

Parish of Saint Leonard



***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.*

Pastor: Rev. Godwin Obike

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Lorne MacNeil

Saint Leonard Church: 3180 Mount Carmel Avenue, New Waterford

Pastoral Office: 5310 Union Highway, River Ryan, NS B1H 1B2

Phone: 902-862-2255 Website: www.parishofsaintleonard.com

Email: pastoralcentre@parishofsaintleonard.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/6432928016720144>

Our Sunday Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are held on the third weekend of each month.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

After 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, or by appointment.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mondays between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11 & 12, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 40.1-5, 9-11

Psalm: 104

Second Reading: Titus 2.11-14; 3.4-7

Gospel: Luke 3.15-16, 21-22



Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Joe Henry, Charles Miller, John Power, Evelyn Marie O'Donnell.**

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



We Believe

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective: the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another “epiphany”. On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

Today the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**. In the Eastern Church this feast is called *Theophany* because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly like unto ourselves", He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world". Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

— Excerpted from Msgr. Rudolph G. Bandas

Baptismal Preparation

Parents who wish to have their child baptized are required to attend a Baptismal Preparation Session. To register or for more information, please contact Marian Grant at 782-777-1253 or capermarian1954@gmail.com. Baptisms are held on the third weekend of each month.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

During our 4:00 pm Saturday and 11:00 am Sunday Liturgies, children are invited to take part in the Children's Liturgy of the Word. We encourage all parents/caregivers of children ages 4 to 12 years, and particularly the First Eucharist Candidates, to attend the 4:00 pm Saturday or 11:00 am Sunday liturgies to give them the opportunity to know and understand God's Word.

Supporting ourselves as a Parish

New Year Eve & New Year

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Initial | \$ 592.00 |
| New Year | \$1652.00 |
| Loose New Year | \$ 99.00 |

Weekend of January 4 & 5, 2025

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|-----------|-----|-----------|
| Envelopes | 148 | \$2542.00 |
| Loose | | \$ 307.00 |
| Total | | \$2849.00 |

All donations for the 2024 Tax Year should be in by January 12, 2025. Thank you for your continued support.

Donations to our parish are appreciated and can be submitted in the following ways:

Contribution Envelopes

Envelopes can be found at the entrances of the church or at the Pastoral Centre.

E-Transfer

bookkeeper@parishofsaintleonard.com

Mail

5310 Union Highway, River Ryan, NS
B1H 1B2

Pre-authorized Debit

Call 902-862-2255 to arrange



Our spacious **Gaul Centre is now available for rental.** Whether you're planning a birthday party, wedding reception, corporate event, or any special gathering, we may have the ideal space for you. Some restrictions may apply.

- ❑ \$350 (Liquor Events, Wedding, Dances, etc.)
- ❑ \$150 (Non-Liquor Events, short event limited to 4 hours, etc.)

For inquiries and bookings, please call Basil Boudreau at 902-577-5140.

We look forward to hosting your next celebration!



Saint Leonard Ways & Means Committee are offering **Pen Sets (Black Pen & Keychain Flashlight)** for sale to help offset the costs of running the parish.

These sets would make great gifts for Christmas, Birthdays, or just to say Thank You to a friend.

They can be yours for \$8.00 a set and are available at the Pastoral Centre or from the following members of Committee: Basil Boudreau 902-577-5140, Winnie Odo 902-322-1864, Patsy MacSween 902-565-1567, Wanda MacDonnell 902-862-8808.

Thank you for your support in aid of our parish.



Upcoming Events

Knights of Columbus--Exemplification of Degrees will be conferred on Tuesday January 14 at 6:00 pm at the KOC rooms. Candidates and their sponsors are asked to arrive by 5:45 pm. Regular meeting to follow. A large turnout is requested.

An invitation to join with other women to share **TEA and TALK** on Tuesday January 21 between 1:30--3:30 pm at Holy Redeemer Convent, 24 Neville St. Whitney Pier. This invitation is open to women of all ages. This is an attempt to provide an opportunity for women to join with others to simply share a cup of tea and to experience the joy of being together. For further information phone 902-270-4840 or 902-539-6331.

No Scents Makes Good Sense

Some of our parishioners have strong allergies and sensitivities that make it difficult to tolerate strong scents. Therefore, we ask that you help make all parish buildings **Scent Free**. Thank you for your consideration of others.



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 18-25, this year's theme: Do you believe this? (John 11:26)

For this year, 2025, the prayers and reflections for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity were prepared by the brothers and sisters of the monastic community of Bose in northern Italy. This year marks the 1,700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, near Constantinople in 325 AD. This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the Creed formulated during this Council; a faith that remains alive and fruitful in our days. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 offers an invitation to draw on this shared heritage and to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians.

Storm cancellation policy -- In the Parish of Saint Leonard, when school is cancelled, all parish Masses (except funerals) are cancelled, as are all parish meetings and activities and Faith Formation classes to allow for snow removal.

Parking concerns -- You are reminded that the entrance at the left wind (winter chapel) is barrier free, with an automatic door opener and there are a number of parking spaces in front designated for those with mobility issues. As always, we ask that as you enter the main parking lot, you use the next available space to avoid inside spaces being left open while the perimeter is blocked. Please exercise patience when entering and exiting the parking area prior to and following mass. CBRM traffic division have posted No Parking signs on the George Street side and no parking for 15 feet on either side of the main entrance/exit on Mount Carmel Avenue.

Heating concerns -- Just a kind reminder, during the cold weather season with heating costs in the church so high, please keep the outside doors as well as the porch doors closed as much as possible.

Holy Rosary Cinema Circle -- Join us on Thursday, January 23 at Holy Rosary Parish for a showing of "Love and Mercy: Faustina". This is an inspiring story of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska of the Blessed Sacrament. St Faustina has a great following both in her native Poland and around the world. Join us for this truly amazing story! There is no charge for this event.

Presentations on the Documents of Vatican II--From January until May, Fr. Bill Burke will be presenting a series of eight sessions on the documents of Vatican II. The first two will take place on Sunday January 19 and January 26 at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish from 2:00-4:00 pm. All are welcome. The sessions will be livestreamed.

Memorial Fund--December 2024

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|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bruce Marsh | Angel Hurley | Gregory Jennex |
| Theresa Rowe | James Henry | Dolores Fraser |
| Stella Burns | Janet Morrison | Shirley MacNeil |
| Bobby Roper | Theresa Jessome | Special Intentions |
| Stan Burke | Violet McIsaac | Josie Savitzski |
| Stan Sheen | Joseph Mahon | Francis Currie |
| Bill Hall | Ralph Campbell | Gerard MacPhee |
| Blair Locke | Mary White | Judith Ruelland |
| Glenn White | Charlie Neville | Martin MacPhee |
| John Tonary | Albert Aucoin | Jerry MacDonald |
| Betty MacNeil | Raymond J. Burns | Nicholas McPherson |
| Cletus MacNeil | Wilfred Boudreau | Illona (Briggs) Young |
| Brent Nearing | Margaret McIsaac | Bernie MacDonald |
| Sonya Chiasson | Alex B. MacDonald | Mary Emma Mullins |
| Brandon Lamey | Barney & Ida Ryan | Lorraine MacGibbon |
| Charles & Mary Brake | Dan Willie MacKinnon | |
| Tom & Elsie MacLean | George & Rose McSween | |
| Mary Irene MacMillan | Francis Geekers MacLean | |

Deceased Hennessy family members

Family members of Terry & Rod Mitchell

May their souls and souls of the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

