

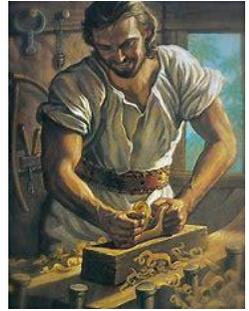


PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

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

E-MAIL: stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Northsydneyparish.com holycrosscemeteryns.com



March 15th, 2026

4th Sunday of Lent

MARCH 15TH, 2026 †

REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR
CHAPLAIN CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY
Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon
roy.smith@hotmail.ca

Leadership Ministry Team

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

Mass Intentions 
FOR THE WEEK

Date	Location	Time	Details	
Mon. March 16th	St. Joseph's Parish Port Hawkesbury	7pm	Mission	
Tues March 17th	St. Joseph's Parish, Port Hawkesbury	7pm	Mission	
Wed. March 18th	St. Joseph's Parish, Port Hawkesbury	7pm	Mission	
Thurs. March 19th	Personal Mass			
Fri. March 20th	Mass 9am with Adoration of Blessed Sacrament			For Richard & Margaret Vickers
Sat. March 21st	St. Joseph Church	4pm		
Sun. March 22nd	St. Joseph Church	10 am		For All Parishioners

Ministries	4 pm Mass Saturday, March 21st	10 am Mass Sunday, March 22nd
SACRISTAIN & LINENS	Deacon Roy Smith, Team	Deacon Roy Smith, Team
CHOIR	St. Joseph Choir	Alan Gale
GREETERS	Ann Sampson, Elaine MacNeil	Viola Smith, Pam Hall
USHERS	Men and Women of the Parish	Men and Women of the Parish
LECTORS	Jude Rankin, Ellen McNamara	Helen Gray, Kay Batherson
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	Parishioners	Parishioners
EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION	Cathy MacDonald, Ken MacDonald	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

Self Service Mass Cards

Complete the mass card by writing your name on the top line. On the second line write the name of the person you are offering mass for. Then keep the mass card and give to the person or the family of the person you offered the mass for. Be sure to complete the envelope portion as well and submit to the Church (office or collection), so the mass gets said by the priest. The parish secretary will collate the envelopes to ensure the mass gets said in the future.

Modules for First Communion and Penance (Confession)

The modules for children making the sacrament of First Eucharist, will begin on **March 29th and continue until May 3rd**. These classes are half an hour long and are an important part of preparing your child to receive the sacraments. Classes are held on Sundays at 11am downstairs in the Parish Hall. If you have any questions, please call the office at (902) 794-3951

Recitation of the Rosary

Weekend masses will be returning to the main church on the weekend of March 14-15. Please join us, on that weekend, one half hour before mass, as we pray the rosary to Our Blessed Mother.

RCIA Session

All persons entering the Church at the Easter Vigil are reminded to attend the session on the Sacraments after Mass this weekend in the hall from 11 to 12 p.m.

North Sydney Food Bank

The North Sydney Food Bank has a new shopping model. For those who have questions about the new system, a brief explanation is as follows:

- .you receive points based on family size
- . you can come as often as you like
- . you use a scanner to check your items
- . you have 30 days to use your points and then it renews
- . once your points are used you cannot visit again until your points renew after 30 days from your initial visit

The Food Bank is located at 25 Wilkie Drive, North Sydney. Phone (902) 794- 1104. Hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10am-1pm.

CWL Fundraiser

The CWL will be selling their pulled bbq chicken burger, coleslaw and lemon cake for \$10.00, on Saturday March 14th after mass.

Also, for the celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph, the CWL will have the blessing of St. Joseph Parish Holy Oils (for personal use) and are asking a suggested offering of \$5.00 per oil. The oils will be available after mass on March 14th and 15th.

Lenten Lecture Series

This Lent we decided to host a few spiritual workshops in place of the lectures. Everyone is welcome to come on Sat. March 14th, from 10 until 12 with a back- up date of March 21st if there is a snow day. All are welcome and invited to sign up so we have enough food and free copies of resources. Sign up is with Pam, the parish secretary.

