

Parish of Saint Leonard

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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 18

Baptism of the Lord

January 11, 2009

Reading I: Reading I: [Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7](#) (Come to the Waters)

Reading II: Reading II: [Acts 10:34-38](#) (The Victory of Faith)

Gospel: Gospel: [Mark 1:7-11](#) (Jesus' Baptism)

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

We welcome our newest parishioners ... *Brendon John Michael Currie, Layla Jo Earle, Aiden Robert Fleming, Harland Mason Fraser, Brady Alexander Kevin Gouthro, Jennifer Marie Hawley, Kyra Alyssa Rene Helle, Lucas Brody Jewer, Aden Thomas Kaarto, Lily Riel Leudy, Aidan Christopher McEachern, Jeffrey Lawrence Pinhorn and Madison Paige Reid-Farrell.*

And we pray for those who have died, especially *Eugene Basso, Martha Brown, Daniel (Danny) Campbell, Stephanie Finlayson, Blair Henry, Theresa MacGillivray, Catherine MacKinnon, Sister Margaret (John of the Cross) MacLellan, SC, Duane Martin, Stewart Mossop, Caridi Pozzebon and Sister Lillian (Mary Eymard) Walsh, SC.*

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	11:00 AM	Funeral at St. Michael's Church
	2:00 PM	Funeral at St. Michael's Church
Tuesday	9:00 AM	Eucharist
	6:30 PM	Breaking Open The Word
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 ... As Jesus emerges from the waters of baptism, his Father's voice speaks to him, assuring him that he is his very own son, that he is pleased with him. Since the day of your baptism, God favors you too. In baptism, Jesus gave you, through the power of the Holy Spirit, his Father to be your Father, himself to be your brother. He has made you a brother or sister to all others in God's family, the church.

Questions of the Week

Adults: What does it mean to me to be beloved by God?

Children: What can I recall about the story of Jesus' baptism?



Parish Activities

Youth Night – THIS SUNDAY

Youth in grades 9 and up are invited to our next gathered Youth Night, **THIS Sunday, January 11th at 7:00 PM at the Gaul Centre.** The theme for this week's gathering is "New Year's Celebration". All youth are invited to join in.



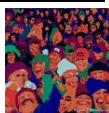
The Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated in our community on the third Sunday of each month. Those wishing to celebrate the sacrament are asked to contact the Pastoral Centre, or visit the "Sacraments" section of our parish website. For those scheduled to celebrate baptism this month, please be reminded of the preparation session taking place **THIS Sunday, January 11th at 1:00 PM** at St. Michael's.



Parish Night Gatherings

Our Tuesday Night Breaking Open the Word resumed this past Tuesday. These gatherings are open to parishioners of all ages and are held from **6:30 PM to approximately 7:30 PM on Tuesdays at St. Michael's.** Our monthly Spaghetti Night will be held this month on Tuesday, January 27th from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM at the Gaul Centre. All are welcome!



Confirmation Preparation

The Confirmation Online Activity for January is now posted on the "Youth Corner" page of our website. This month's activity focuses on the history of the Catholic Church in Canada and in our diocese. Interviews for Confirmation candidates will begin in the month of February. Stay tuned to the bulletin in the coming weeks for more information on the scheduling of these interviews.



First Eucharist Preparation

The families of children in grade 2 (and up) are now invited to enter into preparation for First Eucharist (a.k.a. First Communion). There will be a meeting for parents/caregivers on **Sunday, January 18th at 7 PM at the Gaul Centre** to explain the preparation process. Registration will take place at this time and there is a suggested fee of \$20 to cover the cost of program materials. Please note that the expectation is that families are regularly taking part in ongoing faith development opportunities such as participation in Sunday Eucharist, Breaking Open the Word, monthly Spaghetti Nights, etc.



Parish Choirs

We are presently in the process of organizing choirs for our various weekend liturgies, and invite any parishioners who might be interested in supporting this ministry through voice or instrument to call the Pastoral Centre at 862-2255. At this time, we are in particular need of assistance for the **5:30 PM Saturday Choir.** Your help would be greatly appreciated!!



