



**St. Peter's Parish
Port Hood
Feb. 1, 2026**

Contact Information

Fr. Sunny Sebastian, Administrator
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

Charlie 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. Feb. 7, 4:00pm	Ellen Murphy	Donna MacDonald
Sun. Feb. 8, 10:00am	John Gillies	Anne MacDougall
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Feb. 2 6:00pm	Special Intention	
Tues. Feb. 3 6:00pm	(R) Wayne Murphy by Sadie Murphy	
Wed. Feb. 4 6:00pm	(R) Gordie Gillis by Ann MacDonald	
Thu. Feb. 5 6:00pm	(R) Frank Kunig by Danielle Kunig	
Fri. Feb. 6 6:00pm	In reparation for the sins of Canada	
Sat. Feb. 7 11:00am	In reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary	

Parish Pastoral & Finance Councils: A joint meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council will be held on **Tuesday, February 3** at 7.00pm in Glebe.

KOC: On **Sunday, February 8, after Mass**, we will have the installation of officers. All officers are asked to be present, and a suit and tie are the required dress. At **2:00 pm, February 8th** we will have an Exemplary Ceremony to welcome three new members to our council. If you are a male, practicing Catholic over the age of 18 and would like to join our council, please contact **Ron Schmidt at 902-787-3484**.

Last Year's Palms: If you wish, you can bring last year's palms back to the church, where they will be burnt and used for this year's ashes. **Ash Wednesday is on February 18**. You may simply put them on one of the tables in the porch. Thank you-*Liturgy Committee*

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord: On Monday, **February 2**, 40 days after Christmas, the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** in the temple, also known as the Purification of our Lady, and Candlemass. Candles are traditionally blessed on this feast day. As the Feast falls on Monday this year, candles will be blessed **at the beginning of the Holy Mass on Saturday, January 31, and Sunday, February 1**. Those who wish, can bring candles to be blessed.

World Day of Consecrated Life: Monday, February 2, is the **World Day of Consecrated Life** and let us acknowledge the great life and witness of those who have chosen to follow Christ in a special way leading a consecrated life and the great service they do in the Church, and we shall continue to pray for them.

Blessing of Throats: Tuesday, **February 3, on the Feast day of St. Blaise**, throats will be blessed after the 6.00pm Mass.

Holy Hour: Holy Hour in honour of **St. Joseph** on Wednesday, February 4, from 4:45pm to 5:45 pm followed by **Holy Mass at 6.00pm**; in honour of **Sacred Heart of Jesus** on Friday, February 6, from 4.45pm to 5:45 pm followed by Holy Mass at 6.00pm and in honour of **Blessed Virgin Mary** on Saturday February 7, at 10.00am followed by Holy Mass at 11.00am.

CWL: A gentle reminder to all current CWL members, **Annual Dues of \$34.50** are now being collected. We sincerely hope you will once again renew your Membership for 2026. As well, we **warmly encourage all Ladies 16 and older** to consider joining us, on our journey to grow in Faith, promotion of Social Justice and our Love of God. Dues can be placed in a separate envelope and placed in the weekend collection. For your convenience, Debbie Mac Donald will also have a table set up at the back of the church, prior to and immediately following the weekend mass on **Saturday, January 31 and Sunday, February 1**. *Debbie MacDonald*

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)

From the Pastor's Desk

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven". (Mathew 5:3) There was an old wise cat and a small kitten in an alleyway. The old cat saw the kitten chasing its tail and asked, "*Why are you chasing your tail?*" To it the kitten replied, "*I've been attending cat philosophy school, and I have learned that the most important thing for a cat is happiness, and that happiness is located in my tail. Therefore, I am chasing it: and when I catch it, I shall have happiness forever.*" Laughing, the wise old cat replied, "*My son, I wasn't lucky enough to go to cat philosophy school, but as I've gone through life, I too have realized that the most important thing for a cat is happiness, and indeed that it is located in my tail. The difference I've found though is that whenever I chase after it, it keeps running away from me, but when I go about my business and live my life, it just seems to follow after me wherever I go.*" (from 'Your Erroneous Zones' by Wayne Dyer) We do not find happiness in material things. Happiness is something that comes from within us. The only truly happy life is a life lived with God as our life's Source and our true center. Today's Gospel asserts that those who have recognized and acknowledged their dependence on God are the truly blessed-the poor in spirit, the sorrowing, the lowly, those who hunger and thirst for holiness, the merciful, the single-hearted, the peacemakers, and those persecuted for their right convictions.

The readings for the 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time, define our Christian goal of eternal happiness and explain the attitudes and actions necessary to reach it. Today's Gospel passage (St. Matthew 5:1-12), often referred to as 'The Beatitudes', opens Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. In these Beatitudes, Jesus outlines the values and attitudes needed to enter and enjoy God's kingdom: poverty in spirit, hunger and thirst for justice, compassion, meekness, mercy, integrity, peace-making, and the willingness to suffer persecution for the sake of justice. The Beatitudes contain the most essential aspects of Christian behavior that we need to make habitual if we are to live the truly Christ-like lives of loving obedience and compassion that He asks of all of us who believe. The Beatitudes spell out the personal qualities expected of a disciple of Jesus and the way of life to be lived by Jesus' disciples. They show us the values that Christ cares about. In essence, the Beatitudes both fulfill and complete the Ten Commandments.

The Beatitudes begin with "***Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.***" It is a radical affirmation that spiritual humility, rather than material wealth or power, brings us closer to God. Today we live in a culture where success is often measured by achievements and possessions, and so this message is especially challenging. Jesus invites us to lay aside pride, to recognize our dependence on divine grace, and to trust that God's abundance is found in unexpected places. "***Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.***" Here, grieving and vulnerability are not weaknesses but sacred spaces where God's comfort is most profound. When we allow ourselves to mourn-for lost loved ones, for injustice, or for a broken world-we open our hearts to the healing embrace of God and the compassion of community. The call to meekness, mercy, purity of heart, and the pursuit of peace runs throughout these verses. "***Blessed are the peacemakers,***" Jesus says, "***for they will be called children of God.***" In a world of division and conflict, peacemaking is more than the absence of war or strife; it is the active work of reconciliation, empathy, and advocating for justice. The Beatitudes remind us that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness-who long for a better, more just world-are blessed, even if their efforts seem unnoticed or unrewarded. The passage culminates in the assurance that those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake are participants in the same redemptive story as the prophets before them. "***Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.***" This is not a call to seek suffering, but a reminder that following Jesus' way may lead us into uncomfortable places and sufferings. The Gospel today challenges us to examine our own lives in the light of Jesus' teaching-whether we are open to being transformed by humility, mercy, and a thirst for justice. The Beatitudes remind us that God's blessings do not always align with worldly success, but are found in a life oriented towards love, service, and faithfulness. As we strive to embody these qualities, we step into the hope and promise of God's kingdom, finding joy and purpose amid life's struggles. Also, today we are reminded that these Beatitudes are not just promises for the future; they are an invitation to live differently here and now, trusting that God's grace transforms us and, through us, the world.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THE CHAPEL

"Remember your church in your Will"