

Parish of Saint Leonard

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

Email: pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com + Parish Website: www.parishofsaintleonard.com

Our Pastoral Centre is presently located at 553 George Street, New Waterford, NS B1H 4E4.

OFFICE HOURS - MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS - 9:30 AM - 12 NOON & 1:30 PM TO 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 2, Number 21

Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

February 1, 2009

Reading I: [Deuteronomy 18:15-20](#) (I Will Raise Up a Prophet)

Reading II: [1 Corinthians 7:32-35](#) (Free of Anxieties)

Gospel: [Mark 1:21-28](#) (Teaching with Authority)

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

We pray for those who have died, especially *William "Buddy" Bryden, Barbara (Boudreau) Chapel, Frances Povh, Walter "Laddie" Micholsky, Mary "Molly" Rolands, Robert Rutledge.*

We Celebrate ...

Our Sunday Gatherings for Eucharist

<i>Saturday (Vigils)</i>		<i>Sunday</i>	
4:00 PM	St. Michael's	8:30 AM	St. Joseph (Lingan)
5:30 PM	St. Michael's	10:00 AM	St. Michael's
		11:30 AM	St. Michael's



Our Daily Gatherings This Week

All weekday celebrations take place at **St. Michael's Church.**

Monday	9:00 AM	Eucharist followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Scriptural Rosary and Benediction
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Eucharist
Wednesday	6:30 PM	Eucharist
Thursday	6:30 PM	Eucharist
Friday	9:00 AM	Eucharist

***Please note: In the case of a funeral in our parish or a school cancellation, daily mass (morning or evening) and exposition are cancelled.**

Sacrament of Baptism

Celebrations of baptism take place on the third Sunday of each month at St. Michael's Church. If you would like to have your child baptized, please contact the Pastoral Centre at 862-2255.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Before Evening Masses (Wednesday & Thursday), or by appointment.

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, we read about Jesus teaching in a synagogue in Capernaum. Those who hear him are amazed by what the Gospel refers to as "authority." There are several characteristics to teaching with "authority." There is knowledge; Jesus knew God. There is confidence; Jesus believed in the Kingdom of God. There is love: Jesus loved those he taught, regardless of how they accepted his teaching.

Questions of the Week

Adults: In what ways have I experienced the presence of Jesus in my life, freeing me from the power of evil?

Children: Do I remember to pray to Jesus for help when I am tempted?



Parish Activities

Youth Night

Want to sleep in and skip Mass on the Sunday after Coal Bowl? Well, you're in luck. Our next Youth Night, on **Sunday, February 8th, at 7:00 PM**, will be a **Teaching Mass** at St. Michael's. As we experience the Sunday liturgy, we will learn more about why we do what we do during Mass. **Parishioners of all ages are invited to take part in this Mass.** Following Mass, there will be some snacks downstairs. During this social time there will be a brief presentation on the Steubenville High School Youth Conference being held in Antigonish this summer.



Breaking Open the Word

Due to Coal Bowl, there will be **no Breaking Open the Word** this Tuesday, February 3rd. Breaking Open the Word, our opportunity for parishioners of all ages to explore the Gospel of the coming Sunday, **will resume on Tuesday, February 10th, at 6:30 PM at St. Michael's.**



Spaghetti Night

Many thanks to all who participated in this past Tuesday's Spaghetti Night. Those in attendance explored together the Gospel of Mark and what it tells us about Jesus. We discovered that Mark's Gospel, the Gospel of our current Church Year B, tells the story of Jesus as someone who felt the same feelings we do and often struggled in many of the same ways we do. Jesus shows us that our sufferings can bring new life when we place our trust in God. It was suggested to participants that they read the Gospel of Mark in its entirety, to better come to know and understand Jesus. All parishioners are encouraged to do this (it's the shortest of the four Gospels)! Our next Spaghetti Night will actually be a **Pancake Night on Tuesday, February 24th (Pancake Tuesday).**

Confirmation Preparation



→ Don't forget to do your **Online Activities** (posted on the "Youth Corner" page of our website).

→ **Interviews** will begin in February. Be prepared to talk about your participation in Parish Life.

→ Confirmation candidates are expected to attend the **Teaching Mass** being held on Sunday, **February 8th, at 7:00 PM at St. Michael's.** As part of their journey with the candidates, sponsors and parents/caregivers are encouraged to come along. During the social time following this mass, there will be an opportunity for candidates to schedule their interviews.

First Eucharist Preparation

A Parent/Caregiver Meeting and Registration was held on Sunday, January 8, for those with children in Grades 2 and up wishing to prepare for First Eucharist.



If you missed that meeting and wish for your family to take part in the preparation, please visit us at the Pastoral Centre as soon as possible to register and to pick up the home component of the program.

