

St. Peter's, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist Parishes
(902) 535-2053
Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

Bulletin email: bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com

March 20, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent



Sunday Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the book of Exodus, 3:1-8, 13-15. The story of the salvation of God's people continues during this Lenten season. Today we hear of Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush.

The **Second Reading** is from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians, 10:1-6, 10-12. St. Paul establishes a parallel between the situation of the Israelites in the desert and the Corinthians. "Paul wants to remind us that we are not saved merely because we happen to have been the recipients of God's free grace. We have to demonstrate that we are willing recipients of that free gift. The children of Israel received it, but they proved to be unworthy of it, and so they were not saved." (Origin (ca. A.D. 240, *Commentary on First Corinthians* 4, 45, 205)

The **Gospel** is from St. Luke, 13:1-9. Our Lord stresses that we need to produce plenty of fruit (cf. Lk 8:11-15) in keeping with the graces we have received (cf. Lk 12:48). But he also tells us that God waits patiently for this fruit to appear; he does not want the death of the sinner; he wants him to be converted and to live (Ezek 33:11) and, as St Peter teaches, he is "forebearing towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Pet 3:9). But God's clemency should not lead us to neglect our duties and become lazy and comfort-seeking, living sterile lives. He is merciful, but he is also just and he will punish failure to respond to his grace.

"There is one case that we should be especially sorry about — that of Christians who could do more and don't; Christians who could live all the consequences of their vocation as children of God, but refuse to do so through lack of generosity. We are partly to blame, for the grace of faith has not been given us to hide but to share with others (cf. Mt 5:15). We cannot forget that the happiness of these people, in this life and in the next, is at stake. The Christian life is a divine wonder with immediate promises of satisfaction and serenity — but on condition that we

know how to recognize the gift of God (cf. Jn 4:10) and be generous, not counting the cost"

(J. Escriva, *Christ is passing by*, 147).
—*The Navarre Bible, St. Luke*

Sacrament of Baptism

please call the office:

Rev. John Yake, I.V. Dei

Instructors for baptism:

Mary Fougere, SJB (902) 535-2699

Rose Pâté, SP (902) 302-7011

Vera Doucette, HGA (902) 785-4018

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please call Fr. Yake six months prior to the wedding date.

Call Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia to register for upcoming courses 902-849-4772. Ask for Tasia Boucher, tboucher@fsens.ns.ca

Weekday Liturgy

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

SJB 4:00 PM

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

SP 9:00 AM

***Special Intentions**

Friday, March 25, 2022

HGA 11:00 AM

Weekend Liturgy

Saturday, March 26, 2022

SH 4:00 PM

HGA 5:30 PM

+ Beattie Martell

Sunday March 27, 2022

SJB 9:00 AM

+ Mary & Ken Cosman

SP 10:30 AM

***Special Intentions**

Receipts

Holy Guardian Angels

Saturday, March 12, 2022

Envelopes & Loose \$ 540.00

Total **\$540.00**

St. John the Baptist
Sunday, March 13 2022

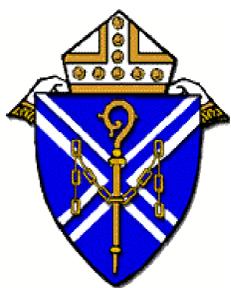
Envelopes & Loose	\$ 625.00
Donation	800.00

Total **\$ 1,425.00**

St. Peter's
Sunday March 13, 2022

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 800.00
Altar Society	30.00
Initial Offering	10.00
Donation	100.00
St. Patrick's Tea	280.00

Total **\$ 1,220.00**



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(Pastoral note 7 /2022)

March 17, 2022 (Feast of St Patrick)

My Dear Clergy,

On March 17, 2020, I concluded my pastoral letter concerning COVID with: “We will weather this storm through our common prayer and by working together. Keep Calm and Carry On.” It has been two years since I wrote that letter and I think we have been able to ‘Keep Calm and Carry On.’ We are thankful that so many people in all professions, from the front-line medical personnel to the volunteers in our churches, have worked together to assist us and keep us safe. It has also been a difficult time with people divided over the health measures that were put in place.

