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

United in Faith

Parish Priest

Fr. Thaddeus Orga

Cell: (902) 919-9827
Glebe: (902) 783-2631
Email: tvc30orga@gmail.com

St. Joseph's Church

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

Mass Time: Saturday 5:00 pm

Parish Council Chairperson:
Bill Murphy: (902) 870-6725
bill.murphy1701@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Church

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

Mass Time: Sunday 10:00 am

Parish Council Chairperson:
Carol Young: (902) 783-2462
youngcarip@gmail.com

St. Paul's Church

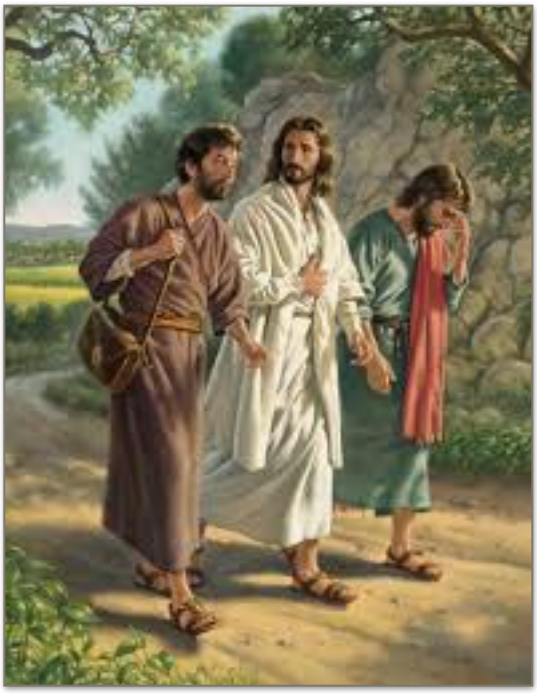
8033 Hwy 7, Sherbrooke, NS B0J 3C0

Mass Time: Sunday 11:30 am

Parish Council Chairperson:
Rennie Beaver: (902) 870-7840
aubrey.carol@ns.sympatico.ca

Website

www.saintjosephscatholicchurch.org



Third Sunday of Easter

April 19th, 2026

🙏 Prayer Requests 🙏

Father God

We lift up all those who are facing illness today. We ask that you would bring healing, comfort, and peace to their bodies, calm their fears, and let them experience the healing power of your Love.
In Jesus' name. Amen

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The SJ Hillside Cemetery Association
Registered Charity for St. Joseph's Cemetery
Mail: 1013 Hwy 4, James River, NS B2G 2K8
Phone: 902-867-1160 Email:
hillsidecemeteryassociation@gmail.com

St. Joseph's Parish

Revised Covid -19 Protocols

St. Joseph's Parish Council continues to support the wearing of masks and sanitizing of hands. The pandemic may be over, but the health risks of severe infection are not.

Please be kind and considerate of our many elderly and vulnerable parishioners, and stay home if you are coughing or sneezing, or have any other symptoms of Covid-19.

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Collections

Saturday April 11th

Regular $515 (19); Loose $10

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Readers

Saturday April 18th - Jerome Grant

Saturday April 25th - Ann MacDonald

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Our Deepest Sympathy

To the family and friends of

Hugh Daniel MacNeil
(brother of Cathy Chisholm)

Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.

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Website

Resources for Prayer and Reflection

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

Recent addition: Seven Ears of Grain, April 13th

Go to: www.saintjosephscatholicchurch.org

Bulletin Submissions

Please send to Jean Collins at **jeanpcollins@icloud.com** or call **902-863-2482** before **Thursday**.

Please let me know if you would like to receive a copy of the bulletin each week via email.

Our Parish Priest

Fr. Thaddeus Chickezie Orga

In addition to serving at Mass and on our Parish Councils, Fr. Thaddeus is available for baptisms, weddings, and funerals, to bless your home, to pray for yourself and your loved ones, to hear confessions, to anoint the sick and dying, to visit with those who are isolated and lonely, and to bring communion to those who are unable to attend Mass.

Fr. Thaddeus can be reached at:
(902) 919-9827 (cell); **(902) 783-2631** (glebe);
and **tvc30orga@gmail.com**

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Community Notes

St. Joseph's Lakeside Community Centre

Sunday April 19th — 8:30 am - 11:30 am

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Pancake and Sausage Breakfast

Antigonish Lions Club, 13 Highland Drive Ext.

