

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 26

Second Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2009

Reading I: [Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18](#) (The Sacrifice of Abraham)

Reading II: [Romans 8:31b-34](#) (Who Can Be Against Us?)

Gospel: [Mark 9:2-10](#) (The Transfiguration)

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

We pray for those who have died, especially *Josephine Aucoin, Walter Ropek, Jr., Michael Scott and Sister Anne Timmons, 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 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. In case of a school cancellation due to weather, the regular morning mass & exposition will be cancelled on that day.

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 ... Today we stand on a mountaintop with Jesus, Peter, James and John. In one dazzling moment, we see Jesus in glory. He glows with a gleaming white light, and God's voice from the heavens announces that he is God's Son. "My Son," God says, "Listen to what he tells you." On this second Sunday of Lent, we might celebrate the shining moments in our own lives, the times when we meet Jesus in his Church and in his sacraments. We, too, are transfigured as we listen to and are faithful to the Word of God – Jesus.

Questions of the Week

Adults: Am I willing to spend some dedicated time "apart" with Jesus in prayer during Lent, waiting for whatever God wishes to reveal to me?

Children: When I pray to Jesus, do I also try to be still and listen to what he is saying in my heart?



Parish Activities

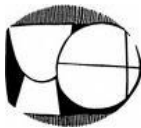
Tuesday Night Parish Night – All Welcome



Our Breaking Open the Word for parishioners of all ages will be held this **Tuesday, March 10th**, at 6:30 PM at St. Michael's. This week, Pastoral Council invites all parishioners to join them for this Breaking Open the Word and special time of prayer as we ask the Holy Spirit to guide our community in our discernment process over the coming weeks.

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



The March Online Activity has now been posted on the Youth Corner section of our parish website. There are still some candidates who have yet to schedule an interview. Interviews are required of all candidates and can be booked by contacting Marcy at catechesis@parishofsaintleonard.com.

Youth Night – Church Tour

Our next Youth Night will be held **THIS Sunday, March 8th, at 7:00 PM** at St. Michael's Church (upstairs). There will be a brief introduction and then an activity that will lead participants through a tour of the church. Confirmation candidates are strongly encouraged to attend. Confirmation interviews will take place for those candidates who scheduled them for this time.



Choir for 5:30 PM Saturday Mass

We were happy to welcome our new choir at our 5:30 PM Saturday Mass last weekend, and we thank our Director (Elizabeth MacInnis), Guitarist (Rod Mitchell) and all singers for answering the call! New members 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.

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 13**.



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!!

Tending The Flock

Supporting Ourselves as Parish

Sunday Collection for **March 1, 2009**

Envelopes (454): \$6,556.75 + Loose: \$377.13 = \$6,933.88

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 weekend masses 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

Pastoral Council	Tuesday	March 10	7:15 PM	Pastoral Centre
Liturgy Committee Meeting	Wednesday*	March 18*	7:15 PM	Gaul Centre

**Please note the change in date for the Liturgy Committee Meeting!*

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



General Parish Meeting -- TODAY

All parishioners of the Parish of Saint Leonard are invited to gather for a General Meeting - **THIS AFTERNOON (Sunday, March 8) - at 2:00 PM in Mount Carmel Auditorium.** The purpose of this meeting is to entertain feedback from parishioners concerning the Discussion Document created by the former Steering Group and put forward by our Pastoral Council on February 22. We remind all parishioners that the suggestions contained in this document are intended to be a starting point for discussion, and that **no decisions** have been made at this point. We encourage all parishioners to be present to share in this exchange of ideas.

Share Lent 2009

 The annual campaign of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, helps partner communities in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. As people of faith and conviction, we are asked to live our values of justice and solidarity through prayer, action and almsgiving. You may donate to the DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE 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!




C.W.L. Installation of Officers

St. Agnes & Mount Carmel C.W.L. will hold their **Installation of Officers** on **Wednesday, March 11**, at the 6:30 PM Mass at St. Michael's Church. A short meeting will follow in the Gaul Centre. All C.W.L. members are encouraged to attend.



C.W.L. Donation

 We express sincere thanks to the ladies of St. Agnes C.W.L., for their generous donation of **\$5,000.00** to our parish this week. We rejoice and give thanks to God for the unwavering support and witness of the CWL, and thank them for their association with the parish, their dedication and their hard work.

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.



St. Augustine said, 'to sing is to pray twice'. Mabou has the Rankins, **but we've got the Burkes!** We congratulate the Burkes for their outstanding singing accomplishments and for sharing their great gift of song with all of us. The ECMA's have recently recognized what we have known all along, your great talent. Thanks for raising up our spirits and we wish you many blessings and much success well into the future.

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 (Sunday-Saturday) 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 9, 16 & 23) from 7-9 PM**. Guest Speakers will be Charles MacDonald, PhD. and Margie Gillis, SC. For information, contact (862-1474) or (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.

● **French Mass – Saturday, March 14, at 5:30 PM** at Centre Communautaire Etoile de L'Acadie. Pot Luck supper follows along with Le Cercle Musicale de la région de Sydney. Everyone welcome !

● **43rd Annual Saint Patrick's Day Concert – Sunday, March 15, at 7:00 PM** at Centre Scolaire Etoile de l'Acadie, 15 Inglis Street, Sydney, sponsored by the Irish Benevolent Society of CB. A special exhibition of photos of Ireland begins at 3 p.m. Coffee and donuts will be served

● **Living With Cancer Support Group** -- Wednesday, **March 18, 2009**, at the Canadian Cancer Society Office, located at 329 George Street, Sydney at 7pm. Guest will be Noreen Rowe, Canadian Cancer Society, Sydney Unit. For information, call 564-8263.

● **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. Facilitated by members of the Atlantic Association of the Spiritual Exercise Apostolate (AASEA). Brochures are at the back of the Church. For info, 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. 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. For info call 863-4726.

Dear Parishioners,

In today's gospel, Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a high mountain and before them he is transfigured. A foretaste for them and for each of us of Christ's Resurrection at Easter in glory. This gospel reminds us as we enter this prayerful and penitential season that new life, glory and resurrection are our gifts too, and are offered to our parish and every believer from our Generous God.

Please join us at our General Parish Meeting scheduled for this Sunday at 2pm at the Mt. Carmel Auditorium. We want to hear from as many parishioners as possible in regards to your comments and insights into the recently released *Parish of St. Leonard Discussion Document*. Because we are anticipating a large number of our parishioners to attend this meeting, the following guidelines are in place to enable as many people as possible to express themselves:

- 1) *any parishioner is invited to come to the microphone to offer a comment, question or concern*
- 2) *the meeting is to be open, honest and respectful - the dignity of every person is to be honoured throughout our time together - differing views are to be respected*
- 3) *a person is permitted to visit the microphone once for a maximum period of 2 minutes*
- 4) *to ensure order, people can only speak from the microphone*
- 5) *a person may revisit the microphone only after everyone wishing to speak has done so*
- 6) *the meeting begins at 2:00 PM and concludes at 4:00 PM*
- 7) *the meeting will be moderated by me, your pastor*

If you have not done so, please drop off your Comment Sheets this weekend or next during the Masses or at the Pastoral Centre.

The Pastoral Council will be gathering for prayer prior to their meeting this Tuesday evening. Please join us at our Parish Night's Breaking Open the Word at 6:30pm and pray for our parish as we continue to discern our way forward as a faith community.

Sincerely yours, Fr. Paul

From Your
Pastor

