The washroom is for use on an exception basis.

RECEIPT OF HOLY COMMUNION

- When coming down the center aisle please keep 6 feet apart. Tape on the floor will guide you. An usher will assist and also provide sanitized hand cleaning.
- Communicants are instructed to remove their masks (if wearing one) while the person ahead of you is receiving Holy Communion. Removal of the mask (with sanitized hands) by one ear loop is recommended.
- After the priest says "Body of Christ" and the communicant responds "Amen" (at a distance of 6 feet), the communicant then approaches the priest to receive Holy Communion.
- Please use the side aisles for returning (after receiving Holy Communion) to your seat. The floor will be marked for 6 feet distancing.

At the end of Mass, we request you to wipe carefully the pew seat and all touched parts of the pew. Ushers will provide you with Sanitization wipes. We ask your cooperation in this matter as we have a limited number of volunteers.

OFFERINGS

The collection will not be taken in the usual manner. Instead, ushers will have collection baskets in place at the exits (i.e. the door with the ramp and the centre doors) for your donations. Please keep six feet apart when leaving the church. Thank you for your cooperation and stay safe.

Diocese of Antigonish

Our Website's COVID-19 page

<http://www.antigonishdiocese.com/index.php/covid-19>

Includes Bishop Kirkpatrick's letters, government links for COVID-19 updates, links to online Masses, and more.

A Message from Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick

"Those who may not be able to attend church for health reasons or due to capacity restrictions are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass."

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Dearest Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot, at this moment, receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Confirmation Classes

St. Ninian's Cathedral, Antigonish

Sunday evenings: 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm

January 17th to March 28th, 2021

Registration for confirmation is now open to baptized candidates in Grade 9 and older. All are welcome, including candidates from St. Joseph's, St. Patrick's and St. Paul's.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is not being scheduled at this point. However, we are preparing our Candidates in anticipation of it's being scheduled close to those dates.

Contact Leonard MacNeil at stninianreld@ns.sympatico.ca for a registration form. Please register as soon as possible.

Covid-19 protocols will be in place.

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St Joseph's Parish thanks CACL(902-863-5024) for the printing and creation of our bulletin ads.

St. Joseph's
Lakeside Community
Center

It's a beautiful facility.
Excellent for Banquets,
Weddings, and Confer-
ences. Phone (902) 867-
-2626 Check our Face-
book page for upcoming
events.