

JUBILEE YEAR 2025

'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'



**St. Peter's Parish
Port Hood
March 23, 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. Mar. 29 4:00pm	Gabriella Watts	Catherine Trenholm
Sun. Mar. 30 10:00am	Isabel Calder	Sandy MacKinnon
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Mar. 24 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene Morris	
Tues. Mar. 25 11:00am	Funeral Mass for Rita MacInnis	
	6:00pm (R) Isaac Goswell by Martha & Richie Gillis	
Wed. Mar. 26 6:00pm	(R) Karen/Mark Waye by Hughie J/Eileen Beaton	
Thur. Mar. 27 6:00pm	(R) James Walter Gill by Roberta MacEwan	
Fri. Mar. 28 6:30pm	Souls in Purgatory by Joanne MacDonald & family	

Funeral: The funeral Mass for **Rita MacInnis** will be celebrated on **Tuesday, March 25 at 11am.**

Consecration to Jesus through Mary: The Annual Renewal of Consecration will take place after Mass on the **Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord on Tuesday, March 25 at 6.00pm.** (Please note: Even though there is a funeral Mass in the morning, **Weekday Mass will be celebrated at 6.00pm as it is the Feast of the Annunciation**)

Stations of the Cross: During Lent there will be **Stations of the Cross on every Friday at 6.30pm followed by Holy Mass in the Church.**

KOC-Hot Roast Beef Dinner: KOC meal (hot roast beef dinner with pies) is scheduled for **Saturday, April 5th from 4:00 to 6:30pm.** Please plan to support our charities.

KOC: Knights of Columbus, St. Peter's Parish, have organized a **pilgrimage** and an **"afternoon reflection"** at **Our Lady of Grace Monastery, Monastery, on Sunday, March 30th, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 4:00pm** as part of the Jubilee Year. All are invited to join in this pilgrimage and retreat. **Anyone needing a drive please feel free to contact any KOC member.**

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.

Mass of Chrism: If any family or anyone else is interested to attend the **Chrism Mass at 3:00pm, April 4th at St. Ninian's Cathedral** to receive the **Holy Oils** for the parish, please contact Linda Beaton.

Building Fund Silent Auction: The Finance Council is planning a **Facebook auction** as a fundraiser for the **Building Fund**, and we are looking for donations of goods and services from local businesses as well as parishioners. Donations can be anything from hand-made crafted items to batches of baked goods to guitar lessons. To donate and for more details contact Melanie MacDonald at **902-495-7903** or email to melanie_mac@hotmail.com.

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 Reconciliation: The children of our parish receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for the first time **on Saturday, March 29 at 9.00am.**

Lenten Mission in Inverness: Lenten Mission in Stella Maris chapel (Inverness) and St. Margaret's Church (Broad Cove) is to take place from **April 5th to 9th.** Sessions on the theme of Jubilee Year, **'Pilgrims of Hope'** on **Wednesdays (March 26, April 2 & 16) from 6.30pm to 7.30pm.** For more details contact Parish office.

Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference: Inviting high schoolers into a life changing encounter with Christ from **July 11-13, 2025, at Dalhousie University.** To register your youth with the Diocese of Antigonish group that will be attending, call **Sarah Robinson** at **902-302-2324** or email to sarahlizwatts@hotmail.com. For more details: www.halifaxymouth.org/pastoral-services/steubenville-atlantic.

Dates to Remember:

April 6 : Lenten Reconciliation at 2:00pm
April 13 : Passion (Palm) Sunday
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.

The Food Bank uses a lot of food/grocery bags. If you have extra bags you would like to donate, please leave them at the back door of Food Bank and someone will pick them up daily. Thank you.

Message from the Pastor's Desk

"If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down." (Luke.13:9) Tragedies are part of human life. They have happened in the history, happen still today and will happen in the future too. There are two types of tragedies: Human tragedies caused by people with evil power and natural tragedies caused by accidents or natural events. We have witnessed and still witness natural calamities like earthquakes, eruption of volcanoes, hurricanes, flood etc. and tragedies caused by humans like wars, genocides, terrorist attacks, accidents etc. Natural tragedies or calamities show us our human limitations and our inability to understand why all these happen. Tragedies caused by humans show us what great damage can be caused by people with evil power and have no love or respect for life or respect for law. On this third Sunday of Lent Jesus speaks of a third type of tragedy, which is the greatest tragedy...the eternal separation from God. Citing two tragic incidents that happened in Jesus' lifetime, Jesus asks the people to repent on their sins and reform their lives so that they may not face the greatest human tragedy-eternal damnation. One of the incidents was the ruthless murder of some Galileans while they were in the middle of their Temple sacrifices. The victims were probably political agitators, and this was done by Pilate. The other incident was a construction accident which occurred near the Temple during the building of a water tunnel. Apparently, this building project was hated by the people because Temple funds had been seized from the Temple treasury by Pilate to finance it. These two incidents are brought up because the people of Jesus' day presumed that those who were killed were being punished by God for their sins. But Jesus denies this. Instead, He asserts that what really destroys life is our unwillingness to repent and change our lives. Jesus says, not once, but twice by way of emphasis: **"Unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."** Today we are invited to reflect on the mercy and compassion of God the Father, even when we may think that we are being disciplined by occasional punishment in the form of natural or manmade tragedies, giving us second chances to repent on our sins and renew our lives, despite our repeated sins. God expects us to show our repentance and renewal of life, especially during Lent, by producing fruits of love, mercy, forgiveness, and selfless service, instead of remaining like a barren fig tree in Christ's Church. But at the same time there is a warning too: although God patiently waits for sinners to repent, giving them grace to do so, He will not wait forever. Time may run out; therefore, timely repentance is necessary. Hence, one can say, **"A Lent missed is a year lost from the spiritual life."** So, it is **today** and **now** the time for repentance and renewal. So let us start to live lives of repentance. Let us turn to Christ, acknowledge our faults and failings, and receive from Him mercy, forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. There is no better way to take these words of Jesus to heart than to go to sacramental confession. Repentance helps us in life and in death. It helps us to live as forgiven people and helps us to face death without fear. Let us work hard to be fruitful trees in God's orchard. Lent is an ideal time **"to dig around and put manure"** on the tree of our life so that it may bring forth fruits of repentance, reconciliation, forgiveness, humble service, and sensitivity to the feelings of others. Let us also make the best use of the **"second chances"** God gives us. Our merciful Father always gives us second chances. During Lent, too, we are given another chance to repent and return to our Heavenly Father's love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the **"Sacrament of the second chance."**

"Remember your church in your Will"