

Mass Intentions

Monday Dec. 10th	7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Granted; Blair Dalton; Annabelle Kavanagh; Louis Brown
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Tuesday Dec. 11th	7:00 p.m.	Mary Conway; Bess Walsh; Gertrude George; Graham Skanes; Yvonne Stone; Cyril Jackman
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Wednesday Dec. 12th	9:30 a.m.	Pete & Nell Power; Loretta Kennedy; Ronald Kavanagh; Marie Cahill
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Thursday Dec. 13th	7:00 p.m.	Wayne Koehler; Joan Gosse; Tom Roberts; Ronald K. Kavanagh; Margaret Peach
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Friday Dec. 14th	9:00 a.m.	Alice Jackman; Patrick Power; Margaret Ash; Regina Power
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Saturday Dec. 15th	4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance Thomas & Gerald Coombs; Marge Sweeney; Veronica Andrews; Rita McCarthy; Keziah & Emmanuel Murphy; Regina Barrett; Patrick McGrath; Thomas W. Brazil Tom, Laura & Lorne Kavanagh; Frank Taylor
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Sunday Dec. 16th	10:30 a.m.	For Parishioners Living and Deceased St. Michael's Parish
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Collection for Week of Dec. 1st, 2007 & Dec. 2nd, 2007

Offertory – 109 Envelopes-----	\$1,158.50
Dues – 10 Envelopes-----	105.00
Development & Peace – 1 Envelope-----	20.00
Heating – 1 Envelope-----	10.00
Donation to Fall Fair -----	70.00
Donation to Furnace Renovation Fund – 1 Envelope-----	50.00
Donation toward Christmas Flowers In Memory-----	240.00

Thank – You for Your Financial Support

Ecumenical Service

On Sunday, December 16th, at 2:30 p.m. you are invited to attend our Annual Ecumenical Service at the Bell Island Hospital. Please join the residents and staff to help celebrate the blessings of the Christmas season and to warm the hearts of the residents by your words of love and your smile.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday Dec.15th	5:00 p.m.	Readers: Christmas Tulk; Jasmine Brazil
		Eucharistic Ministers: Rosemary O’Keefe; Tom Spracklin; Tasha Brazil; Pat Craig
		Presentation of Gifts: Betty & Kevin Quigley
		Ushers: Bill Hammond; George Hickey; George Jackman; Keith Pitts
Sunday Dec. 16th	10:30 a.m.	Readers: Jean Williams; Patricia King;
		Eucharistic Ministers: Rosanne Grant; Pat Murphy; Shirley Murphy; John Kent
		Children’s Liturgy: Susan Boone
		Presentation of Gifts: Clara Hammond & Riv Fitzgerald
		Ushers: Ray Kennedy; Alex Newell; Charlie O’Brien; Ray Whalen

MARRIAGE*6 months notice required***PREPARATION PROGRAM – Must be completed before the wedding takes place.**

MARRIAGE INFORMATION: Are you aware that Catholics are obliged to marry in the Catholic Church? If they marry elsewhere without permission, the marriage is not recognized by the church. Permission is available and readily granted provided that both parties are free of impediments and fulfill the church’s requirements for marriage. Please speak to your Parish priest for information and to apply for permission. You may also contact the Pastoral Centre at (709) 726-3660.

Flowers in Memory

If you wish to make a monetary donation to help purchase flowers in memory of your loved ones for the Christmas season, please do so during the coming weeks. Your offering will be recorded and the Mass intentions for your loved ones will be remembered during the Christmas Masses. Please place your offering in an envelope with the name of your loved one and we will purchase the flowers for you. Thank you for your kindness.

Funeral Masses

In Canada, a Funeral Mass may be celebrated any day **except Sundays, Holy Days of Obligation, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Sunday.** During the Christmas Season no Funeral Masses are permitted on **Christmas Day & New Year’s Day which are Holy Days of Obligation.**

Advent Penetential Service

The **Advent Penetential Service** will take place on **Sunday, Dec. 16th at 7:00 p.m.** This will be a half hour liturgy of Parish Community reconciliation followed by an opportunity for individual confession. Let us make it a real part of our preparation for Christmas.

