

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'



**St. Peter's Parish
Port Hood**

April 6, 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

Email

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. Apr. 12 4:00pm	Jack Redden W,1,N Coline ME, 2,Int,S	Marcella Watts
Sun. Apr. 13 10:00am	Harvey VZ W,1,N Louise MI, 2,Int,S	Janet van Zutphen
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Apr. 7 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris	
Tues. Apr. 8 6:00pm	(R) Aaron MacDonald by Sam MacDonald	
Wed. Apr. 9 6:00pm	(R) Gerard MacEachern by Tudi MacEachern	
Thur. Apr. 10 6:00pm	Souls in Purgatory by Barbara MacLellan	
Fri. Apr. 11 6:30pm	(R) Bernice Gillies by family	

Lenten Reconciliation. The annual Lenten Reconciliation is to take place today (Sunday, 6th) at 2.00pm in the church. Several priests will be available.

Parish Pastoral Council: There will be a parish pastoral council meeting on Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00pm in the glebe.

Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 11th at 6.30pm followed by Holy Mass in the Church.

Holy Mass for Children: As part of the Religious Education Program Holy Mass will be celebrated for children and their parents on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 3.00pm in the Chapel. Welcome to all children and their families.

KOC: "The Silver Rose" is in Nova Scotia and St. Peter's KOC council are honored to host it when in our area. Through the Silver Rose we honor not only Our Lady of Guadalupe but express the unity of the Order as well. St. Peter's KOC Council wish to invite all members and parishioners to attend the Silver Rose service on Monday, April 21st, 2025, at 6:45 pm at St. Peter's Church.

CWL: CWL is collecting the 2025 CWL Dues. Once again, this year the Annual fee is \$34.50. Money can be placed in a sealed envelope, marked CWL Dues and add to the weekly church collection. If additional arrangement for collection is required, please call Debbie MacDonald at 902-6232578.

Building Fund Silent Auction: The Finance Council is pleased to announce the silent auction fundraiser will be held from April 12 to 17 on the 'Saint Peters Parish Port Hood' Facebook page. Donation drop offs will be accepted at the entrance to the church before mass this weekend (April 5 and 6) and at the Port Hood Coop on Wednesday, April 9 from 5 to 6pm. Or contact Melanie MacDonald at (902)495-7903 or melanie_mac@hotmail.com to make other arrangements. Thank you for your generous donations thus far!

Lawn Caretaker: Expressions of interest are being sought for a person to provide lawn mowing services for St. Peter's parish properties. The work covers the period from May through September. The properties to be maintained are the two parish cemeteries and the lawns around the parish glebe, the church and the hall. For further information contact Charlie MacDonald-Finance Committee chair (902-631-6533), or John Gillies/ Hughie John Beaton-Cemetery Committee members. (902-787-3441/ 902-787-2322)

First Holy Communion: The first Holy Communion of Children in our parish is scheduled for Sunday, May 11th at 10.00am. If anyone would like to donate (or lend) First Communion dresses, shoes or suits to help families who can't afford to buy, please contact Anita Dwyer @519-654-6533 or drop them off at the parish hall on Sunday, April 6th between 4.00 and 5.30pm.

Dates to Remember:

- April 13 : Passion (Palm) Sunday (Mass on Saturday at 4pm; Sunday at 10am and 3pm)
April 14 : Mass of Chrism at St. Ninian Cathedral at 3.00pm
April 17 : Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00 pm followed by Adoration
April 18 : Good Friday: 10:00am Stations of the Cross outside (weather permitting)
3:00pm Good Friday Services
April 19 : Easter Vigil 8:00pm
April 20 : Easter Sunday 10:00am
April 27 : Divine Mercy Sunday at 2:00pm (Novenas will be available on back table
on Palm Sunday in time to start Novena on Good Friday.)

Donations for flowers: If you wish to make donations to defray the costs for Easter flowers, you may put the money in an envelope (marked flowers and your regular envelope number) in the weekend collections.

Message from the Pastor's Desk

"Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again." (John 8: 11) **St. Mother Teresa** of Calcutta is a great "Missionary of Mercy" in calling everyone to receive Jesus' forgiving love in the Sacrament of Confession, a Sacrament she received at least once a week. Her words on the Sacrament of Divine Mercy: **"One thing is necessary for us: Confession. Confession is nothing but humility in action. We call it Penance, but really it is a Sacrament of Love, a Sacrament of forgiveness. It is a place where I allow Jesus to take away from me everything that divides, that destroys. Confession is a beautiful act of great love. Only in confession can we go in as sinners with sin and come out as sinners without sin...There's no need for us to despair, no need for us to commit suicide, no need for us to be discouraged, if we have understood the tenderness of God's love."** She said elsewhere very simply, **"Confession is Jesus and I, and nobody else. Remember this for life."** Today, the Fifth Sunday of Lent we are invited to experience this Mercy of God and start a new life.

The central theme for today is the steadfast love of a merciful God. The readings remind us of the incredible gift of God's mercy and of what we need to do to receive that mercy. Mercy and pardon are the hallmarks of the Christian. Reminding us of God's readiness to forgive sin and to restore people to His friendship, today's readings challenge us to show the same mercy to the sinners around us and to live as forgiven people, actively seeking reconciliation. The readings also encourage us to reflect seriously on the ultimate example of God's compassionate love for us. They remind us that we cannot self-righteously condemn the lives of others when God is calling them tenderly to conversion. Repentance is not something we do. Rather, repentance is allowing the forgiving power of God to touch our lives and lead us along new paths. Explaining how a merciful God forgives the sins of His chosen people and leads them back from the Babylonian exile, the first reading (Isiah. 43: 16-21) reminds us that we too are forgiven, and that we are saved from our own sinfulness. Both the verses of the Responsorial Psalm and the reading from St. Paul invite us to respond to such Divine graciousness with joy and gratitude. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 126), the Psalmist reminds us of the joy, God's Mercy brings us when we ask for and receive His pardon. In the second reading (Phil. 3:8-14) St. Paul presents himself as a forgiven sinner who has been completely transformed by his Faith in Christ Jesus. The Gospel passage for today (John. 8-11) narrating the sinful women's story of sin committed and sin forgiven, shows the inexhaustible mercy and compassion Jesus grants to sinners. It invites us to recognize and experience in our own lives both God's Justice and His Mercy. We bear witness to the Justice of God by confessing our sinfulness and determining to avoid sin, and we bear witness to God's Mercy by accepting the forgiveness of our sins and by determining to forgive those who have offended us. Today Jesus Christ calls us to acknowledge our sins, ask God's forgiveness every day and extend the same forgiveness to our erring brothers and sisters. We are challenged to learn to hate the sin but love the sinners, showing them Jesus' compassion and working with the Holy Spirit to make our own lives exemplary so that we can help lead them to Jesus' ways. We are also reminded that we have no right to judge others because we also commit the very faults we condemn, we are often partial and prejudiced in our judgments, and we do not know the circumstances which have led someone to sin. Hence, we are asked to leave the judgment to our merciful God Who does read people's hearts. We should show mercy and compassion to those who sin because we ourselves are sinners in need of God's forgiveness. Let us remind ourselves of Jesus' words, **"Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."** (John. 8: 7)

County Crib Playdowns for Port Hood and District only will take place April 13 at 2:00 Port Hood Fire Hall. Bring a partner.

The Judique Knights of Columbus are having a Brunch at the Judique Community Center on Sunday, April 6th and 27th, from 10:30 to 12:30. Adults \$12.00, Children, \$6.00

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THE CHAPEL

"Remember your church in your Will"