Palm Wanted

Once again this year we will have a Palm Burning gathering to prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday. If anyone has palm to contribute, please leave it at the entrance of St. Michael's.



The Sign of Peace During Cold & Flu Season

The Sign of Peace is exactly what it says ... a sign. In our culture, we have accepted shaking hands as a sign of greeting ... as a sign of peace. We know, however, that germs are also transmitted through human contact. When people have cold and flu symptoms, they prefer not to shake hands, so as not to transmit illness to another. We respect and appreciate this gesture. Also, if people are concerned about catching anything, they also may be hesitant in offering their hand, we respect their choice. There are other signs people may give. Some may bow, some may give a verbal exchange, a nod or a wave. It is important we exchange some sign of peace, for when we are at peace with one another, we are now ready and able to receive the Eucharist with open hearts and minds.

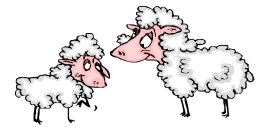
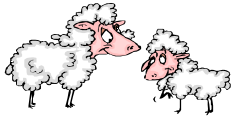


Feast of St. Blase

February 3 is the Feast of St. Blase. An Armenian Bishop, Blase suffered martyrdom during the persecution of Licinius, in the early 4th century. He is the patron of wild animals, woolcombers and of all who suffer from afflictions of the throat. According to legend, he performed a miraculous cure on a boy who was choking to death. Blase has long been associated with cures for afflictions of the throat, and the blessing of throats takes place on this day in memory of St. Blase. On **Tuesday, February 3**, the Blessing of Throats will take place **after the 9:00 AM Mass at St. Michael's Church.** In the event of a funeral in our Parish on Tuesday (and subsequent mass cancellation), the Blessing of Throats will take place after weekend masses on February 7 & 8.



Tending The Flock



Supporting Ourselves as Parish

Sunday Collection for **January 25, 2009**

Envelopes (433): \$4,886.00 + Loose: \$288.08 = \$5,174.08

Catechesis & Youth Collection: \$832.00

Thank you for your continued support!

Hymn Book Donation

We are grateful for the donation of a Hymn Book to the Parish of Saint Leonard in memory of **Sister Elana Killilea** from Mount Carmel Senior Choir. Thank You!!



Church Envelopes



If you are not presently using envelopes, but would like to start, simply pick up a box in the church. If you wish to support your parish through pre-authorized debit, please contact the Pastoral Centre. Thank you for your generous support through the use of your church envelopes.

Special Collections

Family Service of Eastern N.S. provides a wide range of individual and family counselling, group and community based programs and services to assist you in building healthy relationships, overcoming depression and anxiety, reducing stress, increasing self-esteem, managing anger, overcoming addictions, building positive parenting skills, preparing for marriage and dealing with separation and divorce. Each year, every parish in our diocese is levied (\$3 per family) to support the work of Family Service in our communities. In order to help pay this levy, two Family Service Collections are taken up during the year – in February and November. In 2008, the total of our Family Service Collections were **\$2,672.50**. The total of levies paid was **\$3,282.00**. We appreciate your support of this collection.

Upcoming Meetings

Liturgy Committee Meeting

Thursday

February

12

7:15 PM

Gaul Centre

St. Vincent De Paul Society



◆ **Emergency Food Service** - Call 862-3779 or 862-3770

◆ **Clothing Room** - Behind St. Michael's Church (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

Winter Burials



Due to ground conditions, the Winter Chapel in Mount Carmel Cemetery will be used for all burials in our Parish during the winter months. Following a funeral in any of our churches, the priest, deacon or other minister can go to the Vault Chapel, where the committal prayers will be said. The actual burial of remains will take place after May 1, and can take place without a priest, deacon or other minister present.

Lost & Found



A set of keys were found in the parking lot of the Pastoral Centre (former Mount Carmel Glebe) last weekend. They can be claimed at the Pastoral Centre, or call 862-2255. Thanks.

Accommodations Needed

The NET (National Evangelical) Team will be conducting retreats in the Diocese during April 2009. There are four nights over Easter when the team will not be attached to a parish and will need accommodation. These dates are **April 9, 10, 11 & 12**. The team consists of five males and five females. We are seeking homes to billet these individuals. If you are interested in offering hospitality to some members of the team, please phone the Emmaus Centre at 539-6188, extension 224.



Our Email Addresses

Pastoral Centre: pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com

Fr. Paul: pastor@parishofsaintleonard.com

Fr. Doug: associatepastor@parishofsaintleonard.com

Marcy MacKinnon: catechesis@parishofsaintleonard.com

Deacon Leo & Viola Penny: deacon@parishofsaintleonard.com

Fishcakes & Beans

St. Agnes C.W.L. are sponsoring a Fishcakes & Beans Dinner on **Ash Wednesday (February 25)**, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Take-Out Only. \$7 / plate. For tickets, call Rita McEachern at 862-6370.



