

St. Peter, Holy Guardian Angels, and St. John the Baptist Parishes
(902) 535-2053

Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei
Bulletin email: bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com

March 5, 2023
Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Genesis 12:1-4*. In due time God began the remote preparation for the Incarnation. Almost 2,000 years before Christ was to come he selected Abram to be the father of a people who would be his special friends, his "Chosen People," and through them, the fullness of his revelation. Christ, would come to all men. This is the divine event read for us today.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to Timothy 2 Tim 1:8-10*. Timothy, son a pagan father and a Jewish mother, became a Christian, together with his mother Eunice and his grandmother Lois, on his first visit to Lystra. Later, Paul appointed him head of the church at Ephesus. This epistle is principally concerned with the pastoral duties of pastors or shepherds of the communities.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 17:1-9*. This momentary vision of Christ, in his glory, was given in order to strengthen the three principal Apostles to face the trials to their faith, which the sufferings and crucifixion of their beloved master would bring on them. For the very same reason it is retold to us today, in the early part of Lent, to encourage us to persevere in our Lenten mortification. It reminds us that, very soon, the Easter bells will be ringing out their message of joy once more. If we are sharers with Christ in his sufferings, we shall be sharers with him in his glory as St. Paul reminds us.

This is a truth we all too easily forget, namely, that we cannot and do not get to heaven in a limousine. Our spell on earth is the chance given us by our heavenly Father to earn an eternal reward. This reward surpasses even the wildest imagination of man. We could never earn it, but God accepts the little we can do and provides the balance of his infinite mercy. And yet there are many, far too many, who refuse even that little bit that is asked of them, and are thus running the risk of not partaking in God's scheme for their eternal happiness.

And are they any happier during their few years on this earth by acting thus towards the God of mercy? Can they, by ignoring God and their duties towards him, remove all pain, all sorrow, all sufferings, from their daily lives? Death, which means a total separation from all we possessed and cherished in this world, is waiting around the corner for all of us. Who can face it more calmly and confidently—he man who is firmly convinced that it is the gateway to a new life, and who has done his best to earn admission through that gateway, or the man who has acted all his life as if death did not exist for him, and who has done everything to have the gate to the new life shut forever in his face?

Illnesses and troubles and disappointments are the lot of all men. They respect neither wealth, nor power, nor position. The man who knows his purpose in life, and is ever striving to reach the goal God's goodness has planned for him, can and

will see in these trials of life the hand of a kind father who is preparing him for greater things. His sufferings become understandable and more bearable because of his attitude to life and its meaning. The man who ignores God and tries to close the eyes of his mind to the real facts of life has nothing to uphold him or console him in his hours of sorrow and pain. Yet, sorrow and pain will dog his footsteps, strive as he will to avoid them, and he can see no value, no divine purpose in these, for him, misfortunes.

Christ has asked us to follow him, carrying our daily cross, and the end of our journey is not Calvary but resurrection, the entrance to a life of glory with our risen Savior. The Christian who grasps his cross closely and willingly, knowing its value for his real life, will find it becomes lighter and often not a burden but a pleasure. The man who tries to shuffle off his cross, and who curses and rebels against him who sent it, will find it doubles its weight and loses all the value it was intended to have for his true welfare.

Let the thought of the Transfiguration encourage each one of us today, to do the little God demands of us, so that when we pass out of this life we may be assured of seeing Christ in his glory, ready to welcome us into his everlasting, glorious kingdom.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings, Cycle A*, Fr. Kevin O' Sullivan, O.F.M.

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Please call the office:

902-535-2053

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) 785-401

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM

+ *Scott Fougere*

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

SP 9:00 AM

*** *Special Intention***

Friday, March 10, 2023

HGA 11:00 AM

+ *Serena Clannon*

Saturday, March 11, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM

+ *Leda Konning*

SP 5:30 PM

+ *Rose Sutherland*

Sunday, March 12, 2023

SH 9:30 AM

HGA 11:00 PM

+ Charles Leo Sampson

Receipts

St. John the Baptist

February 24, 2023

Envelopes & Loose \$ 950.00

Total \$ 950.00

St. Peter's

February 24, 2023

Envelopes & Loose \$ 775.00

Candles 16.00

Altar Society Dues 15.00

Cemetery Old Road 10.00

Total \$ 816.00

Holy Guardian Angels

February 25, 2023

Envelopes & Loose \$ 712.00

Candles 40.00

Share Lent 50.00

Initial Offering 5.00

Total \$ 807.00

From Bishop Kirkpatrick

March 1, 2023

Dear Clergy and Faithful

I am delighted to inform you of a few announcements.

Father Alphonsus Iwuji, Parish Priest of Stella Maris in Louisbourg has agreed to serve as Vicar Forane or Dean of the Deanery of Sydney. We thank Father Douglas Murphy for his many years serving as the Dean.

Father Fabian Ihunegbo, Parish Priest of Holy Family in Sydney Mines has agreed to serve as Vocation Director for our Diocese. We thank Father Dennis Lamey for his service as our Vocation Director.

