

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday March 23rd	7:00 p.m.	Arthur Cummings; Geraldine Nolan; Lillian (O’Leary) Bolger; Charles O’Leary
Tuesday March 24th	9:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Veronica Dwyer; Dan, Vera & Colleen Dwyer; Michael & Margaret McLean; Tom W. Brazil (14th rescheduled) Confirmation Classes with Fr. Jim
Wednesday March 25th	9:30 a.m.	Annunciation of Our Lord Helen Morrissey; Margaret & Moses Cummings; Marie (Locke) Gosse
Thursday March 26th	7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Rosemarie Murphy; Dec. Members of Murphy & Nolan Families Reflections on Your Church Life with Fr. Jim
Friday March 27th	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	The Way of The Cross Patrick Littlejohn; Marg Crane; Anthony Wiseman
Saturday March 28th	4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance Richard, Veronica & Sr. Paschal Dwyer; Thomas, Mary Ann, Mary Ellen, John & Brian Lewis; Nauce & Elizabeth Basha; Margaret Normore & James Power; Thomas & Margaret Kent; Joe & Philomena Dobbin; Philip Barnes
Sunday March 29th	10:30a.m.	Parishioners Living and Deceased St. Michael’s Parish

St. Patrick’s Day Weekend Proceeds: A sincere Thank-You to all who helped with the many events of the St. Patrick’s Day weekend celebrations. It was a fun time by all and to all who helped in any aspect of the weekend, we say Thank –You. Let us continue to keep our strong spirit of caring for our community and most of all, let us continue to have fun together. The following is a list of the Gross proceeds for the weekend:

Card Game: \$375.00; Irish Stew Suppers & Door Prize: \$1,413.20; Concert & Door Prize: \$846.35; Total proceeds \$2,634.55. To one and all, we say; **Thank-You and Congratulations.**

Collection for Week of March 14th & March 15th, 2009	
Offertory-119 Envelopes-----	\$1,117.45
Dues- 1 Envelope-----	5.00
Insurance -1 Envelope-----	5.00
Ash Wednesday -1 Envelope-----	5.00
Easter Flowers in Memory-----	135.00
Donation in Loving Memory of Lloyd & John Pitts-----	30.00
Thank –You for your Financial Support	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS



Saturday March 28th	5:00 p.m.	Sunday March 29th	10:30 a.m.
Readers: Kelsey Delaney & John Kent		Readers: Christine Quinlan & Sid Rees	
Eucharistic Ministers: Teresita McCarthy; Brenda Sweeney; Lydia Brazil		Eucharistic Ministers: Sister Phyllis; Connie Cole; Sarah Burt; Irene Delahunty	
Presentation of Gifts: Bob Seward Family		Presentation of Gifts: Valerie Gorman Family	
		Children’s Liturgy: Karen Seward	
Ushers: Leo Byrne; Brian Tulk; Chris Murphy; Fred Carroll		Ushers: Tom Cole; Kevin Delahunty; Ray Whalen	

Advance Notice Music – Rehearsal: There will be a Music-Choir rehearsal practice on **Tuesday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m.** This is to practice for the Easter Triduum service. **“All are welcome.”**

Development & Peace Collection: On the **5th Sunday of Lent**, a collection is taken up for developing countries. Christians are urged to share their goods with others and thus express in a concrete way their desire to come closer to God and God’s children as a result of their Lenten efforts. The offering should reflect the money saved through penitential fasting and set aside for God’s people.

Archbishops Dinner & Auction: the beginning of the Annual Archbishops Appeal Campaign - **April 24, 2009.** It will be held in the Main Dining Room of the Battery Hotel, Signal Hill Road. **Tickets are \$150.00 per person** with tables of eight or ten people. Perhaps enough individuals in the parish would be able to afford a ticket to make up a table. Those attending the dinner will receive a receipt of \$100.00 for tax purposes. For tickets please contact the Parish office at **488-2525.**

Parish Penance Celebration: On **Sunday, March 29th at 3:00 p.m.,** we will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. Please gather for this Celebration of Forgiveness as we cleanse our hearts from sin and anticipate the joy of Easter.

Mercy Associates: Instead of the regular monthly meeting the **Original Group** of Mercy Associates will meet for a Lenten Retreat on **Wednesday, March 25th, 2009** at Mercy Covenant, Military Rd., St. John’s from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mass of Chrism: On Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 7:30 p.m., The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated in the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist. The Archbishop will bless the oils to be used in all parishes for the year. The Mass of Chrism is a special celebration and all parishioners are invited to attend. Our Parish will be taking part in the celebrations and we require two people to collect the Holy Oils for our Parish. If you would like to participate and collect the Holy Oils to bring back for our Parish, please call Fr. Jim at 488-2525.

Right To Life -Essay or Video on Life Contest 2009: 1st place: \$200, 2nd place \$100, 3rd place \$50. Teens in the province are invited to write a pro-life essay or create a pro-life video about abortion, euthanasia, or embryonic stem cell research and submit it to the Right to Life Association by June 19th for a chance to win cash! For details search for the "Essay or Video on Life Contest 2009" group on Facebook, email nlfriendsforlife@nl.rogers.com, or call 709-579-1500.

Dates to Remember, 2009

Please schedule the following events into your Calendar:

Holy Week:

Holy Thursday - April 9th Mass at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday - April 9th Evening Prayer 11:30 p.m.

Good Friday - April 10th Passion and Death of Our Lord at 3:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 10th Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday - April 11th Easter Vigil 8:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 12th Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Annual Dinner Theatre July 18th, 2009

Cemetery Mass Schedule – 2009

St. Michael's Cemetery, The Front: July 19th at 2:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart Cemetery, Lance Cove: August 9th at 2:30 p.m.

25th Anniversary to the Priesthood: On April 25, 2009, Fr. Patrick Power will celebrate his 25th anniversary in the priesthood. The Parishes of Our Lady Star of the Sea & Sts. Peter & Paul will celebrate this special event on **Friday, May 1st, 2009 with Mass in St. Patrick's Church, Witless Bay at 7:30 pm** and a social to follow at Kinsmen Centre, