

# Parish of Saint Leonard

Phone (902) 862-2255 + Fax 862-7110

Email: [pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com](mailto:pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com) + Parish Website: [www.parishofsaintleonard.com](http://www.parishofsaintleonard.com)

Our Pastoral Centre is presently located at 5310 Union Highway, River Ryan, NS, B1H 1B2

**OFFICE HOURS - MONDAY TO FRIDAY - 9:30 AM - 12 NOON AND 1:30 - 4:00 PM**

**CHAPEL HOURS - MONDAY FROM 1:30-4:00 PM, TUESDAY TO FRIDAY - 9:30 AM - 12 NOON AND 1:30 - 4:00 PM**

*Our mission: To be a visible sign of the Body of Christ in our welcome, witness and celebration of all that we are as People of God.*

Volume 3, Number 24

Third Sunday of Lent

March 7, 2010

**Reading I:** [Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15](#) (The Burning Bush)

**Reading II:** [1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12](#) (Examples for Us)

**Gospel:** [Luke 13: 1-9](#) (The Fig Tree)

**We Remember...** Our celebrations of Christian Burial ...

We pray for those who have died, especially *Angela Taylor and Gerald Wilson*.

**We Celebrate ...** Our Sunday Gatherings for Eucharist

Saturday	4:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM
	6:00 PM ** On the first Sunday of each month – <b>THIS SUNDAY (March 7)</b>

## Our Daily Gatherings During Lent

Daily Eucharist During Lent (preceded by Rosary)	Monday through Friday Wednesday & Thursday	10:00 AM 6:30 PM
Exposition, Rosary & Benediction	Monday	10:30 AM to Noon
Lay Lenten Reflections	Monday	7:00 - 8:30 PM
Breaking Open God's Word	Tuesday	6:30 PM
Reconciliation	Wednesday & Thursday Saturday	6:00 - 6:30 PM 3:00 - 4:00 PM
Stations of the Cross	Thursday	6:00 PM
"What Catholics Believe" Series	Friday	6:30 PM

**\*\*Please note:** In the case of a funeral in our parish, morning masses and exposition are cancelled. Evening masses during Lent (Wednesday & Thursday) will not be affected by a funeral cancellation.

**See page 2 for our Storm Cancellation Policy!**

## Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are held on the third weekend of each month, at our 4 PM Saturday and 11 AM Sunday Liturgies.

If you wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism, please contact the Pastoral Centre (862-2255).

## Sacrament of Marriage

If you wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage, please contact the Pastoral Centre at least 6 months in advance.

**We Believe ...** In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the fig tree that doesn't bear fruit. He says that the man in the story has been going to that tree in his orchard for three years to get fruit, but never finds any, so he decides that the tree should be cut down. The gardener in the story asks the man to let the tree grow for one more year, during which time he'll dig around the soil and use fertilizer to see if the tree will grow strong and bear fruit. We might think about the soil around the fig tree to be like our faith. We need to tend the soil of faith, just like the gardener promises to do with the soil around the fig tree. Our faith grows strong when we pray, learn about our faith, reflect on Scripture, celebrate the Sacraments, participate in the life of our parish community and reach out to help those in need. This is how we "cultivate the ground" of faith. And what is the fruit of our faith? The fruit of our faith is seen in our lives every day, in everything we do. The fruit of faith is evident in our love of God and our acts of kindness, justice, charity, patience, courage and peace.

## Questions of the Week

Adults: What changes can I make in my daily life help me do better in the future?

Children: Name an act of kindness; an act of justice; an act of patience; an act of courage; an act of peace.



# In Our Parish

## Preparation for the Sacraments

**First Eucharist** -- The Celebrations of First Eucharist in the Parish of Saint Leonard will take place on **Saturday, April 10, at 4 p.m.** and **Sunday, April 11, at 11 a.m.** Parents of First Eucharist Candidates



who have not selected their choice of dates are asked to contact the Pastoral Centre by phone at 862-2255 or email [pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com](mailto:pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com), to indicate which day they would like to have their child receive First Eucharist.

**Confirmation** -- Our **Youth Mass** takes place **TODAY, Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**, at 6 p.m. in the Parish Church of Saint Leonard. Following Mass, Confirmation Candidates will gather to pass in their completed lessons and pick up their new lessons. Candidates are reminded that participation in parish life, including weekly Sunday Eucharist and "Breaking Open the Word" on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm are part of the Community Component of the Confirmation Program. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in our parish on **Sunday, May 23, 2010**, in the Parish Church of Saint Leonard.



## Monthly Sunday Evening Mass

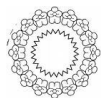


Our Monthly Sunday Evening Mass is taking place **THIS WEEKEND – Sunday, March 7, at 6:00 PM.** Although this Mass focuses on our youth, parishioners of all ages are welcomed and encouraged to take part. Our Sunday evening Masses are held on the first Sunday of every month.

Our Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place **each Sunday at our 11 AM Mass.** This is an opportunity for the children to hear and discuss the readings of the day in a separate space during mass, and to help them to know and understand God's Word!



## Breaking Open the Word



Our Tuesday Night Breaking Open the Word is an opportunity for parishioners of all ages to come together to reflect on the Gospel of the coming week and to learn more about our Catholic faith. These gatherings are open to parishioners of all ages and are held from **6:30 PM to approximately 7:30 PM on Tuesdays at the new Pastoral Centre.** Everyone is welcome!

Enclosed with today's bulletin, you will find a letter from our new Bishop, in which he shares with us his impressions of his first month in his new office. We thank him for his care and attention to the well-being of the people of our Diocese!

## Annual meeting



All parishioners are invited to come together on **Sunday, March 28, 2010, at 2:00 PM** at the Pastoral Centre to review the pastoral and financial activity of our parish for 2009. Written reports and financial statements will be published prior to the meeting. Thank you for the support you offer to the Pastoral Council and Committees of our parish!

## Parish of Saint Leonard Storm Cancellation Policy

When school is cancelled, all morning masses are automatically cancelled, except funerals. All children's activities are also cancelled for the entire day (e.g. Breaking Open the Word). Other evening gatherings such as: masses, Lay Lenten Reflections and the Video Series will remain on, in hopes that weather and road conditions will improve. If it is necessary to cancel evening gatherings because of storm conditions, please listen to your local radio station for cancellation updates!

## Attention C.W.L. Members

All C.W.L. Members are reminded that **Annual Dues** (\$13) can be dropped in the collection basket, clearly marked.

## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Are you interested in walking in the footsteps of Jesus in Nazareth, having mass in Bethlehem, praying at Calvary, or visiting Cana? Then join Fr. Doug MacDonald, our Associate Pastor, as he leads a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from **Sept. 18-28<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** Fr. Doug has spent five weeks traveling throughout Israel and has visited all these holy sites connected to our faith and is now returning as a priest to lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. For more information, call Angela Luddington at 902-752-5567 or email: [angelaluddington@eastlink.ca](mailto:angelaluddington@eastlink.ca)

## A Note of Thanks ...

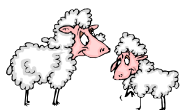
Our gratitude goes out to *Horyl's Superior Sausage Co.*, for their donation of sausages for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and to *Tim Horton's, New Waterford*, for their contribution of sweet treats!! The generosity of our local businesses is very much appreciated, and was enjoyed by all present!! Thanks again!!



## Vocation Views



Moses heard God's call from a burning bush. What is your passion, your burning bush? Take time to know what God is sending you to do and be. (Exodus: 3:18, 13-15). If you think God is calling you to be a priest or sister, visit the Diocesan website at [www.rcvocations.com](http://www.rcvocations.com) or contact Fr. Conrad Edwards at [vocations.antigonish@gmail.com](mailto:vocations.antigonish@gmail.com)



# Tending The Flock



## Supporting Ourselves as Parish

**Sunday Collection (February 28):** Envelopes (346) \$4,691.00 + Loose \$186.21 = \$4,877.21

## Receipts for Income Tax

Our thanks go to each and everyone who contributed to the running of our parish during the last year. Income tax receipts for Church Contributions in 2009 are available to be picked up in the Church. If you are not able to pick up your receipt, please feel free to call the Pastoral Centre. We will be happy to arrange for pickup at the Pastoral Centre or by mail. Parishioners will note that a form for **Automatic Debit** has been included with your receipt. If you are interested in contributing through automatic monthly debit from your bank/credit union, please fill in the form and return it to the Pastoral Centre. Thanks!



## Upcoming Meetings

Annual General Meeting	Sunday	March 28	2:00	PM	Pastoral Centre
Liturgy Committee	Thursday	April 15	2:00	PM	Pastoral Centre

## St. Vincent De Paul Society

- ◆ **Emergency Food Service** - Call 862-3779.
  - ◆ **Clothing Room** - Behind the Gaul Centre (on Christy Lane) – Mondays at 10 AM for drop-offs and Mondays from 11 AM - 3 PM for pickups.
  - ◆ **Good, Used Furniture Needed** – Please Phone Dan MacMullin at 862-8832 or Alice Aucoin at 862-3193.
- St. Leonard St. Vincent de Paul Society** meets the first Thursday of each month (**April 1**) at 10:00 AM at the **Carmel Centre**. Any parishioners who are willing to help out in this worthy cause are asked to attend our next meeting!
- Jesus said, "The least you do to these my brothers and sisters, you do to me."*



**A Free Will Offering for the St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Bank is taken up at our 4:00 PM Liturgy on the last Saturday of each month.**

## Our Lenten Activities

### Saint Leonard's Lay Lenten Reflections

During the Lenten Season, our parish will access the wealth of spiritual riches that already exist within our community. Each Monday evening during Lent, a particular group in the parish will host a Lenten reflection. The spiritual reflections of our own people will be offered in place of the Lenten retreat. Everyone is invited to join us **each Monday evening during Lent from 7 – 8 pm at the St. Leonard's Pastoral Centre** on Union Highway, followed by a social from 8:00 – 8:30 PM.

- March 8<sup>th</sup>** - **Sisters of Charity & Associates**
- March 15<sup>th</sup>** - Pilgrims of the Little Flower
- March 22** - Women of Grace
- March 29<sup>th</sup>** - Cursillo Group & Knights of Columbus

### Ecumenical Breaking Open The Word

The third of four sessions of an Ecumenical Lenten Bible Study Series being sponsored by the New Waterford & District Church Council will take place this **Wednesday (March 10)** at the Salvation Army Church (King St.). This is an opportunity for people of all ages to come together to reflect on the scripture readings of the coming week.

- March 10** - **Salvation Army Church**, King Street
  - March 16** - **All Saints Anglican Church**, Gibbon St.
- All gatherings begin at 7:00 PM and are open to members of all denominations.

**Don't Forget .. our Share Lent Collection will be taken up on March 20 & 21!**

### "What Catholics Believe" Series

This series invites you to explore and deepen your understanding of our rich Catholic Christian Faith. A thirty minute video presentation will be followed by a thirty minute discussion on such important topics as:

- March 12<sup>th</sup>** - **The Sacraments**
- March 19<sup>th</sup>** - The Mass
- March 26<sup>th</sup>** - Prayer

All sessions will be held on Friday evenings beginning at 6:30 PM in our New Pastoral Centre. Let us learn and grow together in our Christian faith. All Catholics and those interested in the Catholic faith are most welcome to attend.



### Year of the Priest - June, 2009 to June, 2010

*Please Continue To Pray For Our Priests*

Lord Jesus, as once you called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come follow me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to your voice. Support our bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labour. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, model of every vocation, help us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation. Amen.  
*(Prayer of John Paul II for Vocations)*

# *Diocesan & Community Activities*

- **Mass for Shut-Ins** – Sundays at 11:30 AM on ATV.
- **Vision TV (Channel 58)** – Mass is broadcast Monday to Saturday at 9:00 AM and repeated at 1 PM. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Wednesdays from 9:30-10 AM.
- **Support & Share Grief Support Group** – for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Upcoming Sessions:  
**March 9 – 7-9 PM** – Holy Angels High School Cafeteria, Sydney  
**March 17 – 7-9 PM** – St. Leonard Pastoral Centre, River Ryan  
**March 24 – 7-9 PM** – Town House, Glace Bay  
**April 1 – 7-9 PM** – Miners Memorial Manor, Sydney Mines  
Everyone is welcome and no registration is required.
- **French Mass** – Saturday, March 13, at 5:30 PM at Centre Communautaire Etoile de L'Acadie. Pot Luck Supper & French Music from Le Cercle Musicale de la région de Sydney. Everyone is welcome!
- **Living With Cancer Support Group – Wednesday, March 17, at 7 PM** at the Canadian Cancer Society Office, 329 George St., Sydney. This is a support group for those who have had a diagnosis of cancer, their family and caregiver. For information call 564-8263.

