

Parish of Saint Leonard

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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 23

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

February 15, 2009

Reading I: [Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46](#) (The Leper Will Dwell Apart)

Reading II: [1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1](#) (Be Imitators of Christ)

Gospel: [Mark 1:40-45](#) (The Healing of the Leper)

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

We pray for those who have died, especially *John Boutilier, Annie Bresolin, Paddy Copley, Linda (Reid) Piercey and Margaret Williams.*

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		NO MASS
Tuesday		NO MASS
	6:30 PM	Breaking Open The Word
Wednesday	6:30 PM	Eucharist
Thursday	** 9:00 AM	Eucharist (note time change)
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 ... Today a leper approaches Jesus and asks to be healed. The man tells Jesus that he knows he has the power to cure him. Touched by the man's pitiful condition and moved by his faith, Jesus reaches out and touches the leper. And the leper is cured. The man's leprosy is a symbol of a far more deadly disease, the sickness that can kill the spirit – sin. Because the leper, in spite of his sins, is a man of faith, he is cured. You, too, suffer from the disease that is called sin. But because you are a person of faith, you too are curable. You have only to ask Jesus as the leper did. He will reach out, touch and cure you.



Questions of the Week

Adults: Who are today's "lepers" that society fears? What is a Christian response to this?

Children: What is my favorite story about Jesus healing someone?

Parish Activities

Tuesday Night Parish Night



Breaking Open the Word continues this **Tuesday, February 17th, at 6:30 PM** at St. Michael's. Breaking Open the Word is our opportunity for parishioners of all ages to explore the Gospel of the coming Sunday. Our next Spaghetti Night will actually be our second annual Pancake Night and Palm Burning on **Tuesday, February 24th at 5:30 PM** at the Gaul Centre. All are welcome!

First Eucharist Preparation

The families of those registered in the First Eucharist Preparation Program are reminded of the Learning Centres taking place at the Gaul Centre **THIS WEEK** on **February 19th** (5:00 PM to 8:00 PM), **February 21st** (1:00 PM to 4:00 PM), and **February 22nd** (1:00 PM to 4:00 PM). Families can come anytime within these three available time slots. Please allow yourself 1.5-2 hours to complete the Centres. Also, please bring your drawings from the first three lessons to the Learning Centres. You will receive your final three lessons at that time. ALL candidates are required to complete the Learning Centres.



Confirmation Preparation



Confirmation **Interviews** will begin this week. Candidates had an opportunity to schedule their interviews following last Sunday's Teaching Mass. If you were unable to be there to book your interview, please contact Marcy as soon as possible at catechesis@parishofsaintleonard.com. Interviews are being held on Monday afternoons (after school) between now and the end of March. They will also be conducted at our next two Sunday youth gatherings on February 22nd and March 8th.... One more thing - don't forget to complete your online activities found on the "Youth Corner" page of our website.

Lent Begins

Ash Wednesday is February 25th

Ash Wednesday Masses will take place at **St. Michael's Church** at **9:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 6:30 PM**. Our Liturgy Committee has recommended that **Daily Mass** for the Lenten season be held at St. Michael's Church; **Monday through Friday at 10:00 AM** – **AND -- Wednesday & Thursday evenings at 6:30 PM**.



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 Church.

ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Have we got an invitation for you!

Come to the **Steubenville Atlantic Youth Conference** at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, **July 31 – August 2, 2009**. The 2009 conference offers an opportunity to experience the love of God through amazing talks, awesome music, praise and worship, time for prayer and fellowship, entertainment and powerful liturgies. Of all the things to do this summer, Steubenville Atlantic will be the experience that rates **ABOVE ALL**. Approx. 800 young people from the Atlantic region will gather in Antigonish. More information will be available this Sunday night following the Teaching Mass. You can also view some great video clips at www.steubenville.ca. Contact: Jari-Ann Timmons at 862-6655, jatimmons3@hotmail.com, or see Fr. Doug. Sign-up is in March. Contact us soon. We'll sign up you and your friends!



PARISH MISSION 2009

"Journey of Lent, Journey of Life"

Our Parish Mission will take place this year in the Fifth Week of Lent. Father Bedford Doucette will join us on the weekend of **March 21 & 22**, at each of our Sunday Liturgies. The mission sessions will then take place on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, at 7 PM at St. Michael's Church. If you are interested in being part of the preparation for this Parish Mission, please come to our first planning meeting – **THIS SUNDAY (Feb. 15) at 4 PM** at the Pastoral Centre. All are welcome!

Circle your calendars for March 21-25, 2009!!



Tending The Flock

Supporting Ourselves as Parish

Sunday Collection for **February 8, 2009**

Envelopes (412): \$4,729.00 + Loose: \$501.08 = \$5,230.08 ♦ Family Service Collection: \$845.00

Thank-you for your continued support!

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 2008 will be available to be picked up after all masses this weekend at St. Michael's 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. Thanks!!

Upcoming Meetings

Liturgy Committee Meeting Thursday March 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



Parish Choirs



To this date, we have been unsuccessful in arranging music for our 5:30 PM Saturday Liturgy. If the 10 AM Sunday time would be better for volunteers, the present 10 AM choir would be willing to move to Saturday. Once again, we ask that any person interested in supporting this ministry through voice or instrument to call the Pastoral Centre at 862-2255.

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.




Lost & Found



A pair of eyeglasses was left at St. Joseph's Church, Lingan, on Christmas Eve. They may be claimed at the Pastoral Centre during office hours.

