

# Parish News

## Mass Schedule

4:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 am on Sunday

Date	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. Jan. 25 4:00pm	Ellen Murphy	Catherine Trenholm
Sun. Jan. 26 10:00am	Angela Avery	Marcella Watts
Weekday Masses (in the Chapel)		
Mon. Jan. 20 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris	
Tues. Jan. 21 6:00pm (R)	Jackie MacEachen by Jeanette MacNeil	
Wed. Jan. 22 6:00pm (R)	Ken MacNeil by Stan MacNeil & family	
Thur. Jan. 23 6:00pm (R)	Janie MacDonald by Eileen & Hughie John Beaton	
Fri. Jan. 24 6:00pm (R)	Lydia Behrens by Joe & Carmen van Zutphen	



## St. Peter's Parish Port Hood Jan. 19, 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](http://www.saintpetersporthood.com)

### Email

[stpetersporthood@gmail.com](mailto:stpetersporthood@gmail.com)

### Pastoral Council Chairperson

Leon Livingstone  
(902) 787-3041

### 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](mailto: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

**KOC:** Regular monthly meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 19, 2024, at 7:30 pm** in the Church Hall with **Rosary at 7:00 pm**.

**Parish Finance Council:** There is a Parish Finance Council meeting on **Wednesday, January 22, at 7:00 pm** in the glebe.

**The 2025 Envelopes** are at the back of the church. If anyone that doesn't currently use envelopes and would like to, there are blank boxes also. Please put your name and address on the first few you use. Please discard old envelopes as our number may change in 2025.

**Building Fund:** Request whole-hearted support from the parishioners to raise money for the **Building Fund** with your generous donations, especially to pay off the cost of the brick work done at the back wall of the church building and also for the future maintenance works. Tax receipts will be issued to all donations. **Envelopes are available at the back of the church.** Donations can also be dropped in the collection box at the back of the church.

**First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion & Confirmation:** Invite the parents of those children who would like to make their **First Reconciliation** (in the spring before Easter) and receive the **First Holy Communion** (May) and the **Confirmation** (November) this year to contact the coordinator for Religious Education **Sheila MacIsaac at 902-631-2512**.

**Thank You:** We, the parishioners, the parish pastoral council, the parish finance council and the Administrator extend our deepest gratitude to the team of volunteers and trades people, led by John van Zutphen, that renovated our chapel in the annex of the church. The seating capacity for Mass has been increased by a factor of three, and it can accommodate, comfortably, 50 attendees. Beautiful, St. Joseph's Chapel, consecrated and blessed by Bishop Wayne Joseph, on Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> is being used for Week-day Mass and for daily adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Use of the Chapel will negate the heating of the main church by oil-fired furnaces except for Saturday, Sunday and funeral masses. The saving in oil and, therefore, in heating costs will be substantial. The Chapel with its much smaller space will be heated by a heat pump. To the very many parishioners, and to those from outside our parish, who through their generosity made the Chapel possible and we of St. Pete's Parish are truly grateful. Special thanks to the Parishioners of West Lake Ainslie Immaculate Conception Parish for donating Sanctuary elevation, the back Altar and the side altars for the main Church, and the Altar for the chapel.

(Submitted by Leon Livingstone, Chairman of the Parish Council)

### **From the Pastor's Desk**

**“His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.””** (John. 2: 5) The Second Sunday of Ordinary Time for Year C often reflects on the theme of "God's manifestation through miracles and the beginning of Jesus's ministry." In the miracle of transforming water into wine at the Wedding Feast of Cana, the Divine Power of Jesus is being revealed. As per St. John's Gospel this miracle is the first of the seven "signs" by which Jesus showed forth His Divinity. The fact that this revelation of the Divinity of Jesus is set in the context of a wedding and a family, shows the importance of family in the salvific plan of God. The Bible begins with the institution of a wedding and a family- that of Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden (Gen. 2:23-24), and ends with another, the marriage supper of the Lamb (Rev. 19:9, 21:9, 22:17). Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the Covenant relationship between God and His chosen people. God is the faithful Bridegroom, and humanity is His beloved bride. Prophet Isaiah uses the image of spousal love to describe God's love for Israel. God's fidelity to his people is compared to a husband's fidelity to his wife. The prophet reminds God's people that their God rejoices in them as a Bridegroom rejoices in His Bride, and that He will rebuild Israel, if they will be reconciled to Him, repairing their strained relationship with Him. Jesus providing abundant wine for the wedding feast in Cana signifies that the day foreseen by Isaiah has arrived.

The Catholic Church teaches that Christian marriage is a sacred covenant, where Jesus Christ is an integral part. According to Catholic doctrine, marriage isn't just a contract between two people-it's a sacrament involving three persons: the husband, the wife, and Christ. By taking part in this covenant, the couple invites Jesus into their relationship, seeking His guidance and grace to strengthen their union. The miracle at the wedding feast of Cana clearly indicates this fact-that Christ's presence is an integral part of marriage and family. So, the "Church attaches great importance to Jesus' presence at the wedding at Cana and sees in it the confirmation of the goodness of marriage and the proclamation that thenceforth marriage will be an efficacious sign of Christ's presence" (CCC #1613). As in the wedding Feast of Cana, there could arise crisis in marriage and family relationships-could run short of wine-their dreams could get shattered, mutual love could dry out, the relationship could become boring and raising the children becoming a burden which could lead to break-ups in relationships. To restore the mutual love, to overcome the crisis, and to save and strengthen the relationships, the intervention of Christ is required, and the Gospel passage speaks to us of four steps which will lead us to Christ's intervention. a) Be aware of Christ's Presence (v.2); b) Ask God for help (v.3); c) Obey His commands (vv.7-8); d) Expect Him to be glorified as He provides (v.11).

The Catholic Church holds the Blessed Virgin Mary in high esteem, viewing her as an exemplary model for marriage and family relationships and the Gospel passage points to her role in Christian marriage and Family relationships. Her intercession at the wedding feast of Cana (John 2:1-12) illustrates her caring nature and influence on family matters. It's here she prompted Jesus to perform His first miracle, emphasizing her supportive role in a marriage. Mary's actions at the Wedding Feast are seen as a sign of her intercessory power and her vital role in Jesus's mission, providing a model for the faithful to turn to her in their own needs, trusting in her maternal care and intercession. So, couples and families are encouraged to seek Mary's intercession through prayer and devotion always, especially in time of their needs. Let us make sure that Jesus Christ is always present at the centre of our family life and Bl. V. Mary be by His side to intercede for us and to guide and lead us to Him. Let us create an atmosphere of prayer, Bible-reading, mutual love, and respect, with a spirit of forgiveness and sacrificial service at home, which will refresh and renovate family life and strengthen relationships.

**Sign-Up for Holy Hour:** Invite more people to sign up for the daily **Holy Hour** schedule. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the church or may contact **Cathy MacDonald (902-787-2627) or Mary Buchanon (902-227-5512).**

**Plaques:** The Plaque Fundraiser, once again taken up a few years ago in memory of our loved ones, has been very successful. There are no more spots available. On behalf of the fundraising committee, we would like to thank all those who have contributed to this privileged cause. *Mary Buchanan.*

**Sessions on Vatican Council II:** From January to May, **Fr. Bill Burke** will be presenting a series of eight sessions on the documents of Vatican II. The first two will take place **Sunday, January 19 and Sunday, January 26 at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish from 2:00-4:00pm.** All are welcome. The sessions will be livestreamed. Future dates will be announced by the end of January.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
IN THE CHAPEL  
(9.00AM TO 3.00PM)**

**“Remember your church in your Will”**