- **Directed Retreat – March 19-21, 2010**, at the Mabou Retreat Centre. An opportunity to reflect in a prayerful atmosphere facilitated by a team of spiritual directors / prayer companions. Brochures are available at the back of the church, or call Gary Fancey (862-7580).
- **Annual Jigs Dinner -- Saturday, March 20, at 7 PM** at St. Anne's Parish Centre, Glace Bay. Entertainment by The Pub Boys. Call 849-6826 for tickets. \$12.50 pp.
- **Knights of Columbus 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Exemplification Ceremony -- Saturday, March 27, at 1:00 PM** at Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney River.
- **Notice for Stroke Survivors** – The CB District Health Authority Stroke Team is offering an opportunity for stroke survivors to help define their ongoing needs through a general meeting. To participate, phone Judy Hussey at 567-6291 or [hussseyj@cbdha.nshealth.ca](mailto:hussseyj@cbdha.nshealth.ca).
- **Marriage Preparation** – for all engaged couples.  
**March 26-28, 2010** – St. Joseph's Parish, Bras d'Or  
**April 9-11, 2010** – Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney  
**June 4-6, 2010** – Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney  
Pre-Registration is required (\$60/couple). Call 539-6868 Ext. 2

## *Types of Lenten Penance*

There are three traditional disciplines which help us to draw closer to God, neighbour and self during Lent ... prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Doing penance is our response to the teachings of Jesus that encourage us to reach out to people in need - not just with our money - but with our time and our talents. Lent gives us the opportunity to cultivate a spirit of generosity. It gives us a chance to share what we have and who we are with other people. It puts us in communion with others and helps us understand that we are all members of the Body of Christ. Think carefully about how you will share your time, your talents and your treasure during Lent. Here are some types of Penance we can consider during this season of Lent.

- Offer your day for the intentions of another person whose name you keep in mind all day
- Skip a meal or part of one as an offering and a way to identify with the poor
- Visit an elderly person
- Spend 10 minutes reading the Bible
- Do something concrete to help the poor, or a neighbour in need
- Sacrifice some ordinary comfort or convenience today as an offering for the hungry in our world
- Pray with special insistence for the most pressing petitions in your life
- Offer things you do not feel like doing for a good intention
- Make a gesture of reconciliation with someone from whom you are alienated
- Do something kind for someone who does not like you
- Listen to someone you would otherwise pass by
- Do some extraordinary kindness to someone who would never expect it
- Drink water instead of your usual beverage
- Pray and offer some sacrifice for our Pope and new bishop
- Serve someone today with love
- Do something charitable for the homeless
- Go to confession
- Spend ten minutes praying before the Blessed Sacrament
- Volunteer in a shelter, a soup kitchen or donate time to Someone in need
- Point out to another his or her virtue
- Give away some of your belongings
- Fast between meals
- Clean up someone else's mess
- Love your enemies and pray they will be blessed
- Give alms to the missions
- Console someone who is grieving
- Fast from television or some other amusement
- Offer your day for someone who has fallen away from the faith
- Pray the rosary for your family
- Prayerfully make a list of the greatest desires of your heart
- Send a thank you note to someone to whom you owe gratitude
- Do something kind for someone you love
- Get up early each day and offer that struggle for a noble intention
- Do something kind for those in prison
- Spend 10 minutes praying the holy name of Jesus
- Say I am sorry to someone
- Reconnect with someone who you have lost touch with over the years
- Do something loving for someone who is sick
- Spend 10 minutes slowly meditating on the words of the Our Father
- Do something constructive to rescue someone ensnared in sin
- Pray with special devotion to your patron saint
- Bear wrongs that you experience patiently
- Give comfort to someone who is afflicted
- Make the Stations of the Cross
- Buy someone a meal or a drink today
- Give alms to a needy person or cause
- Exercise for the glory of God

