

Parish of Saint Leonard

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

Email: pastoralcentre.nwagp@seascape.ns.ca + 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

Volume 2, Number 4

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2008

Reading I: [Isaiah 55:6-9](#) (The Thoughts of the Lord)

Reading II: [Philippians 1:20c-24,27a](#) (Life is Christ)

Gospel: [Matthew 20:1-16a](#) (The Vineyard Workers)

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

We pray for those who have died, especially Bernadette McGillivray, Sarah "Pic" McMullin, Alexander "Ekie" McLeod and Mary Surette.

We Celebrate ... Our Sunday Gatherings for Eucharist

| <i>Saturday (Vigils)</i> | | <i>Sunday</i> | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 4:00 PM | St. Agnes | 8:30 AM | St. Joseph (Lingan) |
| 5:30 PM | St. Joseph (New Victoria) | 10:00 AM | Mount Carmel |
| | | 11:30 AM | St. Michael's |



Our Daily Gatherings This Week

All weekday celebrations take place at our **St. Michael's Site**, unless otherwise noted.

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|---|
| Monday (Sept. 22) | 9:00 AM | St. Michael's Church |
| | 6:30 PM | St. Michael's Church (Liturgy of the Hours) |
| Tuesday (Sept. 23) | 9:00 AM | St. Michael's Church |
| | 6:30 PM | St. Michael's Church (Breaking Open The Word) |
| Wednesday (Sept. 24) | 6:30 PM | St. Joseph's (L) Cemetery |
| Thursday (Sept. 25) | 6:30 PM | St. Alphonsus Cemetery |
| Friday (Sept. 26) | 9:00 AM | St. Michael's Church |

***Please note:** *In the case of a funeral in our parish, daily mass and exposition are cancelled (with the exception of our Cemetery Masses).*

Sacrament of Baptism

Celebrations of baptism take place on the third Sunday of each month, during and after the 11:30 AM Mass, at our St. Michael's site. In preparation for this sacrament, we offer gatherings for parents and godparents, usually on the second Sunday of the month. If you would like to have your child baptized in the Parish of Saint Leonard, please contact the Pastoral Centre at 862-2255. Please note that the Baptisms in October will take place on Thanksgiving Weekend.

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.

"I Want To Be A Catholic"

Would you or someone you know like to join the Catholic Church? The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is the normal way that adults become full members of our Catholic Faith Family. It is a process for those seeking Confirmation and those seeking Baptism in our beautiful and rich Catholic Christian Tradition. If you or a family member or a friend would like to explore this process, please contact Fr. Paul.

We Believe ... Jesus tells of God's great generosity. Jesus tells us not to question when, or to whom God shows kindness. There is no place for jealousy or envy in the family of God.

Questions of the Week

Adults: When have I, in my humanness, limited the scope and breadth of God's grace?

Children: In your experience, when has God acted in a way that went beyond your expectations?

So the
last
will be
first
and the
first
will be
last
Matthew 20:16

Parish Activities

Religion Class Begins This Tuesday!

Got your attention? Two years ago, we stopped our weekly grade-level religion classes in favor of a family and community-at-large approach. Last year, we gathered every second Tuesday and explored the theme "The Church Year." This year, we have chosen the theme, "The Creed," which we will investigate using a slightly different format. Beginning this **Tuesday, September 23, at 6:30 PM at our St. Michael's site**, parishioners of all ages are invited each and every Tuesday to gather to explore the Gospel of the coming week. All ages will come together in the main body of the church and, once we begin, the children will go downstairs with catechists for discussion and activities. These gatherings will last between 30 minutes and an hour. **On the last Sunday of each month**, beginning in October, all are invited to take part in a **Spaghetti Night**, where we will share a meal and learn more about "The Creed." These gatherings will begin at 5:30 PM and last until 7:00 PM. Parishioners of all ages are strongly encouraged to take part in our Tuesday night Parish Nights.

Youth Ministry

Youth Night: This year, we intend to place an increased emphasis on Youth Ministry. In addition to welcoming youth to our Tuesday Night Gatherings, we plan to make **Sunday evenings "Youth Night."** Youth in Grades 9 and up (including university/college aged) are invited to gather on Sunday evenings at 7 PM in the Gaul Centre to hang out and chat. The first such gathering will take place on **October 19th**. Various ideas for events/activities will be discussed at that time.