Christmas Concert

The Bell Island Dinner Theatre group will be hosting a Christmas Concert in aid of the new furnace for our Church. The concert will be held on **Saturday, December 15th, 7:30 p.m.** at St. Michael's Hall. Admission is **\$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for those twelve and under.** Special guest appearance by current **Miss NL First Runner Up.** Door prizes and various spins during the break. Please come along and bring a friend to support this worthy cause as well as put you in the Christmas spirit.

Sharing By Caring

If anyone or any group is interested in donating a turkey to the Caring By Sharing, there will be a freezer located in the Wabana Complex Building. All donations are greatly appreciated and will be used to help the needy in our community during the Christmas season. Thank you for your support and generosity to Caring By Sharing.

CHRISTMAS – NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 22nd, 2007 Regular Weekend Mass-----5:00 p.m.	Saturday, December 29th, 2007 Regular Weekend Mass-----5:00 p.m.
Sunday December 23rd, 2007 Regular Weekend Mass-----10:30 a.m.	Sunday, December 30th, 2007 Regular Weekend Mass-----10:30 a.m.
Monday, December 24th, 2007 Christmas Eve Mass-----8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Midnight Mass—11:00 p.m.	Monday, December 31st, 2007 New Year's Eve-----5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 25th, 2007 Christmas Day-----10:30 a.m.	Tuesday, January 1st, 2008 New Year's Day-----10:30 a.m.

Junior Choir For The 8:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Mass

All students of St. Michael's and St. Augustine's Schools are invited to participate in the singing for the early Mass on Christmas Eve. There will be a practice for all these people on **Sunday, Dec. 16th at 1:30 p.m. Bring flutes, violins and guitars if you so desire.**

Congratulations to Mercy Associates

CONGRATULATIONS to the New Group of Mercy Associates (Geraldine Fitzgerald; Patricia King; Shirley Murphy and Beverley Rees), who recently received their Mercy Associate Pins at a special ceremony held in St. John's on November 23, 2007. May each of them, and the Original Associate Group (Ros Hurley; Rosanne Grant; Rose Kent; Teresita McCarthy; Ann Marie Metcalfe; Christine Quinlan; and Joan Whelan) be truly blessed as they continue to live out their Baptismal call, and walk together in the Spirit of Mercy and Compassion to all God's people.

Mercy Associates Meeting

The regular meeting of the Mercy Associates for the New Group will take place at the Sister's Residence on **Tuesday, Dec. 11th, 2007 at 7:45 p.m.**



St. Michael's Parish

P.O. Box 610 - Bell Island, NL - A0A 4H0

Phone: 709-488-2525 - Fax: 709-488-3399

Pastor - Rev. James A. Beresford

Secretary: Patricia King



Parish Webpage: www.bellisland.net/rcparish

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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 9th, 2007

Today the liturgy turns to John the Baptist, one of the primary figures of Advent. What an entrance John makes in today's Gospel. He appears, the Gospel attests, preaching fire and brimstone. He reminds us of the urgency of Advent and the radical transformation of our lives to which the season calls us. The Lord is coming. Let your repentance and your preparation show in your lives.

Today's First Reading from Isaiah repeats the reading we heard on Tuesday of last week. It is the image of the peaceable kingdom God's holy Messiah will come to establish. He will lead and govern, mindful of all-even the poor. He will establish justice and will triumph over evil and wickedness. The peace of his kingdom will touch every aspect of creation-human and animal.

The Second Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Romans. It elaborates upon Isaiah's hopeful prophecy-Christ as the one who will bring salvation to all.

The Gospel according to Matthew continues the call to look to, hope in, and prepare now for the one who has been promised from the start of the ages. In this Gospel, John the Baptist's message is challenging and sobering. He calls for evidence of our reform and transformation. It is not enough to simply voice our faith; we are to testify to our faith by the way we live our lives. This is central to Advent. Repent. Transform your lives. He is coming. Prepare.

First Reading: Isaiah 11. 1-10

With righteousness he shall judge the poor.

Second Reading: Romans 15.4-9

Christ has saved all people.

Gospel: Matthew 3. 1-12

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.

SANCTUARY CANDLE: IN MEMORY OF MARGARET & MICHAEL McLEAN

*******THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, DEC. 11TH, AFTER THE 7:00 P.M. MASS*******