Evening Prayer

Evening Prayer, which is usually held on Mondays at 6:30 at St. Michael's Church, will be cancelled until further notice. We hope to resume this liturgy during the Lenten Season.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 18-25, 2009 – This universal week of prayer encourages Christians of all denominations to meet and pray together that all may be one, as Christ desires. This year's prayer service and celebration will be hosted by the Parish of St. Leonard at **St. Michael's Church on Sunday January 25th at 3:00 PM.** The homilist this year will be **Rev. Duncan Roach.** Let us join together to celebrate our faith in Jesus Christ and our love for one another.



Attention C.W.L. Members

The Regular Meeting of **Mount Carmel CWL** will take place on **Tuesday, January 13,** at 7:30 PM in the multi-Purpose Room (Auditorium). The Executive meets at 7 PM. *All CWL Members are reminded that the Annual Dues (\$13) should be submitted as soon as possible. You may place them in a plain envelope (clearly marked "CWL") and drop them in the Sunday Collection. Thanks!*

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.



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



Memorial Fund Listings for the month of December will accompany next week's bulletin.



Tending The Flock



Supporting Ourselves as Parish

Date	No. of Envelopes	Envelope Amount	Loose	Total	
Sunday, December 21	426	\$5,047.38	\$556.52	\$5,603.90	
Christmas (December 25)	491	\$11,016.00	\$3,229.92	\$14,245.92	
Sunday, December 28	453	\$7,667.30	\$627.12	\$8,294.42	
Initial Offering	230			\$1,764.00	
New Year (January 1)	271	\$2,945.75	\$251.47	\$3,197.22	
Sunday, January 4	384	\$4,466.70	\$375.90	\$4,842.60	
Pre-Authorized Debit Contributions for December, 2008 (44 Contributors)					
Sunday	\$1,466.53	Combined Giving	\$385.00	Church Upkeep	\$185.00
Christmas	\$548.00	Shepherd's Trust	\$20.00		

Our thanks go to each and everyone who contributed to the support of our Parish during this past year and during the Holiday Season!

2009 Church Envelopes

Contribution Envelopes for Parish Support in 2009 have been distributed. If you are a regular envelope user and have not received your envelopes, please call the Pastoral Centre (862-2255). If you are not presently using envelopes, but would like to start, simply pick up a box at the back of the church. All envelope users are requested to put their **name and street address** on the first few envelopes of the year, in order for us to update our files. If you wish to support your parish through pre-authorized debit, please contact the Pastoral Centre. Thank you for your generous support!



Hymn Book Donations

Hymn Books have been donated to the Parish of Saint Leonard in memory of the following persons:

- † In Memory of **Sister Agnes Pickup** donated by Mount Carmel Choir.
- † In Memory of **Deceased Choir Members** donated by Mount Carmel Choir.
- † In Memory of **Deceased Choir Members** (5 books) donated by St. Leonard Funeral Choir.



Memorial Donations

In addition to the names listed in our Christmas Tree Memorial, a donation was made to our Parish in Memory of **Donna (Hennessy) MacLeod**. Thank you!

Upcoming Meetings

Pastoral Council Meeting	Wednesday	January	14	7:15 PM	Pastoral Centre
Liturgy Committee Meeting	Thursday	January	15	7:15 PM	Gaul Centre
Finance Committee Meeting	Thursday	January	22	7:15 PM	Pastoral Centre

Church Parking



We ask you to respect the needs of our disabled parishioners when parking at our churches, by leaving a sufficient amount of room in front of our churches for drop-off and pickup. In order to use our parking space to its fullest potential, please try to park as close to the church as possible when you arrive. This would eliminate the problem of open spaces which cannot be reached, once the perimeter of the parking lot is filled. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated ... especially in these winter months when safety is so important!

Shuttle Ministry

Those who need transportation to get to Mass are invited to please call the office. We invite parishioners who have extra space in their vehicles to please be mindful of those in need of transportation. Thanks for your assistance in this noble ministry!



Christmas Basket Ticket Draw

The winner of the Christmas Basket Draw sponsored by Our Ways & Means Committee was **Maureen MacLean**. Many thanks to all who supported this project by donations and the purchase of tickets. The amount raised was **\$463.25**.

A Heartfelt Thank You!

