



# PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

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## December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

<b>DECEMBER 1ST, 2024 †</b>		
<b>REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR</b> <b>CHAPLAIN CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY</b> <b>Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon</b> roy.smith@hotmail.ca	<b><u>Leadership Ministry Team</u></b> Pam Hall- Secretary /Faith Formation, Cavell Young – Bookkeeping, Cathy MacDonald- Liturgy, Monica Shebib- Baptism, / Bereavement/Funeral Team, Lana Verschuren- Finance	<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b> <b>TUES., WED. THURS, – 9AM– 1 PM</b>  <b>TEL: 902 -794-3951</b>

#### ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEXT WEEK *Mass Intentions*

Date	Location	Time	Details	<i>FOR THE WEEK</i>
Mon. Dec.2nd	St. Joseph Hall	_____		
Tues. Dec.3rd	St. Joseph Hall	_____	St. Francis Xavier	
Wed. Dec.4th	Holy Family (Sydney Mines)			
Thurs. Dec. 5th	Holy Family (Sydney Mines)			
Fri. Dec. 6th	Holy Family (Sydney Mines)			
Sat. Dec.7th	St. Joseph Church	4pm	St. Ambrose	For the Conversion of sinners
Sun. Dec.8th	St. Joseph Church	10 am		For All Parishioners
<b>Ministries</b>	4 pm Mass Saturday, Dec.7th		10 am Mass Sunday, Dec.8th	
<b>SACRISTAIN &amp; LINENS</b>	Deacon Roy Smith, Team		Deacon Roy Smith, Team	
<b>CHOIR</b>	St. Joseph Choir		Alan Gale	
<b>GREETERS</b>	Matt Batherson		Taralee MacInnis, Pam Hall	
<b>USHERS</b>	Men and Women of the Parish		Men and Women of the Parish	
<b>LECTORS</b>	Jude Rankin		Joan Byers, Helen Gray	
<b>PRESENTATION OF GIFTS</b>	Parishioners		Parishioners	
<b>EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION</b>	Sheila MacCormick, Cathy MacDonald		Joan Skinner, George Quirk	
<b>Interior Church (cleaning)</b>	Volunteer Team		Volunteer Team	
<b>EXTERIOR SERVICE (SHOVELING)</b>	Fr. Doug		Hunter Hill	
<b>RINGING OF BELLS</b>			Dave Williams	

#### PARISH NEWS

#### **Mass Schedule Dec 24 – January 1, 2025**

Tuesday Dec 24<sup>th</sup> **Christmas Eve Masses** – 4 PM and 7 PM:

Wednesday Dec 25<sup>th</sup> **Christmas Day Mass** – 11 AM

Saturday Dec 28<sup>th</sup> – 4 PM; Sunday Dec 29<sup>th</sup> – 10 AM

Tuesday Dec 31<sup>st</sup> **New Years Eve** - 4 PM

Wednesday January 1<sup>st</sup> **New Years Day** – 11 AM

#### **Recitation of the Rosary**

Please join us the weekend of December 7th -8th, one half hour before mass as we pray the rosary to Our Blessed Mother.

#### **Winter Coats**

The Parish has new winter coats available for any youth that may need a warm coat for the winter. Sizes range from 7/8 to 14/16. Please contact the office at 902 794-3951 if we can help you with a warm coat.

#### **Christmas Craft and Bake Sale**

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, St. Joseph Parish will be having our annual Christmas Craft and Bake sale as part of our fundraising for the parish. The Craft

Fair starts at 10am and goes to 2pm. in the Parish Hall.. There will be lots of Christmas crafts, ticket draws as well as a bake table to help with your Christmas baking. If anyone has any Christmas items they no longer need, we would be glad to have them for our Fair. We would appreciate if any of our great bakers in the parish could help us with our bake table. This year we will also be selling Turkey Burgers, coleslaw and dessert for \$10.00. Come and enjoy the day with us. Hope to see everyone there.

**Christmas Craft Sale Tickets**

Tickets for our Christmas Craft Sale are available at the entrance of the church. First Prize is a \$300.00 Walmart Gift Card, Second Prize is a Christmas Tree with Gift Certificates plus money with a value of \$200.00 and Third Prize is a \$50.00 Sobseys Gift Card. All monies raised go to help support our parish. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Christmas Ornaments**

The CWL is again offering for sale, Christmas Ornaments for loved ones who are in our thoughts and prayers. The order sheets are in **CWL Christmas Ornaments** envelopes, at the back of the church, and on-line with our Parish bulletin, as a separate attachment. When completed, place your order form with its payment in an envelope marked as **CWL Christmas Ornaments** on week-ends, in the masses' collection basket or drop it off at the church during office hours. If using a personal cheque, please make it payable to "St Joseph's CWL". The cut-off date for acceptance of orders is **Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>**. Our price remains at \$5 for each ornament. The ornaments will be labeled as instructed on your order form and placed on the Parish Christmas tree for Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> services.