Change in Mass Times This Week

Monday (February 16)	NO MASS *	
Tuesday (February 17)	NO MASS *	
Wednesday (February 18)	6:30 PM	
Thursday (February 19)	9:00 AM **	
Friday (February 20)	9:00 AM	

We regret that there will be **NO MASS in the Parish on **Monday & Tuesday** of this week. For those who wish to attend mass, they may participate at St. Anne's Church, Glace Bay, at 8 AM on those days. **For this **Thursday ONLY**, the mass will be moved from 6:30 PM to 9:00 AM.

St. Paul Video Series



In this Year of Saint Paul, we will take some time in the upcoming Lenten Season to explore the life and works of St. Paul through a wonderful video series. **Each Friday Evening of Lent, from 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM,**

parishioners are invited to gather in the Gaul Centre to view these videos and perhaps engage in some discussion. Our first gathering will take place on **Friday, February 28.**

Toonie Muffin Fest

The Lingan Ladies Recreation Society warmly invites you to join them at the Lingan Community Hall on **Sunday, March 1**, from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, for some muffins and hot drinks & lots of fun and friendship.



Lenten Workshop – “A Search for Truth”

All are invited to attend a Lenten Workshop ... Our Journey Through Scripture ... Then and Now ... at St. Anne's Church, Glace Bay on **Monday Evenings during Lent (March 2, 9, 16 & 23) from 7-9 PM.** Guest Speakers will be Charles MacDonald, PhD. and Margie Gillis, SC. For information, contact Mary Lou MacDougall (862-1474) or Linda MacNeil (849-5039).

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

What's Going On ...

● **Living With Cancer Support Group** – Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (**Feb. 18**) at 7 PM at the Cancer Society Office, 329 George St., Sydney. Guest will be Noreen Rowe, Canadian Cancer Society, Sydney Unit. For patients, survivors, family and friends of those living with a diagnosis of cancer.

● **Gentle Yoga for Cancer Patients** – A 9 week program of gentle yoga and relaxation for cancer patients with Brenda Emanuele, beginning **February 18th - April 29th**, from 1:30- 2:30 pm, at the Canadian Cancer Society office, 329 George Street, Sydney Family/friends welcome. No cost. Phone 567-8074 for information.

● **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

● **The Lay Carmelite Community of St. Elijah** will hold its monthly meeting on **Sunday, February 22**, at 1:30 PM at St. Joseph's Church, Reserve.

● **Pancake Supper – February 24, from 4-6 PM** at the Sydney Kinsmen Resource Centre, 780 Upper Prince Street, Sydney. Eat in or take out. Bake table. Tickets (\$6) can be purchased or reserved in advance by calling 539-8553, extension 224 or 232.

● **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.

● **Wellness Program for Breast Cancer Survivors** -- The CB Cancer Center, in partnership with the YMCA, is offering a free 9-week wellness program for breast cancer survivors. The program offers various fitness activities and complimentary therapies to help give survivors strategies for successful coping and healthy lifestyle choices. The program will run 2 days a week – on Wednesdays from 10:30am to noon and on Fridays from 11:00 am to 12:00 with fitness on Fridays and coping and lifestyle skills on Wednesdays. The program **begins February 27, 2009 and ends May 1, 2009** at the YMCA. Registration and medical approval are required. For more information and to register, call the YMCA at 562-9622. You may also call the Cancer Center at 567-8074 for more information

● **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).

● **Pilgrimage to St. Anne De Beaupre and Cap-de-la-Madeleine** – Leaving Inverness on August 16 and returning August 22, 2009. Contact Sadie Burton at 461-9051 for further information.

● **Medjugorje** – April 25-May 4, \$2,050 (includes air from Moncton or Halifax, accommodation, 2 meals per day. For info call 902-888-2291 or email Kevin.morrel@pei.sympatico.ca

Dear Parishioners,

It is mid-February, and sadly (or happily) it is time to complete our annual Income Tax Return for the Canadian Revenue Agency and to "give to Caesar what is Caesar's". Your 2008 Church Contribution receipts have been completed and are now available. You can access yours at any of the Masses at St. Michael's this weekend. On behalf of the parish and all who benefit from your generosity and daily sacrifices, I would like to offer a huge **THANK YOU** to each and all for your support and many kindnesses given to enhance the life of our parish.

The ***Parish of St. Leonard Discussion Document*** submitted to Pastoral Council by the former Steering Group will be made available to all of you for your careful reading and reflection next weekend, February 21st and 22nd, after all of the Masses. **Your comments, thoughts and ideas regarding this document are very important.** You can share your comments and ideas in the following two ways: 1) **There will be a Comment Sheet attached to the front of each copy of the document.** Please fill this out after reading and reflecting upon the document and hand it back to Pastoral Council as soon as possible (preferably the following weekend at all the Masses). Please note that each Comment Sheet must be signed by you to be valid, including a phone number and address. Each parishioner (who is registered and resides here in our greater New Waterford area) is entitled to one comment sheet. Your written feedback will be later read and reviewed by Pastoral Council and in turn sent on to our Bishop. I would like to remind all of you that Pastoral Council has not made any decisions regarding this document, nor has it adopted any formal position on this document and will not until all parishioners are consulted. 2) **Our parish will be gathering for a General Parish Meeting specifically to discuss this document and its ideas on Sunday, March 8th, at 2:00 PM at Mount Carmel Auditorium.** All parishioners are encouraged to attend this General Meeting to discuss, in an open and respectful way, their thoughts regarding the greater good and future of our parish. Many thanks for your prayers and good will during this challenging time of parish discernment.

Gratefully yours in Our Lord,
Fr. Paul MacNeil, Pastor - Parish of St. Leonard

From Your
Pastor 