On March 21, all current Public Health restrictions and mandates will end, but as noted, this does not mean that the pandemic has ended. It will be important to use personal public health measures, both individually and collectively, to help keep each other safe, especially those who are at increased risk of severe disease due to age and/or underlying health issues. Masking and social distancing will no longer be required in most indoor settings including our churches; however, we can still encourage masking and some measure of social distancing. We need time to make the adjustment to the so-called ‘new normal’ as we learn to live with COVID.

Throughout this Season of Lent, we are invited to engage in the Synod. There are so many wonderful online resources available to assist us in engaging our people. If you need some support, just contact Jennifer Hatt, Diocesan Communications Officer: ph/text 902-759-2181 or email Jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca. I encourage our parishes to display the Synod poster and offer the Synod Prayer at Sunday Mass, perhaps after the Prayers of Intercession or following the Prayer after Communion.

On March 23, our Council of Priests will be meeting, so if you have any issues or concerns to raise, please let me or members know about it.

On April 3, we will celebrate Solidarity Sunday. I support the 2022 Share Lent collection for Development and Peace and Caritas Canada with the theme, “People and Planet First”. This year the Chrism Mass will be celebrated at St. Ninian Cathedral on Monday, April 11 with further details to be announced.

Concerning the Easter Vigil, the Ordo states clearly the following: “The entire celebration takes place at night. It does not start before nightfall.” For your information, on April 16, sunset occurs at approximately 8:01pm with complete darkness by approximately 8:30pm. You should take this into consideration when setting the time for the Easter Vigil. Pastors do not have permission to change this directive. If you have any concerns, contact me directly.

We received the announcement of the upcoming visit of First Nations, Inuit and Métis delegations with Our Holy Father Pope Francis at the Vatican. The Canadian Catholic Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami has announced that the delegation, originally planned for December 2021, is now scheduled to take place from March 28 to April 1, 2022. We are encouraged to embrace this historic moment as we stand in prayerful solidarity with all of those who will be meeting with the Holy Father. We pray that this will be a true encounter on our journey toward reconciliation. A prayer card and an invitation to join in a Sacred Fire on March 28 are available on our website, <https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/truth-and-reconciliation>. We pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe for her to intercede with her Son to shower abundant graces among and between us, for the conversion and healing of hearts, as we continue our journey of truth and reconciliation.

We can never underestimate the power of prayer. You may recall that on May 1, 2020, we prayed together and consecrated Canada to the Blessed Virgin Mary in time of pandemic. Indeed, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church continues to intercede on our behalf, presenting our petitions, prayers and needs to her Son, and encouraging us in our faith journey by her example and maternal mediation.

Amid the massive exodus of people looking for peace and security, we are mindful that our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine need our help and our support as they endure this cruel and senseless war with Russia. We are encouraged to offer our prayers and assistance. During a celebration of Penance on March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, Pope Francis will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. On this day, let us unite our prayers with our Holy Father.

This Saturday we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph, the Husband of Mary, the patron saint and protector of the universal Church and the principal patron saint of Canada. As we face each day, whether our lives are going smoothly or our plans and expectations are falling apart, like St. Joseph we are encouraged to be open and place our trust in God.

Fraternally,
+ Wayne Kirkpatrick

COMMUNITY EVENTS

HGA: The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 10:30am followed by Mass at 11am. We welcome you all.

SJB: The Way of the Cross will be prayed on Tuesdays at 4:00pm in the church followed by Mass.

St. Peter’s Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday, March 21, 2022** at 6:00 PM at the **glebe house meeting room**.

SJB: Lenten folders will be made available in the church entrance.

Knights of Columbus general meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 22, 2022** at 6:30 at the **glebe house meeting room**.

The Knights of Columbus – Msgr. Donald MacPherson Assembly 2997 - 4th Degree Meetings will be resuming **March 20th, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.** in the Knights of Columbus Chambers in Port Hawkesbury located at St. Joseph's Church. Looking forward to meeting everyone again.

Paul P. Boudreau
Faithful Navigator



**INDOOR YARDALE
L'ARDOISE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Saturday, March 26th

9am-2pm

Proceeds to the Cemetery Fund

Table Rentals available

Contact: Steve Sampson 902-631-4460

Blair Sampson 902-535-4107

Anyone wishing to donate items to the Community Table,
contact above for pick up.

Thank you for your participation

April 3 is Solidarity Sunday. This will be an opportunity to reflect and pray for “People and Planet First”.

