

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'



**St. Peter's Parish
Port Hood
Feb. 23, 2025**

Contact Information

Fr. Sunny Sebastian, Pastor
1-902-787-3317/902-302-6838

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

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. Mar. 1 4:00pm	Gerard MacPhee	Catherine Trenholm
Sun. Mar. 2 10:00am	Gabriella Watts	Sandy MacKinnon
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Feb. 24 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris	
Tues. Feb. 25 6:00pm	(R) Bobby MacMillan by Jeanette MacNeil	
Wed. Feb. 26 6:00pm	(R) John MacIsaac by Keith/Lorelei MacDonald	
Thur. Feb. 27 6:00pm	(R) Margie MacNeil by Stan MacNeil	
Fri. Feb. 28 6:00pm	(R) Edward Beaton by Mary Buchanan & family	
Sat. Feb. 29 11:00am	In reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary	

****The 2024 Charitable Donation Receipts are at the back of the church****

Washing of Feet on Holy Thursday: We are looking for **12 volunteers** to be part of the Holy Thursday service of washing of the feet this year. Those willing to be **one of the twelve**, may call Linda Beaton @ **902-787-3040** or write down their names and contact details on the sign-up sheet 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 11)** and the **Confirmation (November 9)** this year to contact the coordinator for Religious Education **Sheila MacIsaac at 902-631-2512**.

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 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

Paschal Candle: If anyone wishes to donate the Paschal Candle for this year may contact Linda Beaton @ 902-787-3040. The cost could be between \$250-450.

Ash Wednesday: We begin the Season of Lent with **Ash Wednesday on March 5, 2025**. Different from previous years this year **Ash Wednesday service followed by Holy Mass will be celebrated twice** on the day-one in the **morning at 8.00am** and one in the **evening at 7.00pm**. **Palms for Ash Wednesday:** You are requested to bring in your palms from last year as they will be used to make the ashes for this year's Ash Wednesday. You may leave them on the table at the back of the church.

Holy Hour: Holy Hour in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be on **Saturday, March 1, 2025**, at 10.00am followed by Holy Mass at 11.00am in the chapel followed by a complementary lunch at the Marian centre.

Consecration to Jesus through Mary: Just a reminder that 33-day preparation for the Consecration begins on February 20, 2025. The Annual Consecration will take place on **March 25, 2025**, on the Solemnity of the Annunciation. Preparation books for the 33 days are available; please contact Roberta MacEwan at **902-787-2103** or robertamacewan@gmail.com or **Mary Buchanan at 902-787-2723**.

From the Pastor's Desk

"Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke. 6: 31) In his autobiography, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*, Mahatma Gandhi mentions the **"Sermon on the Mount"** as one of the main religious works that inspired him to search for ways of bringing about political freedom for India by non-violent resistance to oppression. He writes: *"I came to see that the Sermon on the Mount was the whole of Christianity for one who wanted to live a Christian life. It is that sermon that has endeared Jesus to me."* When Gandhiji was gunned down in 1948, his last gesture was to press his palms together and raise his folded hands to his lips as a sign of forgiveness to the assassin.

The Gospel for this Sunday from St. Luke, which is the parallel to the **Sermon on the Mount** in St. Mathew's Gospel, speaks of the Power of Christian Love, exercised in unconditional forgiveness. The passage gives us Jesus' revolutionary teaching about the New Way of Life that a Christian disciple should follow based on the "Golden Rule" and reminds us of our obligation to behave like the children of a loving, forgiving, merciful, and compassionate Heavenly Father. Our relationships in our communities become truly Christian when we follow the Golden Rule, **"Do to others as you would have them do to you,"**. Jesus amplifies this rule by giving the commandment of the radical Christian love which we are to exercise as God's children, **"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you."** For Jesus, love is a fundamental attitude that seeks another's good. Jesus orders us to love our enemies and to be merciful and compassionate to everyone as God our Father is loving, merciful, and compassionate. Jesus challenges us to do for others what God does for us. **"Be compassionate, as your Father is compassionate."**

By these teachings, Jesus challenges us to rise above our human instincts and imitate the Goodness and Generosity of God. The observance of the golden rule makes us like God whose love and mercy embrace saints and sinners alike. We are invited to live a life that is Grace-filled, i.e., God's own Life working in us, so that we are able to treat others, not as we feel they deserve, but with love, kindness and mercy. God is good to the unjust as well as to the just. Hence our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. When we pray for those who do us wrong, we break the power of hate in ourselves and in others and release the power of love. Let us pray that God may fill our life with His Grace so that we will be strengthened to practice Jesus's commandment of Love by which we will be able to create families and communities founded on the true Christian Love.

Sessions on Vatican Council II: The study sessions on the documents of Vatican II by Fr. Bill Burke continue on **Sundays in February at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish from 2:00-4:00pm**. All are welcome. The sessions will be live streamed.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje March 13th to 26th, 2025: Join Fr. Andrew Gillies and group leader Rhonda-Lynn Clarke on a 12-night spiritual journey to Medjugorje. Pilgrimage package includes departure from and return to Halifax International Airport, ground travel to and from airports in Europe and accommodations with breakfast and dinner each day. \$3485.55. Call Rhonda-Lynn for more information at 902-448-3660.

Dying with Christ-Living with Hope is a three-video series seeking to demystify the dying process, making way for a new approach to end of life questions. The discussion, led by theologians and healthcare professionals, will give timeless perspectives on suffering, grief, dying, and our duty to care. Offered by the Christian Medical and Dental Association of Canada via Zoom on **February 27 and March 6, 2025, at 1pm (Atlantic)**. For details and to register: www.antigonishdiocese.com/providing-hope

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

IN THE CHAPEL

(MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9AM TO 3 PM & SUNDAY 11AM TO 5 PM)

"Remember your church in your Will"