THE MANY FACES OF CHRISTIAN PRAYER

You are invited to join us for two sessions on prayer and the many ways we can come to God in our prayer. **Saturday, March 14, 2026 from 10:00 until 12:00(Weather Date if needed) Saturday, March 21, 2026 from 10:00 until 12:00 . Sessions will be held at St. Joseph’s Parish Hall, 34 Archibald Ave. North Sydney**

Sessions are facilitated by members of the Cape Breton Local of the Atlantic Association of Spiritual Directors. There is no fee although a donation is welcomed. **Registration is required to reserve your space.**

To register, **please contact:** one of the below with your name and phone number :**Gary Fancey (gafancey@netscape.net) (902-862-7580)** or**Julia Townsend (juliat@eastlink.ca) (902-562-8423)**

St. Joseph’s Parish Office (902-794-3951)

Life in the Spirit Seminar

Renew or Begin Your Relationship with Jesus Christ

Experience the peace and power of the Holy Spirit

- . Deepen *your* prayer life
- . Strengthen *your* Faith

Beginning Thursday, April9th at 7:30pm, Saint Joseph Hall

COLLECTIONS~ THANK YOU! MARCH 7TH MARCH 8TH

Envelopes		1540.00
Loose Cash		380.00
Fuel		20.00
Pre- Authorized Debit		750.00
Total		2690.00
Hall		625.00
Church Improvement		50.00

7 Ways to Donate :

Send a cheque donation: St Joseph Parish

P.O. Box 338 34 Archibald Ave. North Sydney, N.S. B2A 3M4

E-transfer: Email a donation to the parish email address:

stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca **Credit card, or debit card:** Please come into the parish office to complete your donation.

Parish Envelopes: Please see the office or ask us at mass for your own personal box of donation envelopes.

Hall Fund Envelopes: 100% of Donations to the St. Joseph Hall Fund stay in North Sydney and are spent locally. They are available throughout the Church.

Pre-Authorized Debit: Please bring a void cheque and call the office to get started.

Cash Donations: All cash donations given directly at the office get a tax receipt. Loose cash donated at mass is locked in security bags by two screened volunteers and the total amount is posted each week in the bulletin.

Diocesan

For Fourth Sunday of Lent: Being Children of Light

Scripture challenges us to see with the eyes of faith and to recognize the ways in which we ourselves may be blind to the needs, gifts, and callings within our Church communities. We are also reminded that God looks beyond outward appearances to the heart, calling us to live as "children of light." A synodal Church is one that walks together in humility and openness, listening to the Spirit and to one another—whether in our parishes, dioceses, or the universal Church. The image of the Church as a home of hospitality and encounter aligns with the synodal journey: a space where diverse voices are heard, where differences are appreciated as opportunities for mutual enrichment, and where the Spirit guides us in discernment. Let us ask ourselves: Are we truly seeing with the eyes of faith? Are we listening as a Church called to be a home of welcome, a school of communion, and a pilgrim community on mission? As we continue along this Lenten path, may the Light of Christ dispel our spiritual blindness, inspiring us to be a more synodal Church—one that walks together in hope, rooted in love and open to the Spirit’s guiding. Synod Reports and Resources are available

online:www.antigonishdiocese.com/listening-church



Marriage Preparation Course

A marriage preparation course is being offered at St. Joseph’s Parish, 34 Archibald Ave. North Sydney on Sunday, April 19th from 10 am to 4 pm. It is a requirement for any couples seeking to be married in the Catholic Church and all couples in the diocese are welcome to this free course.

Marriage prep starts with mass at 10 am with a special homily on the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, followed by a social in the hall. Then sessions on: hopes, dreams, communication spirituality, conflict, family, intimacy, NFP and finances. Includes a free lunch & certificate and ends at 4 pm. Couples must register by Wednesday April 15th at 902-794-3951 or by email: or stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca

A free survey on marriage compatibility at:

<http://marriageprep.dynamiccatholic.com/>

and other free resources are to be reviewed prior to arrival:

beholdvancouver.org

Quote of the Week

“Just going to church doesn’t make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.” G. K. Chesteron

News Story

Mission Assurance agreement ending at St. Martha’s Hospital - Diocese of Antigonish

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/mission-assurance-agreement-ending-at-st-marthas-hospital/>

Peace Be with You and Have a Great Week