

Lent 2026

'Listening and fasting-Lent
as a time of conversion'



St. Peter's Parish Port Hood March 8, 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

Debbie MacDonald
902-623-2578

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: 5:15pm to
5:45pm & Saturday: 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. 14, 4:00pm	Gerard MacPhee	Sandy MacKinnon
Sun. Mar. 15, 10:00am	Malia Watts	Judy Leadbetter
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Mar. 9 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene	
Tues. Mar. 10 6:00pm (R)	Tom McGary by Sheila Cannon	
Wed. Mar. 11 6:00pm (R)	Mary Veronica Gillies by Finley MacKillop	
Thu. Mar. 12 6:00pm (R)	Angus Campbell by Donald A/Catherine MacEachern	
Fri. Mar. 13 6:30pm (R)	Stephen & Maria Dwyer by Anita Dwyer	

The 2025 charitable donation receipts are at the back of the church

E-Transfer: The parish has set up **Auto Deposit** with East Cost Credit Union to make donations to the Parish Account, the Building Fund and the Cemetery Account by **E-transfer**. When you send money, please mention your **envelope number, name and address** for tax receipts. You can use the following email addresses for e-transfer: etransfertostpetersph@gmail.com (Parish Account) stpeterschurchfinance@gmail.com (Building Fund) cemeterysaintpetersporthood@gmail.com (Cemetery Account)

Parish Pastoral Council: There will be a meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council on Tuesday, **March 10, 2026 @ 7:00 pm** in the glebe.

Stations of the Cross: On Friday March 13, at **6:30pm** there will be Stations of the Cross led by Heralds of the Gospel, followed by Holy Mass in the Church.

KOC: Regular monthly meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 15, at 7:30 pm** in the Church Hall with **Rosary at 7:00 pm**.

Lenten Reconciliation. The annual Lenten Reconciliation is to take place @ **2:00 pm on Sunday March 22**. Several priests will be available

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.

Mass of Chrism: We are inviting a parishioner or parishioners to represent the parish and collect the Holy Oils at the **Mass of Chrism on Monday March 30th** at **2.00pm** at **St Ninian's Cathedral**, with a short reception immediately after the Mass. It is a wonderful service, where all the priests of the diocese are together to renew their vows and to meet with those in attendance. If you are interested, please contact Linda B at 902-787-3040

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) at **902-631-6533** or John Gillies/Hughie John Beaton Cemetery Committee members. **(902-787-3441/ 902-787-2322)**

The Solemnity of St. Joseph: On **Tuesday, March 10th** begins the Novena as the preparation for the Solemnity of St. Joseph on **Thursday, March 19th**.

The Judique Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a **Brunch** at the **Judique Community Center** on **Sunday, March 8th** from 10:30 to 12:30. Adults \$12.00. Children \$6:00

Lenten Parish Mission at Port Hawkesbury: All are invited to attend the **Lenten Parish Mission** led by **Rev. Fr. Doug MacDonald** being held in St. Joseph Parish, Port Hawkesbury (118 Granville Street) from **Monday, March 16 to Wednesday March 18. Time: 7-8pm. Monday Mass at 6.30pm** followed by session entitled **"Purgative Way or Kiss of Christ's feet"**. **Tuesday: Mass at 9.00am**, and from

7pm-8pm session entitled *“Illuminative Way or Kiss of Christ’s Hand”*. **Wednesday: Mass at 9.00am** and from **7pm-8pm** session entitled *“Unitive Way or Kiss of Christ’s Lips”*. Following the Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday, Fr. Doug will be available for confession or spiritual direction until noon. There will be social in the hall following the sessions in the evening.

From the Pastor’s Desk

“Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water I will give them will never be thirsty.” (John 4: 13-14) A person can go without food for a long, long time -maybe for weeks- but how long can someone live without water-it isn’t very long. A baby who can’t keep down fluids will dehydrate and die in just a few days. Adults last only slightly longer. The only life-sustaining substance that we need more frequently than water is air. Water, then, is essential to life. In one sense, water is life. Where there is no water, there is no life. Cactuses and camels and gnarled trees and grasses of the desert can adapt to conditions of low water, but there isn’t any living thing on this earth that can adapt to no water. **“Water is life.”** Lack of water is death. To be thirsty is to stare death in the eye. In today’s Gospel Jesus turned water and thirst into themes for spiritual teachings as He sat there by Jacob’s well, that ancient and sacred place for quenching thirst.

