

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 25

First Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2009

Reading I: [Genesis 9:8-15](#) (The Covenant with Noah)

Reading II: [1 Peter 3:18-22](#) (Saved Through Baptism)

Gospel: [Mark 1:12-15](#) (The Desert Temptations)

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

We pray for those who have died, especially *Judith Hogan, Henry MacKinnon, Margaret MacMullin and Ann Reid.*

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 During Lent

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

Daily Mass during Lent	Monday through Friday	10:00 AM
	Wednesday & Thursday	6:30 PM
Exposition, Rosary & Benediction	Monday	10:30 AM to Noon
Breaking Open God's Word	Tuesday	6:30 PM
Reconciliation	Wednesday & Thursday	6:00-6:30 PM
	Saturday	3:00-4:00 PM
Stations of the Cross	Thursday	6:00 PM
St. Paul Video Series	Friday	6:30-8:00 PM

***Please note:** Funerals in our parish during Lent will take place at 10:00 AM, replacing the morning mass.

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 Marriage

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

We Believe ... After his 40 days in the desert, Jesus came to Galilee and announced his good news to the people. The good news was that God loved them. Jesus is our proof of God's love. He lived a life of perfect love. When it came time for him to make a final choice between himself and us, he chose us. In this supreme act of love, he saved us from the lasting death of our sins. If we truly believe the good news of Jesus, we will concentrate on letting him change us into people of love and compassion during these weeks of Lent. We will die each day to selfishness so that we may rise to new life with him now and at the hour of our death.

Questions of the Week

Adults: What can I do this Lent to deepen my trust in God as my only source of strength and peace? Is there anything hindering my spiritual growth?

Children: What can I do at home or school this Lent to be more like Jesus?



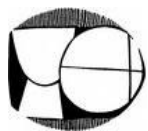
Parish Activities

Tuesday Night Parish Nights

More than 100 parishioners gathered this past Tuesday for our second annual Pancake Night and Palm Fire. The evening involved sharing a pancake and sausage dinner, learning more about the Lenten season, completing an activity to help make the most of the 40 days of Lent in our homes, and gathering outside to prepare the ashes for our Ash Wednesday liturgies with a Palm Burning Prayer service. A huge thanks to all who took part. A special thanks to those who helped make the evening possible (the kitchen crew, hospitality, organizers, those who cleaned up). **Our next Parish Night will be our Breaking Open the Word this Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:30 PM at St. Michael's.** Parishioners of all ages are welcomed!



First Eucharist Preparation



The next community gathering for the families of our First Eucharist candidates will be the Workshop held at the end of the month - Thursday, March 26th at 6:30 PM and Sunday, March 29th at 2:00 PM. Currently, all candidates should be working on their final three home lessons which are due at the workshop. Please note that we are no longer accepting registrations for the First Eucharist Preparation Program. Potential candidates are invited to register for the program next year.

Confirmation Preparation

Candidates who have yet to book an appointment for an interview are asked to contact Marcy as soon as possible at catechesis@parishofsaintleonard.com.



Interviews are being held on Monday afternoons (after school) until the end of March. Other options will be provided for those unavailable on Mondays.

Youth Night – Church Tour



Our next Youth Night will be held next Sunday, March 8th at 7:00 PM at St. Michael's. The evening will involve a tour of the church and interviews for those Confirmation candidates who scheduled them for this time.

Choir for 5:30 PM Saturday Mass

We are very fortunate to have a volunteer director and musician come forward to assist with music ministry for our Saturday Mass at 5:30 PM. All those who would like to attend this mass and lend their talents are very welcome!! Practice takes place on Thursdays at 7:00 PM (after mass). Please join us!



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. You can find out more and watch video clips at www.steubenville.ca Local 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!

Altar Servers and Ministers of Communion

On **Wednesday March 11th**, at St. Michael's Church there will be a brief question and answer time with Father Doug for all servers and ministers of communion. **Servers will meet from 7:00 - 7:45 PM.**

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion (Eucharistic Ministers) will meet from 7:45 - 8:15 PM.

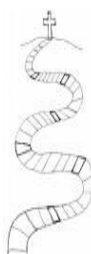
It is a time to walk through the mass and funeral mass, while people ask clarification questions throughout. Any question is a good question. We trust all will be able to attend, so our funerals and masses on the weekends are experienced most profoundly by all who attend.



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 6:30 PM at St. Michael's Church.



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

Toonie Muffin Fest

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



Tending The Flock

Supporting Ourselves as Parish

Sunday Collection for **February 22, 2009**

Envelopes (422): \$5,084.00 + Loose: \$394.91 = \$5,478.91 ♦ Church Upkeep: \$973.00

Pre-Authorized Debit Contributions for February, 2009 (43 Contributors)

Sunday Offerings: \$2,134.53	Shepherd's Trust: \$20.00	Church Upkeep: \$205.00	For The Needy: \$220.00
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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 are 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
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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



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 next gathering will take place on **Friday, March 6**.



