



**St. Peter's Parish  
Port Hood  
January 18, 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](http://www.saintpetersporthood.com)

Email

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

## Parish News

### Mass Schedule

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

Date	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. Jan. 24, 4:00pm	Melanie MacDonald	Linda Beaton
Sun. Jan. 25, 10:00am	Angela Avery	Marlene MacMillan
Weekday Masses		
Mon. Jan. 19 6:00pm	Special Intention by Fr. Eugene	
Tues. Jan. 20 6:00pm	(R) Sonny MacInnis by Rosemary/Bernard Gillies	
Wed. Jan. 21 6:00pm	Protection of unborn & culture of life by Joe/Carmen VZ	
Thu. Jan. 22 6:00pm	(R) Bernie MacDonald by Sandy/Jane MacKinnon	
Fri. Jan. 23 6:00pm	(R) Lydia Behrens by Carmen/Joe van Zutphen	

The 2026 envelopes are at the back of the church. Please discard any old envelopes as the numbers have changed. If you didn't use envelopes last year and would like to, there are blank boxes at the back on the far right. Make sure to put your name and address on the first few.

**KOC:** The regular monthly meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 18, 2026, at 7:30 pm** in the Parish Hall. **Rosary at 7:00 pm.**

**Session on MAiD:** Knights of Columbus, St. Peter's Council Port Hood is hosting a session on **Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) on Sunday, January 25, 2026, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm, in the Parish Hall (263 Main Street, Port Hood).** The session will be led by **Professor William Sweet**, Director, Centre for Philosophy, Theology, and Cultural Traditions, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish. There will be a presentation and time for questions & answers. Tea and Snacks will be served.

**Parish Registration:** You may be **regularly attending St. Peter's Church Port Hood, but you are not registered with the parish** or if you are **New to this Parish**, it is advisable that you register yourself and your family as the official members of the Parish. By registering you will get official communications from the parish and tax receipts for your contributions. To register please use a form that you will find at the back of the church and send it to the parish office.

**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, may contact the coordinator for Religious Education, **Sheila MacIsaac at 902-631-2512.**

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** The Church this year observes the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from **Sunday, January 18 to Sunday, January 25, 2026.** The theme for this year is **"There is one body and one spirit as you were called to the hope of your calling."** (Ephesians 4:4) Let us pray for unity among all Christian churches and communities.

**CWL-New members:** We are actively seeking **new members** to join our group and to fill our vacant positions; if this is something that interests you, you are invited to come to one of our meetings and see how our CWL is actively involved within our Parish and community and what the CWL stands for. With the decline in membership over the recent years and members who have been on positions for numerous years, and with an aging minority, this is the time for younger women to join and grow in faith and to come, see and experience what we are about and what the CWL's mission is and how you may contribute your time to such a rewarding and fulfilling role within our Parish. Please consider and reach out to us. **Debbie MacDonald (902-623-2578)**

**Our Beautiful Church:** Thank you for your generous support over the years for the spiritual and material needs of our church and parish. Due to the age of the church building and other buildings of the parish, we are compelled to undertake various kinds of repair and maintenance work from time to time. For the well-being and smooth functioning of this sacred place, your support-by prayers, your presence, your service and your financial contribution-is deeply appreciated. Let

us all continue to walk together, cherishing this church as our own heavenly home and working for its beauty, growth and mission. **Tax receipts will be issued for all your financial contributions. Envelopes for the building fund are available at the back of the church. Donations can also be dropped in the collection box at the back of the church.**

**Dates to Remember in 2026:**

<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	<b>: February 18</b>
<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>: February 22</b>
<b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>: March 29</b>
<b>Holy Thursday</b>	<b>: April 2</b>
<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>: April 3</b>
<b>Easter Vigil</b>	<b>: April 4</b>
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>: April 5</b>

**From the Pastor's Desk**

**"Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world"** (John 1;29) In the city of Werden, Germany, there stands a Catholic Church with a lamb carved out of stone and placed on its roof. It is said that when the Church was being built, a stone-carving mason fell from a high scaffold. His co-workers rushed down, expecting to find him dead. But to their surprise and joy, he was alive and only slightly injured. How did he survive? A flock of sheep was passing beneath the tower at that time, and he landed on top of a lamb. The lamb broke his fall and was crushed to death, but the man was saved. To commemorate that miraculous escape, he carved a lamb in stone and placed it on the tower, in gratitude for the lamb that saved his life. This Sunday, the Gospel, through the words of John the Baptist, presents 'The Lamb' who died to save humankind. He introduces Jesus to his disciples saying, **"Behold, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world."**

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time the Gospel draws us into a moment of profound revelation: John the Baptist, seeing Jesus approaching, proclaims, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" These words are not just an introduction, but a declaration that unveils Jesus' true identity and mission. In calling Him "the Lamb of God," John refers to the Passover Lamb of Exodus- a sacrifice whose blood marked the deliverance of Israel. Jesus is presented as the ultimate sacrificial lamb, freely giving Himself to reconcile us with God. In Jesus, the ancient promise is fulfilled-He is the Messiah, the one chosen to redeem the whole humanity. The image of the Lamb is one of vulnerability and gentleness, yet it is also an image of strength through sacrifice. John's witness is rooted in his personal experience and the revelation he received. He recounts seeing the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove and remain on Jesus, a sign marking Jesus as the Son of God, the one Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit's descent signifies a new era- through Jesus, God's presence is accessible in an intimate and transformative way. John's humility and obedience challenge us to become witnesses ourselves, opening our hearts to recognize Christ's presence in our daily lives. This passage today invites us for a response of faith and recognition. In our own lives, we are called to "behold the Lamb"-to see in Jesus as the fulfillment of our deepest hopes and the answer to the world's brokenness. To call Him the Lamb of God is to acknowledge that the healing and forgiveness we seek comes through His self-giving love, a love that did not shy away from the Cross but embraced it for our sake. The Messiah revealed here is not triumphant in the worldly sense, but victorious through humility, mercy, and obedience to the Father's will.

As we continue our journey of faith let us open our eyes anew to the presence of Christ among us, and, like John the Baptist, have the courage to witness to His identity. May the Lamb of God continue to transform us, drawing us into deeper relationship with God and sending us forth to be messengers of His peace and mercy in the world. Each day presents opportunities for us to "behold the Lamb of God"-in our families, workplaces, communities, and the natural beauty that surrounds us. Today let us pause and ask ourselves: Do we truly recognize Jesus as the Lamb of God in our lives? How does His sacrifice shape our faith, our actions, and our hope? Like John, may we be able to recognize Jesus among us and share that experience with others, trusting that the Spirit continues to work in us and through us. Through us, let others also come to behold and believe in Jesus, the Messiah, the Son of God. Let us pray for the grace to see with the eyes of faith, to respond with love, and to be true witnesses to the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. May our lives reflect the peace and unity promised by Jesus, drawing us closer to God and to one another.

**Medjugorje Pilgrimage:** April 26-May 6, 2026, with Fr. Andrew Gillies and Rhonda Lynn Cormier (group leader). Total Price: \$2,899. (return flights from Halifax). Single supplement \$350 (if available). Included in price: airfare, ground travel in Europe, two meals a day, professional Medjugorje guide, two days of excursions to the UNESCO city of Mostar and a local village Surmanci-Divine Mercy Chapel. Contact: [rhonda\\_lynn\\_c@hotmail.com](mailto:rhonda_lynn_c@hotmail.com) or 902-448-3660.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IN THE CHAPEL**

**"Remember your church in your Will"**