

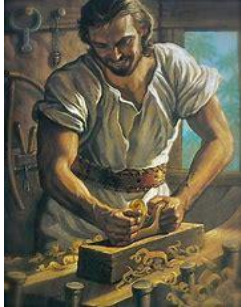


# PARISH COMMUNITY OF ST. JOSEPH

P.O. BOX 338 34 ARCHIBALD AVE. NORTH SYDNEY, N.S. B2A 3M4

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Northsydneyparish.com      holycrosscemeteryns.com



December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

3rd Sunday in Advent

DECEMBER 14TH, 2025    †		
REV. DOUGLAS MACDONALD – PASTOR CHAPLAIN CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY Rev. Mr. Roy Smith, Deacon roy.smith@hotmail.ca	<u>Leadership Ministry Team</u>  Pam Hall- Secretary /Faith Formation, Cavell Young – Bookkeeping, Cathy MacDonald- Liturgy, Monica Shebib- Baptism, / Bereavement/Funeral Team, Lana Verschuren- Finance	OFFICE HOURS:  TUES., WED. THURS.-9AM- 1 PM  TEL: 902 -794-3951

ST. JOSEPH PARISH NEXT WEEK				
Date	Location	Time	Details	Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK
Mon. Dec. 15th	St. Joseph Hall	11am	Funeral Mass	Jerome Davis
Tues. Dec. 16th	St. Joseph Hall	11am		Special Intention
Wed.Dec.17th	Northside Guest Home	1:30	Mass	
Thurs.Dec.18th	Personal Mass			For all Holy Souls in Purgatory
Fri.Dec.19th	Personal Mass			For all Deacons
Sat.Dec.20th	St. Joseph Church	4pm		For Persecuted Christians around the World
Sun.Dec.21st	St. Joseph Church	10 am		For All Parishioners
Ministries	4 pm Mass Saturday, December 20th		10 am Mass Sunday, December 21st	
SACRISTAIN & LINENS	Deacon Roy Smith, Team		Deacon Roy Smith, Team	
CHOIR	St. Joseph Choir		Alan Gale	
GREETERS	Ann Sampson, Ellen McNamara		Pam Hall, Yvonne MacDonald	
USHERS	Men and Women of the Parish		Men and Women of the Parish	
LECTORS	Carolyn Aker		Helen Gray, Alexandra Young	
PRESENTATION OF GIFTS	Parishioners		Parishioners	
EXTRAORDINARY MIN. OF HOLY COMMUNION	Lloyd Brewer, Joe Tobin		George Quirk, Joan Skinner	
Interior Church (cleaning)	Volunteer Team		Volunteer Team	
EXTERIOR SERVICE (SHOVELING)	Fr. Doug		Hunter Hill	
RINGING OF BELLS			Dave Williams	

## PARISH NEWS

### St. Joseph Parish &Elizabeth Fry Society

St. Joseph Parish is partnering with the Elizabeth Fry Society of Cape Breton to help fill their pantry and support women, single mothers, and community members facing homelessness who are struggling with severe food shortages. The need in our community is greater than ever, and even small donations of pantry staples—canned goods, pasta, rice, cereal, and other non-perishables—can make an immediate difference in someone’s life. Please drop off contributions during [days/hours] at the collection area located [location in the church]. Thank you for helping us care for those who need it most.

### Weekday Mass Cancellation

Just a reminder that **when school is cancelled** due to bad weather, weekday mass will also be cancelled.

### Knights of Columbus

#### Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest for Children

If you have a child, grandchild, or great-grandchild in grades Primary through 8, they are eligible to enter our poster contest! Every participant will receive a complimentary \$5 McDonald’s gift card just for taking part. Winners in each category will receive an additional \$20 McDonald’s gift card. All gift cards are generously provided by Council 5109, North Sydney. For more information on how to enter, **please contact Worthy Chancellor Gary Burton at 902-923-2717.**

**Mass Schedule Dec 24, 2025 – January 1, 2026**

Wednesday, Dec 24th **Christmas Eve** Masses – 4 PM and 7 PM

Thursday, Dec 25th **Christmas Day** Mass – **11 AM**

Saturday, Dec 27th – 4 PM

Sunday, Dec 28th – 10 AM

Thursday, January 1st **New Years Day** – **11 AM**

**Christmas Confession Schedule**

The Northside Deanery will be having confession for Christmas at Holy Family Parish on Saturday, December20th from 10am-3pm.The priest schedule is as follows:

10am-11am Fr. Victor

11am-12pm Fr. Nonso

12pm-1pm Fr. Doug

1pm-2pm Fr. Leo

2pm-3pm Fr Fabin

**Office Schedule for Christmas**

The office will be **open Wednesday on December 24<sup>th</sup> until 12 noon**. The office will be **closed on Thursday December 25<sup>th</sup>, Friday December 26<sup>th</sup>**. There will be a **Mass on Friday December 26<sup>th</sup> at 11am for the feast of Saint Stephen**. The office will **reopen on Tuesday December 30<sup>th</sup> and closing at noon on December 31<sup>st</sup>**. The office will be **closed on Thursday New Years Day and again on Friday January 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The regular office schedule will resume on Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Mass at the Northside Guest Home**

There will be a Christmas Mass on Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm the Northside Guest Home.

**Northside Soup Kitchen**

The Northside Soup Kitchen is open every Monday and Tuesday from 11am to 1pm. It is open to anyone who wants a free hot meal. They are located **at 127 Brook Street, North Sydney. Phone number (902) 794-0555**

**Advent Prayer**

Father, thank you for sending Jesus your Son to us. In this Advent season, prepare the 'inn' of our hearts with silence as the straw for the creche, and adoration as the swaddling cloth to wrap Him in. Make us contemplatives of a new order - able to hear Your voice and heed your word.

**Advent Wreath Lightening**

The pink candle lit today is known as the “Joy or Shepard’s candle”, because it represents the joy felt by Mary and Joseph, because Jesus was in Mary’s womb, awaiting His birth and Shepards were the first to visit Him.

Collections~ Thank You December 6 <sup>th</sup> &7 <sup>th</sup>		
Envelopes		2020.00
Loose Cash		280.00
Fuel		745.00
Expectant Mothers		125.00
Pre- Authorized Debit		750.00
Total		3920.00
Hall		800.00
Church Improvement		6050.00

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

**Ways to Donate:**

To donate by credit card, or debit come into the parish office, or by E-transfer, email: [stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:stjoseph2006@ns.aliantzinc.ca)



**Celebration of Life for Linda Serroul**

There will be a celebration of life for Linda Serroul on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 12pm until 3pm at the Sydney Mines Fire Hall located on Elliott Street, Sydney Mines. All are welcome.

**Cape Breton Advent Calendar**

Prepare your heart for Christmas with the Cape Breton Advent Calendar! Beginning December 1st, enjoy a daily Scripture passage paired with a beautiful photograph by Cape Breton’s own Steven MacNeil. This Advent Calendar is a **free service** for Cape Breton provided by Holy Rosary Parish, Westmount and is accessible anywhere though the Internet. Visit each day and reflect on the true meaning of Christmas. (But you have wait till December 1<sup>st</sup>! no peeking!) Watch for the Cape Breton Advent Calendar on Facebook or [tuerchen.app/0wSONibkc4ab462u](https://tuerchen.app/0wSONibkc4ab462u)

**Community**

**The St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Car Draw is back!**

You could drive away with a brand- new car and help out our parish in the process! Tickets are \$50.00 each or 3 for \$125.00! You could win a NEW Chevrolet TRAX 2RS. The draw will take place on Dec. 31st. If we sell out before New Year’s Eve the draw will take place earlier. Only 2000 tickets.

**French Mass**

There will be a Mass in French at the Centre Communautaire Étoile de L' Acadie (15 Inglis St, Sydney,N.S.) on Saturday December 13, 2025 at 5:30PM. Pot Luck supper to follow along with music from Le Cercle Musicale de la région de Sydney. Everyone welcome !

**Quote of the Week**

*“We stumble and fall constantly even when we are most enlightened. But when we are in true spiritual darkness, we do not even know that we have fallen.” Thomas Merton*

**News Story**

*What are so many younger priests leaving the priesthood?*  
<https://www.ncregister.com/news/why-are-priests-leaving-ministry-burnout-isolation>

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