Father Danny MacLennan, Rector of St. Ninian Cathedral in Antigonish has agreed to serve as the Spiritual Advisor for our Diocesan Catholic Women's League. We thank Father Daniel Boudreau for his six years of service as their Spiritual Advisor.

Father Tom Stephan has agreed to serve as Parish Priest for St. Patrick, Lochaber, St. Paul, Sherbrooke and St. Joseph, St. Joseph. This appointment is effective on March 1, 2023. Father Stephan arrived on November 15, 2022, and he has been assisting at St. John the Baptist Church in New Glasgow. We thank Father Elliott O'Neal for providing excellent service to these parishes since October 2022.

I am delighted to inform you again that on February 5, 2023, David Rankin and Joseph MacMaster were admitted as Candidates for the Sacred Orders of Diaconate and Priesthood for the Diocese of Antigonish at St. Augustine's Seminary. Candidacy is the rite by which our Church recognizes that a seminarian is worthy of being ordained, hence the seminarian becomes a 'candidate' for future ordination.

Jesus provides us with moments of joy and consolation on our journey of faith to sustain us through the dark valleys, as we note with this Sunday's gospel of the Transfiguration. May you experience a time of renewal during this Season of Lent.

Fraternally,

+ Wayne Kirkpatrick

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick


COMMUNITY NEWS

SJB: The "The Way of the Cross" **will be prayed in the vestry of SJB** every Tuesday during Lent beginning on February 28th at 4 pm followed by Mass.

Our Lenten project is to donate to our local Food Bank located at The St. Peter's Glebe. A box will be available at the church entrance. Thank You for any donation you make.

Lenten Prayer Books are available free of charge at the SJB church entrance and in the vestry.

SP: The St. Peter's and Area Food Bank Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday, March 5, 2023, at 1:30 PM in the basement of the Glebe House at 9785 Grenville Street, St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. All members of the public are welcome. Please note that because our last AGM was over three years ago, there will be an election of officers.

SP Parish Altar Society: Tickets available \$5 each on \$400 value gift cards and ticket basket. Gift cards are supporting St. Peter's businesses. 

 **Drawing on March 18, 2023** 

Tickets available from Shirley 902-535-2093, Carmelita 902-535-3169 Pam 902-535-2595 Dianne 902-535-2334 Julie 902-623-0725 Barb 902-535-3623

Tea & Tunes is scheduled for March 19, 2023 at Bonnie Brae Club in St. Peter's with Evelyn MacRae & friends. Cost is \$5.00 which includes entertainment and lunch.

HGA: We continue to have the church open for personal prayer each Sunday from 1 to 3 pm.

HGA parish council is inviting you to become a member. For those of you who are not sure what Parish council does, we invite you to sit in on our next meeting. Please take the time to think about joining. Hope to see you there. For more information, contact Raymonde Burke 902-587-2675

Indoor Yard Sale, Saturday, April 1st L'Ardoise Community Centre, 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Proceeds to support the L'Ardoise Cemetery Fund. Table Rentals available, contact Blair Sampson (902-535-4107)

Voices in Song Choral Concert with The Elmer Iseler Singers, (Lydia Adams, Conductor/Artistic Director, Shawn Grenke, Piano/Organ) and Cape Breton Chorale, Directed by Ryan Billington with Paula Jane Francis on piano and organ.

March 14, 2023, Time: 8:00 PM

Location: Church of Christ the King, Sydney

Tickets: \$35/ \$30 for Seniors by calling (902) 270-2591, online at capebretonchorale.com, or from Chorale Members.

“During Sundays in March, starting Sunday, March 5th St. Marguerite Bourgeys Parish in Sydney will have Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation from 2:00pm-3:00pm. All are welcome.”

“A copy of the movie documentary on Mother Theresa’s Life, *Mother Theresa: No Greater Love*, produced by the Knights of Columbus, is available for loan at the Pastoral Centre in Membertou for Parishes.

If you would like to host a screening at your parish or community group, please contact me, Nick Vince, either by phone or email to borrow a copy.

This copy was donated by Our Lady of Fatima Parish, who recently had two screenings that were very well-received by parishioners. A great idea to add to your parish’s Lenten ministry.”

History of Catholics in the Industrial Areas of CBRM

by Diocesan Historian Dr. Peter Ludlow

Wednesday March 15th

2 pm - Lecture & questions

CBU Chaplaincy in Campus Centre (next to cafeteria and Book store)
1250 Grand Lake Road, Sydney N.S.

3 pm - Book Signing of his latest book, *Disciples of Antigonish: Catholics in Nova Scotia 1880-1960*. \$40 per book

All are welcome, refreshments provided

Biography:

An historian of religion and culture in Canada, Dr. Peter Ludlow holds a PhD from Queen's University Belfast, is the former president of the Canadian Catholic Historical Association, and currently serves as Editor of Canada’s only scholarly journal dedicated to the history of Catholicism. Widely published, his first book, *The Canny Scot: Archbishop James Morrison of Antigonish* was released by McGill-Queen’s University Press in 2015. His latest book, *Disciples of Antigonish: Catholics in Nova Scotia 1880-1960*, also published by McGill-Queen’s, is a social history of one of Canada’s most important Catholic regions.

Sponsored by CBU Chaplaincy and Newman Society