Junior High: We recognize the need to connect with youth who have yet to reach Grade 9. We strongly encourage Junior High youth to take part in our Tuesday Night whole community gatherings. If anyone has a particular interest in working with this age group, either on Tuesdays or through other events/activities, please contact Marcy at 862-2255 or mackinnon.nwagp@ns.sympatico.ca

Intern: We are excited to announce that **Melissa Caume** has come forward to represent the needs of the youth of our parish. Melissa is a Grade 12 student at Breton Education Centre, who has always been very involved in our parish and community at large. Young people are encouraged to connect with Melissa if they have questions/concerns/ideas you would like to share.

Breaking Open the Word with Father Paul

The Word offers us great spiritual nourishment. Gathering together to reflect on Scripture with other members of our faith community allows us to actively engage the Scriptural text and to be fed by that encounter with the Word. This pastoral year we would like to provide this opportunity for all our parishioners to gather and break open the Scriptures of the coming week. Our first such gathering will take place on **Tuesday, September 23rd from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM (at the latest) at St. Michael's Church.** All are invited!

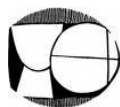
Preparation for Sacraments



Confirmation: This year, we are reducing the age at which our youth celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, to better align with practices around the Diocese. Youth in Grades 9 & 10 (and up) are invited to come along with their parents/caregivers to a gathering and registration night on **Sunday, October 5, at 7 PM at our St. Michael's site.** The preparation process will be explained at that time. The Celebration of Confirmation will take place on **May 21, 2009.**



First Reconciliation: Youth in Grade 4 (and up) are encouraged to prepare for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation this fall. Young people and their parents/caregivers are invited to take part in our Parish Night on **Tuesday, October 15, at 6:30 PM at St. Michael's.** Registration for First Reconciliation and an overview of the program will take place on this night. This year, First Reconciliation will be held on **December 5, 2008.**



First Eucharist (a.k.a. First Communion): Children in Grade 2 or above are able to enter into preparation for First Eucharist. Although registration for this preparation program will not take place until January, the expectation is that candidates are actively involved in our Tuesday night gatherings throughout the year (see "Religion Classes..." announcement). First Eucharist is celebrated in the Easter Season, which this pastoral year runs from **April 12 to May 31, 2009.**

November Conference

Each and every member of our parish has, through our baptism, a responsibility for the faith development of others in our community. On November 14th and 15th (9AM - 9PM each day) at the Delta in Sydney, our diocese will be hosting a catechetical gathering to explore the model of whole community catechesis. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the role of the community in catechesis and the ideas behind the move we have made in our parish to intergenerational programming. If you are interested in attending this two day gathering, or would like to know more about it, please contact Marcy at the Pastoral Centre **THIS WEEK.** The early registration deadline for the conference is the end of this month.

Social Justice Committee

Within the organization of our parish, we have a number of different committees that focus on specific areas of our parish life. One such committee that exists on paper, but has never formally been set up is the Social Justice Committee. This committee would encompass such things as Development & Peace initiatives, connecting with St. Vincent de Paul Society on food drives, etc., establishing a "Green Team" in our parish to address environmental issues, and so on. If you would be interested in serving on this committee, or would like to get more information about it, please connect with any member of our Pastoral Team or call the Pastoral Centre at 862-2255.

Tending The Flock



Supporting Ourselves as Parish

Sunday Collection for September 7, 2008

Envelopes (449): \$5,333.75 + Loose: \$583.20 = \$5,916.95

Catechesis & Youth Collection: \$689.00 ♦ St. Vincent De Paul Donations: \$400.00

Thank-you for your continued support!

Upcoming Meetings

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Finance & Administration | Tuesday | September 30 | 7:00 PM | St. Leonard Meeting Room |
| Liturgy Committee | Wednesday | October 8 | 7:00 PM | Gaul Centre |

Hymn Book Donations

The following Donations of CBW III Hymn Books have been made to the Parish of Saint Leonard:

In Honor of the 65th Wedding Anniversary of **William & Brigid Lozinski** from Helen Chiasson & Sr. Mary Anne.