The Gospel passage for the 3rd Sunday of Lent (John 4:5-42) invites us to contemplate the profound significance of the promise of **Living Water**. The passage narrates the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well. At the heart of the narrative is the profound image of “living water,” which Jesus offers not only to the woman, but to all who thirst for meaning, hope, and renewal in life. This water is not simply a physical necessity, but a symbol of God’s Grace, freely given and eternally sustaining. The theme of Living Water draws us deeper into the mystery of God’s endless Grace. Unlike ordinary water, which satisfies only temporarily, the Living Water Jesus promises is enduring, restorative, and life-giving. It reminds us that our spiritual thirst can only be quenched by a relationship with God, who continually pours out His love. The passage challenges us to reflect on our own need for renewal, especially during Lent, a time of penance and preparation. We are called to return to the source, to allow ourselves to be nourished and refreshed by God’s mercy, much like the Israelites in the desert, who depended on God for water and sustenance.

This Gospel passage also describes the Samaritan woman’s journey of faith. Her journey is one of gradual awakening and deepening faith. Initially, she comes to the well with her daily, ordinary need-fetching water for her household. But her encounter with Jesus disrupts the boundaries of culture, religion, and gender: as a Samaritan and a woman, she would not expect dialogue with a Jewish man. Jesus, however, invites her into a conversation that unravels her assumptions and leads her beyond her immediate needs to spiritual longing. Their interaction demonstrates how God meets us in the ordinariness of life and uses those moments to draw us into a deeper relationship. **“Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty,”** These words of Jesus to the woman echo the human experience of seeking satisfaction in things that ultimately cannot fulfill-possessions, status, or momentary pleasures. But through the living water that represents the Holy Spirit, the life of God is poured into our hearts, quenching a thirst we may not even recognize. The woman’s gradual recognition of Jesus-from a stranger, to prophet, to Messiah-mirrors our own journeys of faith. Her willingness to listen, question, and then embrace the truth is a powerful example of openness to God’s presence. In sharing her story with her community, she becomes one of the first evangelists, demonstrating that faith is not a static possession, but a dynamic journey that calls us to share the good news with others.

This Gospel passage challenges us to examine our own thirsts and the ways we seek to satisfy them. For that we have to be attentive to the deeper needs beneath our daily routines. We should recognize the invitation of Jesus to receive living water-grace, forgiveness, and new life. The faith journey of the Samaritan woman encourages us to let go of shame, fear, or social barriers, and to step into an honest relationship with Christ, who knows us fully and loves us completely. As we journey through Lent, a season of conversion and renewal, the living water offered by Christ reminds us of God’s abundant generosity. It calls us to return again and again to the source of life, trusting that, like the Samaritan woman, our encounter with Jesus can transform us and empower us to be witnesses to others. Let us also leave our water jars behind and run to share the joy of the Gospel, drawing others to the well of God’s infinite love, to experience the Joy of the Easter.

Bake Sale and Vendor Market will take place on Sunday **March 15th from 11:00-4:00pm** at St. Peter’s Parish Hall. Vendor Information: \$15.00 a space-table and chairs included. Hosted by Grace Morton & volunteers. Volunteers are always welcome. Your support helps feed local families and builds a stronger community. **Free Community Meal** will take place on Sunday **March 29th from 3:00 -5:00pm** at St. Peter’s Parish Hall. Join us for a free meal and fellowship.

St. Patrick’s Day Pub: Put on the green and come join us for our annual Saint Patrick’s Day Pub on Saturday, March 14th 6-9 PM at the Glendale Community Hall with Live Celtic Music from local entertainers including Richard Cooke & Friends, Mary Jane Lamond, Peter MacKenzie, Deb Campbell, Edna, Johnny and Sandy MacDonald. 19+ Event. Cash Bar, Snacks and more. Admission by donation.

Remember your church in your Will”