



St. Peter's Parish, Tracadie, NS

Third Sunday of Lent

15th March 2020

Rev. John A. Barry, Parish Priest (902) 232-2272

Chair of the Parish Council: Sheila Pelly

Secretary of the Parish Council: Michael Penny

Caretaker for the Parish: Vernon Stafford



MASS INTENTIONS ~ 15th – 22nd March 2020

Sunday	March 15 – 9:30 am – Intentions of all Parishioners
Monday	March 16 – 9:00 am – Gerald Myette from the family
Tuesday	March 17 – 9:00 am – Eugene Myette from Herbie & Pauline
Wednesday	March 18 – 9:00 am – Charlie Myette from Theresa & family
Thursday	March 19 – 9:00 am – Craig Perry from Myles & Alice Somers
Friday	March 20 – 9:00 am – Vincent Pitts from Catherine Jean & family
Saturday	March 21 – 6:30 pm – Wayne & Margaret Mattie from Alice & family
Sunday	March 22 – 9:30 am – Intentions of all Parishioners

SCHEDULE FOR MASSES

Saint Peters, Tracadie:	Weekday Masses - Monday to Friday	–	9:00 am
	Weekend Masses - Saturday	–	6:30 pm
	Weekend Masses - Sunday	–	9:30 am

Saint Monica's, Lincolnville No Mass during the winter months

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms will be celebrated for the month of April on **Sunday, 5th April 2020 at 10:15 am** in Saint Peter's Church. **Always** Baptisms take place on the **First Sunday of the Month**. If this date is impossible for anyone, please let me know for it is so important that infants receive Baptism "as soon as possible" after their births and not a **Year or Two** later! Parents presenting their children for Baptism are **expected** to be practising their Faith in their parish church, which is St. Peter's. Also, the godparents who serve as sponsors for the one to be baptized are to be catholic and practising their faith. Please phone the Glebe House to make the arrangements for the Baptisms.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Anyone contemplating marriage for 2020 is asked to contact **Father Barry** as soon as possible. I request at least three months' notice and those contemplating marriage are expected to follow the Preparation for Marriage Course and expected to be practising their faith, and to continue practising it after their marriage. The next **Preparation for Marriage Course** will take place on **Saturday, March 21st at 9:00 am in Saint Ninian Place, just behind Saint Ninian's Cathedral in Antigonish**. We have three marriages arranged so far for 2020:

Saturday, July 11 th , 2020	3:00 pm	Kayla Margaret Carr & Robert Erin MacDougall
Saturday, July 25 th , 2020	3:00 pm	Tyler Pettipas & Brittany MacLean
Saturday, October 10 th , 2020	3:00 pm	Katie Annette Boyle & Peter Joseph Morell

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Every Saturday, from 5:30 pm until the time of the 6:30 pm Mass.

SAINT PETER'S PARISH COUNCIL

The Council met on Sunday last. Sheila Pelly, the Chair presided at the meeting and welcomed our new member, Rick Stewart to the Council. We are very pleased to have Rick join the Council and we always appreciated new members especially from the younger parishioners as they are the future of the Parish and of the Church.

Mr. Richard Breen, our Parish Accountant, attended the meeting and brought with him the completed Financial Report of the Parish for 2019. He explained in detail the entire Report explaining the categories which are used for the report. He responded to many questions with accuracy. It is noted that we have again declined in revenue from our fund-raising initiatives:

Beaver's Club Bingo, the Parish Card plays and the Building Jackpot from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Tracadie Fire Department to the amount of \$33,000.00. This is very unfortunate but Bingo games as fund-raisers continue to decline throughout the entire area. Our weekend collection envelopes had remained quite steady with a slight decrease, but this is explained by the fact that each year we lose through death many generous contributors and they are not replaced. As income is reduced from Bingo Games and the like, all we have left to depend upon to meet our debts is the weekend collections. We currently have 147 envelopes distributed among the parishioners and only about half of these are used each weekend and yet all of the parish services are extended to everyone!

Our Parish revenue decreases while our expenses continue to escalate. The Parish Council is to consider closely how some of the items on the financial statement can be reduced. The financial stability of any Parish is crucial to its continuance as a separate Parish.

The Council approved that the Financial Statement of the Parish can be released to the parishioners. Should any parishioner have any questions or comments to make regarding the Financial Report, you are asked to contact Father Barry who will attempt to answer any issues presented with the assistance of the Parish Council members and our Accountant.

