

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

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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.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

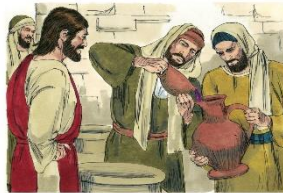
January 18 & 19, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 62.1-5

Psalm: 96

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.4-11

Gospel: John 2.1-12



Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Sam MacLean, Chloe Steiger, Alauna Loppie, Cayson Loppie, William Charles Ross, Alexandra "Sandy" MacDonald Lyonnais**. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



We Believe

Marriage and wedding feasts are metaphors used in Scripture to describe God's salvation and the Kingdom of God. Here at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, John's Gospel seeks to establish that Jesus is going to re-interpret and fulfill Yahweh's promise to Israel. A hint about what this New Covenant will be like is made evident in the deed that Jesus performs. Asked to do something to address the awkward situation that the absence of wine at a wedding feast would create, Jesus' miracle produces vast quantities of wine—six jars holding thirty gallons each are filled to overflowing with choice wine. This lavish response to a simple human need is a vision for us of the abundance of God's kingdom. It challenges us to respond generously when confronted with human need today. We respond as best we can, fully confident that God can transform our efforts, bringing the Kingdom of God to fulfillment among us.

Five Ways to Nurture Your Child's Faith

Families are responsible for the material well-being of their children. Yet we know our children are spiritual beings as well. Here are five gifts you can give to nurture the spiritual life of your child.

1. Explain to your child why you gave him or her the name you did.

In the Bible, names carry a lot of meaning. Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter (Greek for "rock"), which indicated Peter's vocation as the leader of Christian community. By telling your child how you chose his or her name, you can highlight the spiritual hopes you have for your child and emphasize his or her connection to the larger community.

2. Tell stories about your ancestors.

Explain, for example, how their grandparents or great-great grandparents came to this country if they are of immigrant heritage. Such stories—of the strength, perseverance, and faith of their forebears—will help them know that they are part of a larger, grander story than just their own.

3. Share with your child who your favorite saint is and why.

Describe how you receive inspiration from the example or teaching of this saint (or saintly person, whether canonized or not). Explain to your child the reason you are devoted to this saint and talk about other people whom you admire.

4. Offer a story about how your faith helped you in a difficult time in your life.

Think back to a time when you made an important decision and, if you are comfortable, share how your faith shaped the decision. Set aside time to also talk about how your faith helps you on a daily basis.

5. Give your child your time and attention; listen to their hopes and dreams.

The care and concern you express for your child provides a foundation upon which your child can accept God's love and the love of others. Every day you help to shape the attitude your child brings to prayer and worship. The loving attention you share with your child prepares him or her to encounter Jesus in the heart, in the Eucharist, and in other people.

Supporting ourselves as a Parish

Weekend of January 11 & 12, 2025

Envelopes	180	\$3218.00
Loose		\$ 274.55
Total		\$3492.55

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

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.



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 Holidays, 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

Prayer for Christian Unity Service take place on Sunday January 26 at 3:00 pm at Calvin United Church. They are planning an Ecumenical choir, for those who wish to practice music of the service, please come to church at 2:50 pm.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish, Sydney, from Monday January 20 to Friday January 24, between 12:00--1:00 pm.

Parish Council Meeting takes place on Wednesday January 22 at 7:00 pm at the Pastoral Centre.

Healing Mass at Our Lady of Grace Monastery with Fr. Albert MacPherson on Saturday January 25 and February 22 at 1:30 pm.

We need PYX -- Anyone who has a pyx and not using it, please return to the church or the Pastoral Centre. Thank you.



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.

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.

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.

Pastoral Airs Celtic Concert at Stella Maris Church, Creignish on February 16 at 7 pm, performers include Sabra MacGillivray, Betty Beaton, Wendy MacIsaac, Mac Morin, Troy MacGillivray, Lauren MacKinnon, Cassie & Maggie MacDonald, the Celtic Touch Dancers, and Andrea Beaton. Donations at the door. All proceeds go towards Stella Maris Church, Creignish.

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.

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish is sponsoring a **Valentines Day Dinner and Dance** on Friday February 14 at Sacred Heart Church Center on George Street. Dinner from 7--8:30 pm, Dance from 8:30--11:30 pm. Music provided by High Society and The Privateers. Seating in tables of 8. Tickets are \$100.00 each and are available at the parish office at 40 Cabot Street, Sydney. Call for more details 902-564-9021.

We received a heartwarming **letter from Vinmathi**, a child sponsored through the Chalice Organization. It's truly uplifting to hear about the wonderful holidays she enjoyed, reminding us that every effort we make is worthwhile. We are deeply grateful for this meaningful connection.

Chalice is a Canadian Catholic international child sponsorship charity. For anyone interested in participating, please check their website www.chalice.ca.

Dear Pastoral Centre - St Leonard's Parish
It is people like you that make Christmas so special and meaningful. Wishing you a fantastic Christmas and New Year!
Thank you.
Thank you so much for selecting me as your sponsor child.
With love
vinmathi
KMB 1519