Sunday April 26th — 9:00 am - 12 noon

Donations at the door, proceeds go to **SAFE** (Settlement in Antigonish for Families Everywhere)

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Diocese of Antigonish

National Appeal To Support Ukraine

CNEWA Canada (Catholic Near-East Welfare Association) calls on Canadians to renew their support for humanitarian and pastoral programs assisting families and communities in Ukraine that face the daily realities and extreme hardships of living and functioning in a war zone.

Since February 2022, **CNEWA**, working with church partners on the ground, has provided approximately $10.4 million in aid to Ukraine. This assistance has helped fund emergency shelter, food boxes, hygiene kits, winterization and rebuilding efforts, childcare services, medical and psychological support, pastoral care and the ongoing formation of priests and church workers serving communities that have been most impacted. Projects have also supported people displaced within Ukraine and strengthened the local church's ability to respond to urgent needs.

CNEWA Canada encourages individuals, parishes and community groups to continue to support this appeal through their generous prayers and donations.

To learn more and to donate:

https://cnewa.org/ca/

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Spring Deadline for Bishop Power Foundation

May 8th, 2026

The late Bishop William Power recognized the importance of the laity in strengthening Christian faith in today's world. A family charitable foundation continues to support individuals in university Catholic studies and non-profit groups that:

a) empower the poor; b) develop the laity for their Christian role in the church; c) aid the missionary activity of the church.

Applications are accepted each spring and fall.

The foundation typically distributes up to $20,000 annually to successful applicants.

Deadline is May 8th for consideration this spring.

To apply or for more information, visit:

www.bishoppowerfoundation.ca

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Do you receive our diocesan newsletters?

Seven Ears of Grain is emailed each Monday morning, with news and events from our diocese and parishes, plus news and resources from the Vatican and national offices.

Witness of Hope is our seasonal newsletter.

To subscribe, visit **https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/newsletter/**

or email **jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca**

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Diocese of Antigonish

A Message From Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick

Most current Public Health restrictions and mandates have ended, but this does not mean that the risk of infection has ended. It will be important to use personal public health measures, both individually and collectively, to help keep each other safe, especially those who are at risk of severe disease due to age and/or underlying health issues.

Masking and social distancing are no longer required. However, we still encourage masking and social distancing in our churches. We need time to make the adjustment to the "new-normal" as we learn to live with COVID.

I will continue to dispense from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass for people who may not be able to attend for health reasons, as well as for those who care for them.

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Online Masses

Weekly Mass - Livestream (Video)

From St. Ninian's Cathedral

Every Sunday - 10:30 am

On our website: https://www.saintninian.ca

On our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/stninian.cathedral/

Mass for Shut-Ins

Now in its 63rd Season on CTV — Sundays at 11:30 am. Previous recordings are available on our **website** and **Diocese of Antigonish YouTube Channel**

Diocese of Antigonish YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYevnyrNU6zIWHDh8KJ71w

Churches Online

https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/churches-online/

Daily TV Mass:

from the National Catholic Broadcasting Council
https://dailytvmass.com/

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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.
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April 2026 – Our Clergy

We	1	Pope Leo XIV
Th	2	Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick
Fr	3	Seminarians
Sa	4	Candidates to Permanent Diaconate
Su	5	Fr. Dennis Lamey
Mo	6	Fr. Peter LeBlanc
Tu	7	Deacon David Lewis
We	8	Fr. Bernard MacAdam
Th	9	Fr. Daniel G. MacDonald
Fr	10	Fr. Daniel J. MacDonald
Sa	11	Fr. Douglas MacDonald
Su	12	Fr. Peter MacDonald
Mo	13	Fr. Angus MacDougall
Tu	14	Fr. Martin MacDougall
We	15	Fr. Everett MacDow
Th	16	Fr. Angus MacGillivray
Fr	17	Fr. Donald MacGillivray
Sa	18	Fr. George MacInnis
Su	19	Fr. Duncan MacIsaac
Mo	20	Fr. Joseph MacKenzie
Tu	21	Fr. Colin MacKinnon
We	22	Fr. Daniel MacLennan
Th	23	Fr. Allan MacMillan
Fr	24	Fr. Everett MacNeil
Sa	25	Deacon Lorne MacNeil
Su	26	Fr. Tom MacNeil
Mo	27	Fr. Norman MacPhee
Tu	28	Fr. Gary MacPherson
We	29	Fr. Allan MacPhie
Th	30	Deacon Duncan McMaster

Daily Prayers

Diocese of Antigonish

Please Pray for a Clergy and Community Each Day

Let us pray for priests and deacons:

The Holy Father
Fill him with your grace, Lord.