Share Lent 2009

The Share Lent Campaign is an opportunity to tell people in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Middle East that we support their efforts in order to build a more just society. Thanks to the donations of the public, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE will continue to work closely with well-established partners in the South to create programs that allow poor communities to take control of their development. Each year, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE supports the reconstruction of communities that have been devastated by conflict and natural catastrophes. Ten per cent of the donations collected during the *Share Lent* campaign will go to emergency relief. Since 1967, the organization has supported over 15,200 development projects and emergency relief programs, representing a contribution of 530 million dollars, and has organized annual education campaigns for the Canadian public. Last year, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE funded 277 development projects in the South. You may donate to DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE's campaign through our Share Lent Collection on March 29, 2009.



Communion to the Sick

If you are bringing communion to a sick family member or friend at home, it must be transported in a sacred vessel called a **pyx**. Please contact the Pastoral Centre, and we will provide you with one. Any Eucharistic Minister who has a pyx they are not using is asked to drop it off at the Pastoral Centre. Thanks!



A Word of Thanks

St. Leonard St. Vincent de Paul Society is grateful to **Danny MacKinnon** and **Henry Porquet** for their help in building shelves in their food room. Thank you for sharing your time & talents!



World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, that calls the faithful together on the first Friday in March each year to observe a common day of prayer. This year, the World Day of Prayer Service in our community will take place on Friday, March 6, at 7 PM at the Salvation Army Church on King Street. This is an ecumenical gathering and all are welcome to attend.



Walking for Wellness

Mount Carmel C.W.L. welcomes all those 50 years of age and over to their walking program at Mount Carmel Gym on **Mondays & Fridays from 7-8 PM**. Indoor walking shoes are required.



Diocesan & Community Events

● **Stations of the Cross & The Rosary** – Seaside Cable Channel 5, Isle Madame, presents the Stations of the Cross at 9:00 AM & the Rosary at 9:30 AM each morning during Lent. The presentation is in English & French on alternating days.

● **Lenten Workshop – “A Search for Truth”** -- 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). All are welcome.

● **Annual Corned Beef Supper – Friday, March 13,** at 7 PM at St. Anne's Parish Centre, Glace Bay. Entertainment by the Pub Boys. Tickets are \$12.50/person. Call 849-6826 or 849-4280.

● **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.

● **Marriage Preparation** – For all engaged couples.
1. **March 13, 14 & 15** – Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney
2. **March 27, 28 & 29** – Bras d'Or Hall.
3. **June 12, 13 & 14** – Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, Sydney
Pre-Registration required (\$60/couple). Call 539-6868, Ext. 2

● **Lenten Quiet Day – Tuesday, March 31st, from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM** – St. Mary's Anglican Church, Glace Bay. Reflections on the "Prayer of Humble Access." Speaker: The Rev. Carl Fraser. Followed by Holy Communion and a Soup Luncheon. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

● **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).

● **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

● **Marriage Encounter** -- Rekindle Romance - Has romance and passion taken a back seat to your hectic lifestyle? Enjoy a weekend free of distractions and fall in love all over again. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is scheduled for **May 1-3, 2009** at the Highland Heights Inn, Iona. For more information call Anne & John 564-2190 or Rose & Dave 755-1386. renewmarriage@gmail.com

● **Workshop – “To Be A Healing Presence for the Human Heart and Earth” – May 22-23, 2009,** at Bethany Centre, Antigonish. Facilitated by Jim Profit, SJ, Director of Jesuit Collaborative for Ecology, Agriculture and Forestry, Guelph, Ontario. At a time of ecological crisis, hope is one of the great gifts that we can receive from Earth and from our faith. Hope enables us to act for the healing of the human heart and Earth. Come discover the power of resurrection in our time. For more information, call 863-4726 or email bethanycenter@auracom.com

● **Ireland Tour** – Are you interested in joining a Maritime Celtic Pilgrimage in the ancient Celtic Landscape of Ireland **July 20-30, 2009,** facilitated by Monica Brown and Hilary Musgrave? Through music, song, story and myth, dance, mime, imagery and scripture-storytelling; listen to the longings of your heart and to your own story in his Celtic Landscape; where you'll be invited to come home to yourself and to your God. For more info go to www.emmausproductions.com

● **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.

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

Dear Parishioners,

Lent is here! Most of us would agree that each spring it is necessary to do annual cleaning and repairs in our homes. So too during Lent as God's People, we need to seriously examine our spiritual lives and make some improvements. It is a very holy time where we journey into the desert with Jesus, spend time in prayer, engage in fasting and almsgiving and emerge forty days later more Christ-like, integrated and renewed. Like Jesus in today's gospel, we will encounter evil and temptations along the way, but also like Him we will encounter God's grace and love which will help us to improve and our transform our lives. Let us be faithful to Christ throughout this journey.

Please drop off your comment sheets from the Parish of St. Leonard Discussion Document this weekend at all the Masses. More copies of the document are available if you need them. We will be accepting the comment sheets for the next couple of weeks so please send yours back to us with your thoughts and ideas. **Our Parish Meeting will be held next Sunday March 8th at 2:00pm at the Mt. Carmel Auditorium. Please come as we want to hear what you think about the ideas which are contained in this discussion document. NO decisions have been made as to our future direction.** Let us pray fervently for the greater good of our parish.

May God's Spirit penetrate all that we say and do and be with us in a special way at our upcoming Parish Gathering.

Your servant in Jesus Christ,
Fr. Paul

From Your
Pastor 