In Memory of **Stephen Bernard Carrigan** from his mother, Marie Coish.

In Memory of **Carmel Tighe** from her husband, Jack Tighe.

Thank you for these generous gifts!

Don't Forget Our Parish Gathering!!



Each and every parishioner is invited to attend a Parish Gathering **THIS Sunday, September, 21, at 2 PM** at Mount Carmel Church. We will begin with a Time of Prayer and conclude with a fun Parish

Picnic on the church grounds. There will be lots of food, activities and entertainment. **Feel free to bring your own chair**, and **KIDS** ... don't forget your super soakers...☺

Annual Horyl's Pancake & Sausage Brunch

The Ways & Means Committee of our Parish will sponsor their Annual Pancake & Sausage Brunch on **Sunday, October 19, at the Gaul Centre**. Take Out from 10-11 AM. Eat In from 12:30-2:30 PM. Adults \$6; Children (12 & Under) \$3. For tickets, call 862-7775, 862-2253 or the Pastoral Office at 862-2255. Please contact the Parish Office, if you can offer your help in any way!



Youth Choir



Our Youth Choir will resume singing at the 11:30 AM Sunday Mass this weekend.

Practice takes place each week at 10:30 AM before the mass. Anyone who would like to bring their voice and/or instrument will be warmly welcomed. For more information, contact Tom (862-1140) or Diane (862-9201).

Liturgy of the Hours

Liturgy of the Hours is an official liturgy of the Roman Catholic Church which includes psalms, scripture readings, hymns and prayers of the faithful. Since Vatican II, the Church has encouraged all the faithful to use this form of prayer in their communities. All are invited to celebrate the Liturgy of the Hours **each Monday at 6:30 PM at St. Michael's Church**.

If any Eucharistic Minister has a pyx that they are no longer using, you are asked to return it to the Pastoral Centre. Thanks!

Eucharistic Workshop

St. Leonard's will host a one-hour workshop for all issues surrounding the Most Blessed Sacrament – on **Thursday, October 2, at 7 PM** at St. Michael's (Optional Mass at 6:30 PM). This one-hour workshop will be led by Fr. Doug and is open to anyone in the parish; especially those who may be interested in taking on a ministry for the first time in any of our parish churches. New documents surrounding our Eucharistic liturgies have come out, so it will be a great opportunity for all of us to get a refresher. For all current servers, eucharistic ministers, sacristans, those who bring communion to the sick, manor liturgy or other eucharistic ministries, we expect you to attend this refresher workshop. For parishioners at large who receive the Eucharist in a pyx for a loved one, we also encourage that you join us, too. It will be a great opportunity to reaffirm our belief and enhance our participation in this great mystery.



Annual Cemetery Masses

Thanks to all who came to celebrate our masses in St. Michael's and St. Joseph's, New Victoria, this past week. Our final two Cemetery Masses for this year will take place on Wednesday of this week at St. Joseph's, Lingan, and on Thursday at St. Alphonsus. In the case of inclement weather, these masses will be celebrated in the nearby church (St. Joseph's, Church, Lingan and St. Joseph's Church, New Victoria. Offerings will be accepted at each celebration and put toward cemetery needs. Don't forget to bring your lawn chair! **Please remember that these masses will replace the regularly scheduled daily masses, but will NOT be cancelled in case of a funeral.**



Thank you for answering the call!

Many thanks to those who have come forward to join our team of volunteers who minister to the residents of Maple Hill Manor each Friday. May God Bless you in this important ministry!

St. Vincent De Paul Society

We presently have two St. Vincent De Paul Groups working within the Parish of Saint Leonard. New members are greatly needed and appreciated. If you can give of your time in this service, please come to one of our meetings:

- ➔ On the First Tuesday of Each Month at 7 PM at St. Agnes Church
- ➔ Or on the First Thursday of Each Month at 10 AM at Carmel Centre

Bringing an item of non-perishable food when you come to church each Sunday is one way that we can help provide for each other in times of need and share of what we have as we can. Boxes are available in each of our churches for your donations.



Services are available in our Parish, as follows:

- ◆ **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.