The meeting proceeded with a review of our Religious Education Program which was very positive. Every effort has been made to provide religious education to the children of the Parish but the children can only participate if their parents/guardians encourage them to do so.

Many children born today in some situations are not even brought to the Church for Baptism - this is alarming but it is a fact!

Discussion took place regarding the Hall Rental Agreement Policy and the next Council meeting will update the Policy. The observation was made that the running and maintenance of the Monsignor Donnelly Hall continues to be a great financial drain on the Parish as the Hall is not rented very frequently even though everything is the "state of the art"! The Renovations Committee has done and continues to raise funding for Hall improvements. Also, the Renovations Committee has raised funding for the refurbishing of the outside doors on Saint Peter's Church which are in desperate need of repair. This work will be done as soon as the weather improves and will cost within the vicinity of \$20,000.00.

Sheila Pelly, the Chair of the Parish Council, has completed a request for a Heritage and Culture Grant of the Province of Nova Scotia to strip and re-roof the vestry roof on Saint Peter's Church as the roof is in need of immediate repair. Also, Sheila has completed the request for a summer student grant which

is made to the Federal Government. Let us hope that we are again successful in our application as we have been now for several years.

Masses will resume at Saint Monica Church, Lincolnville on Easter Sunday. Also, the Annual Pioneer Mass for Saint Patrick Church, Merland will take place on the second Sunday of August 9th, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Sunday, April 19th in Saint Peter's Place, after the 9:30 Mass in Saint Peter's Church.

CARD PLAY IN THE MONSIGNOR DONNELLY HALL

Every Thursday evening at 8:00 pm.

HOLY NAME - BEAVERS' CLUB BINGO

Bingo is held each **Monday evening in the Monsignor Donnelly Hall at 8:00 pm.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes have resumed for the second semester. They take **place Wednesdays evenings from 6:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the East Antigonish Academy** and will continue until mid-April. There are ten girls and boys preparing to receive their First Confessions and First Holy Communion - the grade **two** is the level for this.

First Confessions will take place on **Sunday, April 19th after the 9:30 am** Mass in Saint Peter's Church and First Holy Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, April 26th at the 9:30 am Mass.** If you have any questions you can contact either **Father Barry** at the Glebe House or **Julianne Connors**, the Coordinator.

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

We are now into the Year of the Eucharist in the Diocese - a special time for us to think on the Eucharist (The Mass) and the great gift God has given to the Church. This has been mentioned many times in the weekend Bulletins - special calendars for 2020 have been distributed and also a special prayer card. On Saturday evening, March 14th, the Pilgrim Cross and diocesan quilt was brought to our Church. Deacon Art Riley accompanied the Cross to our Church and conducted a special Holy Hour of prayers at 5:15 p.m. on Saturday, March 14th, with the presence of the Diocesan Pilgrim Cross in our sanctuary and the special diocesan quilt which represents each and every church in our Diocese. This is considered a part of the Year of the Eucharist for the Diocese.

SCHEDULING FOR AND THE USE OF MONSIGNOR DONNELLY HALL

As we have said, many times, **all scheduling** for and the use of the **Monsignor Donnelly** Hall is to be done through our caretaker: **Vern Stafford and no one else!** He keeps all of the bookings for the Hall - gives the Hall Policy to anyone desiring the Hall, meets with them and collects the payment for its use. The Monsignor Donnelly Hall is a wonderful facility but it is **very, very** costly to operate. The Renovations Committee has made many excellent improvements to the facility and we are grateful to them **but** it is a **Parish Facility** - it belongs to the Parish which in turn belongs to the Episcopal Corporation of the Diocese of Antigonish. The Parish Council oversees its operation and determines its use.

Unfortunately, the facility is not used as much as it should be and essentially earns little money for the Parish and so the onus for its operation depends entirely on the Parish of Saint Peter! A new rental policy

is being developed for the use of the Monsignor Donnelly Hall. This is being considered by the Parish Council; it is a work, still in progress!

A FEW WORDS FROM FATHER BARRY



We now celebrate the Third Sunday of Lent. We were invited, on Ash Wednesday, to **Follow Jesus Christ** throughout this Holy Season. Also, in last Sunday's Gospel, we were told to **Listen to Jesus!** This Season is a wonderful time to do this for listening to Jesus enables us to **Hear** His voice and doing whatever He asks of us! In turn, we grow in our faith and closeness to Jesus. May this be so for all of us as we continue to **Follow Him** during this Lenten Season.

God Bless you and have a good week!

Rev. John A. Barry