

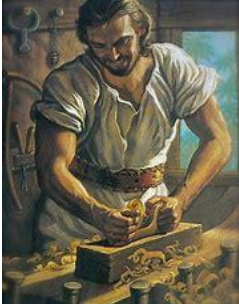


# PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

P.O. BOX 338 34 ARCHIBALD AVE. NORTH SYDNEY, N.S. B2A 3M4

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Northsydneyparish.com      holycrosscemeteryns.com



December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent

DECEMBER 7TH, 2025    †		
REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR CHAPLAIN CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon roy.smith@hotmail.ca	<u>Leadership Ministry Team</u> Pam Hall- Secretary /Faith Formation, Cavell Young – Bookkeeping, Cathy MacDonald- Liturgy, Monica Shebib- Baptism, / Bereavement/Funeral Team, Lana Verschuren- Finance	OFFICE HOURS: TUES., WED. THURS.-9AM- 1 PM  TEL: 902 -794-3951

ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEXT WEEK				
Date	Location	Time	Details	Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK
Mon. Dec. 8th	St. Joseph Hall	11am	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Joan Connors
Tues. Dec. 9th	St. Joseph Hall	11am		Brandon Joseph Ryan
Wed.Dec.10th	Personal Mass			
Thurs.Dec.11th	Personal Mass			For all Holy Souls in Purgatory
Fri.Dec.12th	Personal Mass		Our Lady of Guadalupe	For all Deacons
Sat.Dec.13th	St. Joseph Church	4pm	St. Lucy, Martyr	For Stan Brothers
Sun.Dec.14th	St. Joseph Church	10 am		For All Parishioners
Ministries	4 pm Mass Saturday, December 13th		10 am Mass Sunday, December 14th	
SACRISTAIN & LINENS	Deacon Roy Smith, Team		Deacon Roy Smith, Team	
CHOIR	St. Joseph Choir		Alan Gale	
GREETERS	Elaine MacNeil, Sally Ryan		Pam Hall, Bob Jardine	
USHERS	Men and Women of the Parish		Men and Women of the Parish	
LECTORS	Ellen McNamara		Lynn Hamilton, Ken MacDonald	
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	Parishioners		Parishioners	
EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION	Sheila MacCormick, Ken Young		George Quirk, Joan Skinner	
Interior Church (cleaning)	Volunteer Team		Volunteer Team	
EXTERIOR SERVICE (SHOVELING)	Fr. Doug		Hunter Hill	
RINGING OF BELLS			Dave Williams	

## PARISH NEWS

### Commissioning Service weekend Dec 6/7th

There will be a commissioning service during mass to officially install all current and new Lectors (readers) and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion. Everyone who reads at mass or reads the Word of God at the hospital or seniors home must be present either Sat. Dec. 6 or Sunday Dec. 7th. Anyone who gives Holy Communion at mass or has a pyx and brings Communion to a neighbour or family member must be present that weekend. If you have a pyx that you are no longer using, would you consider returning it to the parish for others to use?

There will be two commissioning services either Saturday or Sunday during the weekend mass, so Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion can choose which installation service they wish to attend, but those who read or give Holy Communion must attend one, to be certified to give Holy Communion in the New Year.

### St. Joseph Parish &Elizabeth Fry Society

St. Joseph Parish is partnering with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Cape Breton to help fill their pantry and support women, single mothers, and community members facing homelessness who are struggling with severe food shortages. The need in our community is greater than ever, and even small donations of pantry staples—canned goods, pasta, rice,

cereal, and other non-perishables—can make an immediate difference in someone’s life. Please drop off contributions during [days/hours] at the collection area located [location in the church]. Thank you for helping us care for those who need it most.

Christmas Fair Thank You

Our Christmas Fair was once again a huge success for our parish. We were able to raise a total of \$6,766.65. We would like to thank everyone who helped make this day such a success. To all the volunteers, to those who donated baked goods, to all the ladies who made chicken burgers and to everyone who came out that day and supported the fair, we thank you.

The winners of the tickets were:1<sup>st</sup> Prize\$300.00 Sobeys Gift Card- **Denise Constanteseau**, 2nd Prize Reindeer Set- **Iris Young**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize- Christmas Sign- **Theresa Ivy**, Christmas Wreath-**Jean McMullin**, Sleigh- **Joan Skinner**, 50/50 Winner-**Nora Erickson**

Mass Schedule Dec 24, 2025 – January 1, 2026

Wednesday, Dec 24th **Christmas Eve** Masses – 4 PM and 7 PM

Thursday, Dec 25th **Christmas Day** Mass – **11 AM**

Saturday, Dec 27th – 4 PM

Sunday, Dec 28th – 10 AM

Thursday, January 1st **New Years Day** – **11 AM**

Advent Prayer

Father, thank you for sending Jesus your Son to us. In this Advent season, prepare the 'inn' of our hearts with silence as the straw for the creche, and adoration as the swaddling cloth to wrap Him in. Make us contemplatives of a new order - able to hear Your voice and heed your word.