Read Bishop Kirkpatrick's letter, and follow the links for free resources and ways to support this important campaign:

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/share-lent-people-and-planet-first/>

Synod Conversations with Catechists, Coordinators, and Graduates of the Lay Formation Program:

April 2 in Our Lady of Fatima parish hall, Sydney River

10:30 am - 4 pm, includes lunch, join in person or via Zoom

Contact: Debbie Aker, daker@dioceseofantigonish.ca

Wednesdays 7-8 pm through March 30

Holy Family Church, Sydney Mines

All are invited.

Topics for Conversation

March 23: Wounds of the Church in Need of Healing

March 30: What is your Dream for the Church

Contact Norma Blinkhorn: norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca

March 22, 8 pm

CBU Synod day via Zoom

CBU students will offer 2 min personal reflections on what needs to happen in the Church today.

Invitation extended to youth and young adults who may wish to participate, and with adults at large who want to listen to the ideas of the next generation in faith.

Contact: Fr Doug MacDonald, Chaplain, CBU: doug_macdonald@cbu.ca

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/92406962010>

(Tentative) Holy Week Schedule

Chrism Mass – April 11, Details TBA

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

SP 9:00 am Mass

Holy Thursday, April 14, 2022

There will be no foot-washing.

4:00pm HGA

5:30pm SP

7:00pm SJB

Friday April 15, 2022 **Friday of the Passion of the Lord** (Good Friday) 3:00 PM Service
Fr. Yake will celebrate Good Friday service at Sacred Heart. Lay persons TBA will lead in the other parishes.

Holy Mass is not permitted on Good Friday or Holy Saturday. The Good Friday Service typically consists of three parts: The Liturgy of the Word with Intercessions, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. When a priest is not available to celebrate the Good Friday Service a Deacon or a lay person may do so. In this exceptional case the service consists of optional readings and the reading of the Passion of the Lord (John 18:1 – 19: 42) followed by the Stations of the Cross. Assuming that some Covid rules are still in place there is no individual procession for the Veneration of the Cross.

Saturday, April 16, 2022 **At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night:**

8:30pm SH

Easter Sunday April 17, 2022 **The Resurrection of the Lord**

8:30 AM SJB

10:00 AM SP & Chapel Island

11:30 AM HGA

Please note: There will be no parish Masses from April 18th to April 22nd, 2022.

Prayers for Ukraine Development and Peace, and the CNEWA (Catholic Near East Welfare Association) are accepting donations for relief in Ukraine. To learn more and donate:

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/prayers-for-the-ukraine/>

March 22, 8 pm **CBU Synod Day via Zoom** CBU students will offer 2 min personal reflections on what needs to happen in the Church today. Invitation extended to youth and young adults who may wish to participate, and with adults at large who want to listen to the ideas of the next generation in faith. [Join Zoom Meeting](#) **Contact:** Fr Doug

MacDonald, Chaplain, CBU: [Doug MacDonald @cbu.ca](mailto:DougMacDonald@cbu.ca)

Lenten Reflections: 'A Church on a Synodal Journey' By Sheila O'Handley, diocesan hermit: from Week 2: A Discerning Heart *The symbol that best describes a listening discerning heart is the circle. The circle also holds universal meaning both in religious traditions, and in various cultures throughout the world. For example, a few of the meanings given to the symbol of the circle are: it is a symbol of original perfection, life as cyclical motion; it is without beginning, without end; it is eternity, union, cosmic life, and the Divine Life Source. Let us briefly explore the implications of the circle as a metaphor for a discerning process, both for the Synodal preparations in our local parishes and Diocese, and for the Bishops' Synod in Rome, October 2023...*

Read a new blog post each week, including recommended reading lists of Scripture and books: <https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/a-church-on-a-synodal-journey/>

April 28: **Spring Deadline for Bishop Power Foundation** The late Bishop William Power recognized the importance of the laity in strengthening Christian faith in today's modern world. A family charitable foundation in his name continues to support: individuals in university Catholic Studies (full or part time) and non-profit groups that: a) empower the poor and/or b) develop the laity for their Christian role within the church and/or c) aid the missionary activity of the church Applications are accepted each spring and fall for consideration. The foundation typically distributes up to \$20,000 annually to successful applicants. Deadline is April 28 for consideration this spring. **To apply or for more information:** www.bishoppowerfoundation.ca