

Mass Intentions

Christmas Eve Dec. 24th	8:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m.	For Parishioner's Deceased Relatives & Friends For Parishioner's Deceased Relatives & Friends
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Christmas Day Dec. 25th	10:30 a.m.	For Parishioner's Deceased Relatives & Friends
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Saturday Dec. 29th	5:00 p.m.	Ronald K. Kavanagh; Benedict Farrell; Susan Gorman; Stephen Hawco; William & Sarah Curnew; James & Maria Kelly; Charles & Rita O'Brien; Elizabeth Norcott; Marie Cahill; Mary Conway; Cyril Jackman; Kenneth Lahey; Gertrude George; Annie, Gerald, Rosemary, Hubert, Louis & Edward Laurie & Mary Laurie Cole
Sunday Dec. 30th	10:30 a.m.	For Parishioner's Deceased Relatives & Friends

New Year's Eve Dec. 31st	5:00 p.m.	For Parishioner's Deceased Relatives & Friends
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New Year's Day January 1st, 2008	10:30 a.m.	For Parishioner's Deceased Relatives & Friends
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Liturgical Ministers List

Christmas Eve Dec. 24th	8:00 p.m.	Readers: Cathy Tulk & Pat Craig Eucharistic Ministers: Raymond Whelan; Jody Whelan; Lydia Brazil; Fred Carroll Presentation of Gifts: Susan Boone Family Ushers: George Hickey; George Jackman; Leo Byrne; Charlie O'Brien; Alex Newell; Fred Carroll
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Christmas Eve Dec. 24th	11:00 p.m.	Readers: Sid Rees & Des McCarthy Eucharistic Ministers: Bev Rees; Brenda Sweeney; Keith Kent; Christine Quinlan Presentation of Gifts: Patricia & Michael King Ushers: Kevin Delahunty; Sidney Rees; Ray Whalen; Tom Cole; Keith Pitts; Peter Butler
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Liturgical Ministers List

Christmas Day Dec. 25th	10:30 a.m.	Readers: Sister Phyllis & Geraldine Fitzgerald Eucharistic Ministers: Rosanne Grant; Pat Murphy; Shirley Murphy; Patricia King Presentation of Gifts: Sid & Bev Rees Ushers: Brian Tulk; Ray Whalen; Bill Hammond; Ray Kennedy
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Saturday Dec. 29th	5:00 p.m.	Readers: Teresita McCarthy & Des McCarthy Eucharistic Ministers: Jody Whelan; Fred Carroll; Irene Delahunty; Raymond Whelan Presentation of Gifts: Shirley Murphy & Carol Clarke Ushers: Leo Byrne; Fred Carroll; George Hickey; Brian Tulk
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Sunday Dec. 30th	10:30 a.m.	Readers: Christine Quinlan & Sharon Hammond Eucharistic Ministers: John Kent; Connie Cole; Sarah Burt; Judy Burt Presentation of Gifts: Tom Cole Family Ushers: Tom Cole; Kevin Delahunty; Sidney Rees; Ray Whalen
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New Year's Eve Dec. 31st	5:00 p.m.	Readers: Cathy Tulk & Pat Craig Eucharistic Ministers: Lydia Brazil; Jasmine Brazil; Art Whelan; Helen Pitts Presentation of Gifts: Irene & Kevin Delahunty Ushers: Bill Hammond; George Hickey; George Jackman; Keith Pitts
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New Year's Day January 1st	10:30 a.m.	Readers: Valerie Gorman & Geraldine Fitzgerald Eucharistic Ministers: Patricia King; John Kent; Pat Murphy; Shirley Murphy Presentation of Gifts: Clara Hammond & Riv Fitzgerald Ushers: Ray Kennedy; Alex Newell; Charlie O'Brien; Ray Whalen
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*** Please Note that this a two week Liturgical Ministers List ***

Please keep for your references

Collection for Week of Dec. 8th, 2007 & Dec.9th, 2007

Offertory – 105 Envelopes-----	1,197.00
Advent – 8 Folders-----	150.00
Advent – 1 Children’s Folder-----	5.00
Renovation to Furnace Fund-----	100.00
Insurance – 1 Envelope-----	5.00
Christmas Offering – 1 Envelope-----	50.00
Christmas Flowers in Memory-----	190.00
Donation in Memory of Neary Family-----	40.00
Donation in Memory of Michael & Margaret McLean-----	50.00
Donation in Memory of Arthur Cummings-----	50.00

Thank – You for Your Financial Support

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 final practice for all these people on **Sunday, Dec. 23rd at 5:00 p.m. Bring flutes, violins and guitars if you so desire.**

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.

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.**

Church Envelopes 2008

Church envelopes for 2008 are now available at the back of the Church. If you have not received Church envelopes for 2007, you are most welcome to call the office and request them. We thank you for your continued support of our Parish.

Visitation of Sick & Shut Ins

On Friday, January 4th, 2008, Sister Phyllis will be visiting the Sick & Shut Ins of the Parish. Please prepare for Sister’s visit and if you are not going to be home on that day, please call the office to let us know as this will give Sister Phyllis extra time to spend with others.



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
Parish E-Mail: stmichaelsparish@nf.sympatico.ca

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23rd, 2007

Today we light the fourth candle (violet) on the Advent wreath. The fullness of the lit wreath reminds us of the coming celebration of Christmas and our commemoration of the Incarnation. God’s ancient promises have been fulfilled in the coming of Christ, the very word of God made flesh.

The First Reading from Isaiah is repeated from this past Thursday. On Thursday it was coupled with Luke’s account of the annunciation of the Lord to Mary. Today, it is Matthew’s account of the annunciation to Joseph. It is here that the angel utters the simple, yet powerful directive: “Do not be afraid” (Matthew 1:20). This is the same message that the angel Gabriel delivered to Mary. For both Mary and Joseph, God’s great message of salvation is not meant to stir fear but to conquer fear. Both annunciations bare the same great message: God will save his people and will dwell with them forever. Both tests help us to see God’s great power at work through Mary and Joseph.

The Gospel quotes Isaiah’s prophecy of the fulfillment of God’s ancient promise to Israel: the advent of the one who will be “God is with us”.

The Second Reading from Saint Paul’s letter to the Romans asserts that Christ is the one whom God has promised from long ago. This is the descendant of David-the Son of God.

First Reading: Isaiah 7. 10-14

Look, the virgin is with child.

Second Reading: Romans 1. 1-7

Jesus Christ, descended from David, was declared to be the Son of God

Gospel: Matthew 1. 18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, who was engaged to Joseph, son of David

SANCTUARY CANDLE: IN MEMORY OF FRANK PENDERGAST JR.