Our Bishop
Give him your gifts, Lord
Diocesan Priests and Deacons
Never leave them, Lord
Priests in seminary work
Give them your wisdom, Lord

Those in hospital work
Give them constancy, Lord
Those who are ill
Heal them, Lord.
Those who are in danger
Deliver them, Lord.
Those who are weak
Strengthen them, Lord.
Those who are poor
Relieve them, Lord
Those who are zealous
Help them, Lord.

Those who are worried
Give them peace, Lord
Those who are old
Sustain them, Lord.
Those who are young
Impel them for your glory, Lord.
Those who are alone
Accompany them, Lord.
Missionary Priests
Protect them, Lord.
Those who preach
Enlighten them, Lord.
Those who direct souls
Instruct them, Lord.
Parish priests
Give them prudence, Lord.
On all the Church
---Lord, have mercy

April 2026 – Our Communities

We	1	Glencoe Mills
Th	2	Glendale
Fr	3	Grand Mira
Sa	4	Guysborough
Su	5	Guysborough Intervale
Mo	6	Havre Boucher
Tu	7	Heatherton
We	8	Ingonish
Th	9	Inverness
Fr	10	Iona
Sa	11	Johnstown
Su	12	Judique
Mo	13	Lakevale
Tu	14	L'Ardoise
We	15	Larry's River
Th	16	Lincolnville
Fr	17	Lismore
Sa	18	Little Bras d'Or
Su	19	Little Dover
Mo	20	Lochaber
Tu	21	Louisbourg
We	22	Louisdale
Th	23	Lower River Inhabitants
Fr	24	Mabou
Sa	25	Main-a-Dieu
Su	26	East Margaree
Mo	27	Northeast Margaree
Tu	28	Southwest Margaree
We	29	Maryvale
Th	30	Marion Bridge

Embracing Father,
You grace each of us with equal measure in your love.
Let us learn to love our neighbours more deeply,
so that we can create
peaceful and just communities.
Inspire us to use our creative energies
to build the structures we need
to overcome the obstacles
of intolerance and indifference.
May Jesus provide us the example needed
and send the Spirit to warm our hearts for the journey.
Amen

—from Being Neighbor: The Catechism and Social Justice
https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/prayer-for-community

We invite you to use these prayers, offer your own prayers, or offer up Mass, Fasting, Eucharistic Exposition, Rosary. Holy Hour or other devotions. Thank you for helping to spread God's healing love.

MAiD Awareness Sunday Information **(Sunday, April 19, 2026)**

Jesus identifies with the vulnerable, saying, "Whatever you do for the least of these, you do it to me." As Christians, we need to support and care for those who are experiencing vulnerability because in doing so, we are caring for Christ.

This is in stark contrast with the direction our governments are taking with assisted death. If no action is taken before March 17, 2027, Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD), will be legal for people whose primary presenting illness is mental health-related. This means that when a patient goes to a physician in Nova Scotia and discloses suicidal thoughts, the physician will have a moral dilemma – should they treat the patient or, if the patient wants to die, sign the forms to refer them for a MAiD assessment?

Today, a Canadian family is mourning their son who died by MAiD. His case was so outrageous that it made international news. Kiano Vafaeian was a 26-year-old living with type 1 diabetes, which caused partial vision loss, and serious mental health struggles. His requests for MAiD were repeatedly refused by Ontario physicians, but he flew to Vancouver where his life was ended by a physician who has performed more than 400 MAiD deaths. The family believes he should not have been eligible for MAiD and that he needed psychiatric care and support instead. On December 30, 2025 Kiano received MAiD, raising questions about safeguards and care for vulnerable patients. If this happened when the law was supposed to protect Kiano, what will happen when the law is removed?

We are asking all Nova Scotia Christians to write the Honourable Brian Comer, Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and ask him to do the following:

1. Advise the federal Minister of Health that Nova Scotia does not want to go along with MAiD for mental health, and ask the federal government to revise the legislation. Failing that, Nova Scotia can follow the path of Alberta and introduce legislation to prevent MAiD for mental illness in our province.
2. Request that the College of Physicians and Surgeons **no longer require** physicians to sign MAiD referral forms or be forced to advise patients that MAiD is an option, even before the patient makes the request.
3. Continue to enhance mental health supports for the most vulnerable communities, especially the unhoused and those suffering from addictions.

We are asking all Christians in Nova Scotia to sign letters to Minister Comer at Church on April 18th and 19th, 2026. We recommend that letters be provided to congregants either when they enter the Church or by placing them in the seats before services and that they be asked to sign them before they leave. Letters can then be sent directly to CMDA Canada (call 902-406-2955 or email bmackinnon@cmdacanada.org to coordinate) or, for Catholic Churches, to their diocesan office.