We would sincerely like to thank all parishioners who have sent Christmas greetings, cards, emails, ecards, masses, prayers, and assorted gifts to us this Christmas. We have been deeply touched by your thoughtfulness and generosity. The greatest gift that you have offered us is your warm welcome to your community. For all of these kind gifts we truly thank you. Please be assured of our ongoing prayers and support as we continue to journey together as Church in this bold New Year of 2009.

Fr. Paul & Fr. Doug

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

At this time, Mount Carmel St. Vincent de Paul Society is in need of additional shelving in their Food Pantry. If you can help by donating materials or skills, please call John Power at 862-6573. Thanks!

Diocesan & Community Events

● **Knights of Columbus** – The Regular Meeting will take place on **Sunday, January 11, at 8 PM** at the KOC Rooms. The Executive will meet at 7:15 PM

● **KOC Ladies' Auxiliary** – The Regular Meeting will take place on **Sunday, January 11, at 8 PM** at the KOC Rooms.

● **Presentation in Honor of the Feast of Elizabeth Seton** – By the Sisters of Charity and Associates on **Sunday, January 11, from 2-3 PM** at Carmel Centre. Guest speaker: Joanne Rolls, Aids Coalition of Sydney, who recently toured Zimbabwe, South Africa, where she learned about the ways they are dealing with poverty and the AIDS Crisis. All are warmly invited to attend.

● **The Year of Saint Paul** – A video series, the DeSales Catholic Adult Education Program of **"The Writings of Saint Paul"** will be offered on **Mondays -- Jan. 12 & 26 & 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. Space is Limited.

● **Living With Cancer Support Group** – Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (**Jan. 21**) 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.

● **Support & Share Grief Support Group** – Spons. by Bereaved Families of CB. – Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (**Jan. 13** - **"The Uniqueness of Your Grief"**) 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.

● **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** – A DVD Presentation of Bishop Gerald Weisner's talk at the 5th International Convocation for RCIA will be presented on **Thursday, January 22**, from 2:00-3:30 PM at the Diocesan Pastoral Centre Board Room. Call 539-6188 X237 to register.

● **Christian Culture Lecture Series at St. F.X. University** – featuring a special lecture **"Religion in a Secular Society: Does It Have a Role?"** by **Dr. Margaret Somerville**, an internationally known ethicist – **Tuesday, January 27**, at 7:30 PM in Room 1072 Physical Sciences Complex. Admission is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

● **Enrich Your Marriage** – A 1-Day Workshop for Husbands and Wives, based on the Dr. Gary Chapman book *The Five Love Languages*, will be presented on **Saturday, January 31**, from 8:45 AM to 4:00 PM at St. Peter's Parish, 10 Maple St., Dartmouth. \$40/couple, includes lunch. Email renewmarriage@gmail.com or call Jamie & Connie McNeill at 902-367-2061 for registration or info.

● **Marriage Preparation** – For all engaged couples.

1. **February 21, 22 & 23** – 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

● **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).

● **Looking for Large Families** -- An established television production company is currently casting for a new documentary-style series about the amazing ups and downs of life in a large family. If you are a family of nine or more, with plenty of personality, we want to hear your stories! Compensation will be provided. Contact Lauren McGuire at lauren.mcguire@redapple.com or 416.324.8537 ext. 137

A Ladies Watch was found in Mount Carmel Church during the Christmas Holidays. You may claim this item by calling the Pastoral Centre at 862-2255.

Dear Parishioners,

May the blessings of God be with you and all of us as we bravely journey into this new calendar year of 2009! This weekend in our liturgy, we celebrate the conclusion of the Christmas Season with the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus surrendering to the baptism of John in the Jordan River emphasizes that God became one of us and was determined to enter fully into our human experience and become like us in all things, except sin. Today's gospel underlines the humility of Jesus and the beginning of his transforming public ministry. Both the Father and the Spirit are with Jesus, proclaiming Him Beloved, and so too with all of us as followers of Jesus and baptized Christians. May we bring this truth and grace of being God's beloved people into our homes and workspaces this week.

Peace and prayers, Fr. Paul

P.S. Please be mindful of those who may need transportation to gather with us to celebrate Eucharist on Sundays, weekdays and funerals. *"The least you do to my brothers and sisters, you do to me".*