Visit our Parish Website at
www.parishofsaintleonard.com

World Day For Consecrated Life

In 1997, Pope John Paul II instituted World Day for Consecrated Life, which is to be celebrated on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, **February 2**. The purpose of the day is "to help the entire Church to esteem ever more greatly the witness of those persons who have chosen to follow Christ by means of the practice of the evangelical counsels" as well as "to be a suitable occasion for consecrated persons to renew their commitment and rekindle the fervor which should inspire their offering of themselves to the Lord" -- Pope John Paul II, 1997 message.



Diocesan & Community Events

- **The Year of Saint Paul** – The 3rd & 4th videos of the series, "The Writings of Saint Paul" are being offered on **Mondays -- Feb. 9 & 23** -- from 2:00-3:30 PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre Board Room (75 Prince Street, Sydney). Call 539-6188 X237 to register.
- **Support & Share Grief Support Group** – Spons. by Bereaved Families of CB. – Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (**February 10** - "The Grief Experience") from 7-9 PM at Holy Angels High School Cafeteria. Bereaved Families also offers 6-8 wk programs for people who have lost a spouse or partner, a child, a parent or a loved one to suicide. For more info, call 564-6795.
- **Living With Cancer Support Group** – Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (**Feb. 18**) at 7 PM at the Can. Cancer Society Office, 329 George St., Sydney. For patients, survivors and family and friends of those living with a diagnosis of cancer.
- **Marriage Preparation** – For all engaged couples.
 1. **February 20, 21 & 22** – St. Leo's Parish, Glace Bay
 2. **March 13, 14 & 15** – Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney
 3. **March 27, 28 & 29** – Bras d'Or Hall.
 4. **June 12, 13 & 14** – Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney
Pre-Registration required (\$60/couple). Call 539-6868, Ext. 2
- **Catholic Family Retreats - Summer 2009** -- For the 14th year, week-long Catholic Family Retreats will be held at Harbourside Cottages in Pictou Co., NS. Mom, Dad & kids; come play & pray together and experience God's Love in your family in a new way this summer. For dates and more info call 902-755-2080 or go to www.harboursidecottages.com/Family-Retreats.
- **Bulletin Notices** -- Written requests for publication of notices must be received in our office before Wednesdays at 4 PM. Faxes may be sent to 862-7110.
- **Pancake Supper** – **February 24, from 4-6 PM** at the Sydney Kinsmen Resource Centre, 780 Upper Prince Street, Sydney. Eat in or take out. There will also be a bake table. Tickets (\$6) can be purchased or reserved in advance by calling 539-8553, extension 224 or 232.
- **Directed Retreat** – **March 27-29** at the Renewal Center, Mabou. An opportunity for personal prayer and reflection, to encounter our God in a quiet and relaxed setting away from the usual cares and concerns of daily life. A prayerful atmosphere for the retreat is facilitated by members of the Atlantic Association of the Spiritual Exercise Apostolate (AASEA). Brochures are available at the back of the Church. For further information, contact 862-7580.
- **Weekend of Grace – 3rd Annual Regional Catholic Woman's Conference – April 24-26, 2009** – Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, NS. An opportunity for women to share their faith in witness and prayer. www.stacm.ca. Pre-Registration only (\$135).
- **Donations of Used Goods** – Many thanks to all who participate in the following programs:
 - Cape Breton Hearing Aid Bank** -- The Kiwanis Club of CB Golden K collects hearing aids to be converted to useful instruments for those who need them. You can drop hearing aids which are no longer in use in one of the boxes provided at the back of our churches. For info, call Mary at 862-2051.
 - Used Eyeglasses** - Mount Carmel C.W.L. oversees the collection of used eyeglasses which are sent to Third World Countries. A box is available at the back of the Church for your donations.
- **If your life is or has been affected by someone else's drinking, Al-Anon may help. Contact 564-5188.**

Dear Parishioners,

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing". This quote has had over three dozen variations and is attributed to Edmund Burke. Its universal message is supported by today's gospel when the good and loving Jesus confronts a man with an unclean spirit and orders the malevolent spirit to "Come out of him!" Jesus sees a need and does something. The exorcism is successful and the man is transformed and healed. Like Jesus, we are called by God to confront evil in our lives and in our world in all of its forms and expel it. The Church acknowledges that demonic possession, though rare, does exist. What is more prevalent in our lives and in our society however are many other kinds of unclean spirits such as greed, selfishness, apathy, hopelessness, idolatry and pride. As Christians, as followers of the good and just Jesus, we are called to confront all forms of evil so that God's Kingdom of justice, mercy and love may be experienced by each and every person in this world.

Peace and prayers,
Fr. Paul

From Your
Pastor