

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Monday, Dec. 14</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Julia, Rene &amp; Brendan Pearl; Michael &amp; Margaret McLean; Kevin Stone</b>
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 15</b>	<b>9:30 pm</b>	<b>Ted, Joe &amp; Jenny Butler; Kevin Kent; Fred Spencer</b>
<b>Wednesday, Dec. 16</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Elizabeth Gorman; Mary Gorman; Gregory Gorman</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec. 17</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Peter &amp; Mary Conway; Leo Gorman; William J. &amp; Dianne, John &amp; Alice Ford</b>
<b>Friday, Dec. 18</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>James &amp; Elizabeth Kennedy; Joe O'Neill; Myra &amp; Andrew Carter</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec. 19</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec. 19</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>William &amp; Rita Yetman; Jeff Crosby; Loretta Power (Jackman); Emmie Fitzgerald; Patrick McGrath; Susan Gorman; Gordon Jewer</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec. 20</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Parishioners Living and Deceased St. Michael's Parish</b>

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT -- DECEMBER 13, 2009** "All were questioning in their hearts." Are you considering a vocation as a priest, deacon or the consecrated life? Contact the vocations office: Fr. Courtney 726-3660, [stjohnsvocations@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsvocations@gmail.com).

**THE SEASON OF ADVENT – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?** It prepares us for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us: It is a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a season of joyful expectation. During this time, each Sunday's gospel has a specific focus. The Old Testament readings, especially those from Isaiah, are prophecies about the Messiah and messianic times. The selections from the writings of the apostles present exhortations and instructions on different themes of this season.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION  
DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**

<b>Offertory (106 Envelopes) .....</b>	<b>\$1313.72</b>
<b>Dues (6 Envelopes) .....</b>	<b>\$142.00</b>
<b>In memory of Kevin Stone .....</b>	<b>\$145.00</b>
<b>THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT!</b>	

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

	<b>SATURDAY, DEC. 19 5.00 P.M.</b>	<b>SUNDAY, DEC.20 10:30 A.M.</b>
<b>READERS:</b>	<b>John Kent Harriett Taylor</b>	<b>Patricia King Sharon Hammond</b>
<b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:</b>	<b>Pat Murphy Raymond Whelan</b>	<b>Des McCarthy Teresita McCarthy</b>
<b>PRESENTATION OF GIFTS:</b>	<b>Lydia Brazil Family</b>	<b>Tom Cole Family</b>
<b>USHERS:</b>	<b>George Jackman Keith Pitts Pat Murphy George Hickey</b>	<b>Tom Cole Kevin Delahunty Ray Whalen</b>
<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY:</b>		<b>Susan Boon</b>

**WABANA BOYS & GIRLS CLUB BIG BINGO:** Wednesday Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8:15pm. There will be 6 games of \$80.00, 4 games of \$100.00, 1<sup>st</sup> Full Card will be \$250.00 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Full Card will be \$500.00. There will also be an Early Bird Game at 8:00pm. Please come and support the youth of your community and win some money to finish off your Christmas Shopping!

**39<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL KIWANIS SANTA CLAUS PARADE:** Will be held on **Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>**, leaving the Wabana Complex at 1:30pm and ending at the Wabana Boys and Girls Club. Candy will be given out at 2pm at the regular stops. Non-perishable food (canned or packaged items) will be collected along the route for our local Foodbank. To make the event successful, community participation is encouraged!

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS:** If you or a family member is affected by someone else's drinking, maybe Al-Anon Family Groups can help. Please call 722-2666.

**MERCY ASSOCIATES:** There will be a meeting of the Original group of Mercy Associates on **Thursday, Dec, 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** at the Sister's Residence.

**BEREAVEMENT TEAMS:** Our bereavement teams are vital to our Parish. They help families at one of their most difficult times to become involved in planning the liturgies for their loved ones. There is a need to increase the number of teams in our Parish. Please give some serious consideration and call the Parish office 488-2525.

## SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASSES

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve-----8:00 pm.  
Thursday, December 24, Christmas Night: -----11:00 pm.  
Friday, December 25, Christmas Morning: -----10:30 am.  
Saturday, Dec. 26: (Holy Family):-----5:00 pm.  
Sunday, Dec. 27 (Holy Family):-----10:30 am.

## MASSES FOR NEW YEARS

Thurs.: December 31: (Mary, Mother of God):-----5:00pm.  
Friday, January 1, 2010 (Mary, Mother of God):-----10:30am.  
Saturday, January 2, (Epiphany):-----5:00pm.  
Sunday, January 3, (Epiphany):-----10:30am.

Besides Sundays, there are only two holy days of obligation annually:  
CHRISTMAS DAY and NEW YEAR'S DAY

**JESSE TREE:** You will notice the tree at the front of the Church. This is to remind us of the needs of the Foodbank. Each ticket represents a different item needed. Please support by picking a ticket and returning the following week with the needed item. Your support is much appreciated!

**THE 7TH ANNUAL NATIVITY EXHIBIT:** Presented by The Basilica Cathedral Museum, **Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> – Away in a Manger, Nativities from Around the World.** Experience Christmas at the Basilica Museum with 142 nativities from 32 countries! Visit our Christmas tree and leave a present for a child this Christmas. Exhibit Hours: Tuesday to Sunday 1 - 4pm & Wednesday Evening 7- 9pm. Available for groups by appointment. For more information please call 726-3660.

**FLOWERS IN MEMORY:** Donations for Christmas flowers in memory of your loved ones will now be accepted. You may place the offering in an envelope with the name of your loved one and we will purchase the flowers for you. Thank you for your kindness.

**SENIOR CHOIR PRACTICE:** We are gathering singers for our Christmas Eve Mass. Any person interested please let us know. Please come with your friends and help make this celebration a truly joyful gathering.



## 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



PARISH WEBPAGE: [www.bellisland.net/rcparish](http://www.bellisland.net/rcparish) OFFICE HOURS: Tue. & Thurs. 1-5 p.m.  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: JENNIFER DOIRON  
PARISH E-MAIL: [stmichaelsparish@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:stmichaelsparish@nf.sympatico.ca)

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2009

### REFLECTION:

#### FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3: 14-18a

*The Lord will rejoice over you with gladness.*

Zephaniah proclaims a day of festival to celebrate God's presence in the midst of his people. It is interesting to note that he portrays it from the perspective of God celebrating over his people. God exults, renews, dances, and shouts for joy. We are heirs of God's promise, of God's joy.

#### SECOND READING: Philippians 4: 4-7

*The Lord is close at hand.*

Paul assures the community of Philippians that he desires their happiness, the gift of peace that accompanies the Lord's presence. When anxiety seeks to rob us of God's peace, Paul counsels prayer. We offer prayers of intercession, for God alone can give us his peace; and we pray in thanksgiving, for we trust that God will provide the gifts we need.

#### GOSPEL: Luke 3: 10-18

*The crowd asked, "What should we do?"*

John's ministry penetrated people's hearts to the degree that they wondered about the ways their lives needed to change. As John concretely responds to tax collectors and soldiers, he announces the coming of the one who will baptize in the power of the Holy Spirit. God's word challenges us to new patterns of justice and mercy, while God's Spirit enables us to live this new way of being.

Sanctuary Candle in Memory of Susan and Leo Gorman