Diocesan & Community Events

- **Afternoon of Prayer** – This afternoon, **Sunday, September 21**, from 2-4 PM, Fr. Ray Huntley and the Divine Mercy Prayer Group of St. Columba Parish, Iona, will host prayer groups and interested persons at St. Columba Church. This event is supported by the Antigonish Diocesan Service Team.
- **Meeting of Concern For Health Care in our District** – **Sunday September 21**, at 2 PM at Ligan Parish Hall. All are welcome. Make your voices heard.
- **Cape Breton Chorale** – As part of their 100th Anniversary Celebrations, Calvin United Church, New Waterford, will host the Cape Breton Chorale on **Sunday, September 21**, at 7:30 PM. \$10/\$8 Seniors & Students. All are welcome!
- **Attention Cursillistas & Challengers** – The Cursillo Monthly Mass followed by Ultreya will take place on **Thursday, September 25**, at 7:30 PM at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Sydney River.
- **Matt Talbot Retreat** – September 26-28 at Villa Madonna, Bras d'Or. For info, call Russell at 862-3153 or Frank at 578-0251.
- **A Perfect Fifth** – The Nova Scotia's Provincial Men's Choir will perform at Holy Rosary Church, Westmount, on **Saturday, September 27**, at 7:30 PM. Tickets \$15; \$12 Seniors & Students – at the door or at our Pastoral Centre (862-2255).
- **Spaghetti & Meatball Supper** – (made by Kay Violande) – **Friday, September 26**, at St. Nicholas Church Hall, Gatacre St., Sydney. Pick up from 11 AM to 1 PM. Cost is \$7. Sponsored by the Ways & Means Committee of Holy Redeemer Parish.
- **Wellness Program for Breast Cancer Survivors** – Offering various fitness activities and complimentary therapies to help give survivors strategies for successful coping and healthy lifestyle choices. The program will run two days a week for 9 weeks, beginning Sept. 29 at the YMCA –Registration and medical approval are required. For more info, call the YMCA at 562-9622 or the Cancer Center at 567-8074.
- **Cursillo School of Leaders** -- **Sunday October 5**, 2008, from 1-5 PM, at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Sydney. **All** Cursillistas are welcome and encouraged to attend. Lunch will be provided. For info, contact Blair Murray (862-9201) or email blairmurray@ns.sympatico.ca
- **Practical Ideas for Improving Quality of Life with Alzheimer's Disease** – **Wednesday, October 8**, from 6-9 PM, at the Membertou Trade & Convention Centre. Family Members & Friends of those touched by Alzheimer's Disease are invited to view exhibits and a presentation by a panel of experts. Everyone is Welcome!
- **"The Reason We Sing"** – The Burkes CD Release will take place on **Saturday, October 11**, at 7 PM at First United Church, Sydney. Tickets \$10 (Call 862-2066), or at the door. A portion of the proceeds will go to First United Church.
- **Pre-Marriage Program** – For couples planning marriage – **October 24-26**, at St. Anthony Daniel Church. Pre-registration is required (\$60/couple) by calling Family Service Programming Dept. at 539-6868, ext.2.

Dear Parishioners ...

This week's Gospel of the vineyard workers reminds us how broad God's mercy is. God's generosity and compassion far exceeds our most generous moments in life. At times I have felt like the early vineyard workers, confident, presumptive and very narrow in my faith and outlook; and at other times, have felt more like the vineyard workers who were hired towards the end of the day, vulnerable, unsure of myself and my situation, and more open and grateful to the goodness and generosity of God. As we journey through life most of us will fluctuate back and forth between these positions. This Sunday's Gospel provides a message of hope regardless where we find ourselves on the spectrum. Peace and prayers,
Father Paul

PS... Don't forget our **Parish Gathering this Sunday... 2:00 PM Prayer followed at 2:30 PM by a Picnic at Mount Carmel Church and outside grounds.** There will be lots of food, music, games and fun. Fr. Doug and I can't wait to see you there!

PS 2 ... Please join our parish for **Breaking Open God's Word on Tuesday's at 6:30 PM at St. Michael's Church.** This is for our whole parish family, parents, singles, teens and children. Looking forward to seeing you all at this life-giving gathering!

From Your
Pastor