Advent Wreath Lightening

The candle lit for the second Sunday of Advent is known as the “Peace or Bethlehem candle”, because it represents when Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem and there was no room in the Inn.

Recitation of the Rosary

Please join us this weekend, December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, **one half hour before mass**, as we pray the rosary to Our Blessed Mother.

Collections~ Thank You November29th & 30h		
Envelopes		2285.00
Loose Cash		270.00
Fuel		160.00
Candles		25.00
Pre- Authorized Debit		750.00
Total		3490.00
Hall		1510.00
Church Improvement		50.00

**Pre-Authorized Debit: please call the office to get started.**

Ways to Donate:

**To donate by credit card, or debit come into the parish office, or by E-transfer, email: [stjoseph2006@ns.alianzinc.ca](mailto:stjoseph2006@ns.alianzinc.ca)**

Diocesan

Cape Breton Advent Calendar

Prepare your heart for Christmas with the Cape Breton Advent Calendar!  
Beginning December 1st, enjoy a daily Scripture passage paired with a beautiful photograph by Cape Breton’s own Steven MacNeil.

This Advent Calendar is a free service for Cape Breton provided by Holy Rosary Parish, Westmount and is accessible anywhere though the Internet. Visit each day and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. (But you have wait till December 1<sup>st</sup>! no peeking!)

Watch for the Cape Breton Advent Calendar on Facebook or tuerchen. [app/0wSONibkc4ab462u](https://www.facebook.com/0wSONibkc4ab462u)

You are invited to our Parish ‘SIMBANG GABI’ (Night Mass)

A Filipino religious tradition of 9-Day Novena Masses in preparation for Christmas. It is a Eucharistic celebration that follows the centuries-

old Catholic liturgy of nine days Advent preparation for Christmas Day. A refreshment follows after the Mass.

**The schedule is: Every 7 P.M. at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Church from December 15th to the 23rd, except for December 0th** (in Sydney Armory, coinciding with the Filipino Christmas Party). Let us spiritually prepare for the joyful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Challenge/Cursillo

Cape Breton Challenge Executive are trying to renew the Challenge movement in our area again. We are reaching out to our Challenge/Cursillo family to see if there is anyone among you who would be interested in working a Challenge weekend or be a member of the Challenge Executive.

If this is of interest to you please reach out to us - Eastern region Rose Henry [roseh5029@gmail.com](mailto:roseh5029@gmail.com) or 902-577-1517, Mabou region Ashley Roach [roachashley1988@gmail.com](mailto:roachashley1988@gmail.com) or 902-224-5035.

We ask you to keep us in your prayers as we move forward and for the success of reviving this beautiful movement.  
Thank You from Lay Directors Rose and Ashley

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](mailto:jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca)

Community
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**The Gift Shop at Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine in Mabou is opening for a one day only Christmas Shopping Sale.** On Sunday, December 7th from 1 to 4 pm, all items, except candles will be 50% OFF for one day only. Cash Only. The Shrine is open year-round. We thank you sincerely for all your support this year. Many projects have been completed.

Have a Merry Christmas and Good Health and Happiness in the New Year. Board & Management of the Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine. For inquiries call 902-945-2221

Christmas Musical Celebration

On Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm we will be having an afternoon of Christmas music with Chalk Dust. Hot apple cider, hot chocolate and sweet treats. A free will offering will be taken for the food bank.

Handel’s Messiah - A Musical Celebration of Advent

Join us for a moving performance of **Handel’s Messiah**, performed by a choir and orchestra with members from across the CBRM. This cherished Oratorio captures the longing and hope of Advent—prophecies fulfilled, light breaking into darkness, and the joyful announcement of Christ’s birth. Through Handel’s inspired music and Scripture-filled text, we are invited to prepare our hearts once more for the coming of the Messiah. All are welcome to this uplifting celebration of the Advent season. Join us at **Marguerite Bourgeoys Church, Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM**. Admission is free with a silver collection.

St. Mary's Parish East Bay CWL

Invites you to" Come to the Ceilidh"at East Bay Firehall Sunday, Dec 14, 2:00-4:00With Donna Marie DeWolfe, Allan Dewar, Philip & Marley Whyte Admission is \$10.00 (12 & under FREE).

Quote of the Week
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*“Evil draws its power from indecision and concern for what other people think. ” Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI*

News Story
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Vatican report on abuse criticizes 'performative gestures' for victims, as well as Italy's response | CBC News  
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/world/vatican-abuse-pontifical-commission-protection-minors-9.6940412>

Peace Be With You and Have a Great Week
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