After the conclusion of the Christmas season, those requesting their ornaments will be contacted by phone for their pick-up time & location.

We thank you for your continuing support over the years.

**Advent Wreath**

During Advent, the candles on the Advent Wreath are lit at each mass. If you are interested in doing this, please tell the office or the Greeter as you enter the church. They will inform a Sacristan who will take you and your partner/family to the altar for instruction and practice prior to the start of mass. The lightening will be at the beginning of mass and Father will request the lighter(s) of the candle to come forth.

**How does one reach purity of heart?** In the battle against disordered desires the baptized person is able, by the grace of God, to achieve purity of heart through the virtue and gift of chastity, through purity of intention, purity of vision (both exterior and interior), discipline of the imagination and of feelings and by prayer. Further reading CCC 2520- 530

What are the other requirements for purity? Purity requires modesty which, while protecting the intimate center of the person, expresses the sensitivity of chastity. It guides how one looks at others and behaves toward them in conformity with the dignity of persons and their communion. Purity frees one from widespread eroticism and avoids those things which foster morbid curiosity. Purity also requires a purification of the social climate by means of a constant struggle against moral permissiveness which is founded on an erroneous conception of human freedom. Further reading: CCC 2521-2527, 2533

**COLLECTIONS~ THANK YOU! NOV.23RD & NOV. 24TH**

Envelopes		2065.00
Loose Cash		255.00
Candles		45.00
Fuel		45.00
Expectant Mothers		500.00
Pre-authorized		750.00
Total		3660.00
Hall		640.00
Church Improvement		200.00

**Ways to Donate**

**Pre-authorized Debit: please call the office to get started.**

**To donate by credit card, google pay or PayPal click:**

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-josephs-parish-north-sydney/>

**Diocesan**

**Dec. 9-11**

**Advent Mission with Father Bill Burke, OSA**

Our Lady of Grace Monastery

Mission will begin with Holy Mass at 7 pm each evening.

Father Burke, a native of Main-a-Dieu, has an MA in liturgical theology from the University of Notre Dame. After 29 years in the diocese, he was appointed director of the National Liturgy Office for the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2006. In September 2013, he returned to become pastor of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys parish in Sydney. Light refreshments available in the Retreat House Dining Room following each presentation. Anyone wishing accommodations may contact Lucille Fougere at (902) 623-0075 or by e-mail:

[ladyofgracemonastery@gmail.com](mailto:ladyofgracemonastery@gmail.com)

**Community**

**MERCHANDISE BINGO, ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

December 7, 2024. 1:00-3:00 pm. Doors open at 12:00. St. Theresa's Hall. St. Peters Road Sydney. Door book \$15.00 with a chance to win door prize. Extra books \$10.00 Canteen available.

**Breath of Heaven A Concert of Sacred Christmas Music**

Dec. 14, 7 pm, St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish. Experience the magic of the season with the St. Ninian's Cathedral choir, alongside the Antigonish Choral Ensemble, directed by Janice Alcorn.

Also featured performances by Mary Beth Carty, John Pellerin and Heather MacIsaac, and members of Antigonish's own Rose Quartet. Artistic Director, Emery van de Wiel. This year's concert promises to be an enchanting evening filled with beautiful, traditional, and emotional choral music that will uplift your spirits.

**A message from the Shrine in Mabou:**

On Saturday, December 7th there will be a Christmas Shopping Sale at the Shrine Gift shop in Mabou. From 1pm until 4pm all gifts, except for the candles will be 50% OFF. We still have some wonderful gifts for Baptism and Confirmation. All are 1/2 price while they last. We also have many other gifts for friends and family.

Hope to see you here!

**CWL**

**Operation Christmas Child**

CWL would like to thank parishioners for their continuing support of Operation Christmas Child. Parishioners had the option of returning their filled shoeboxes to the church by Nov 15th, or going on-line to purchase a filled shoebox(es), as well as choosing the items for their shoebox(es). Our 20 collected shoeboxes were dropped-off at Westside Bible Chapel for shipment.

**Quote of the Week**

*"God uses the struggles we go through to make us something beautiful. Great graces cannot be obtained without humility. When you yourself experience humiliation, you should take it as a sure sign that some great grace is in store."* St Bernard of Clairvaux

**News Story**

Website: [www.messengersaintanthony.com](http://www.messengersaintanthony.com)

**Peace Be with You and Have a Great Week**

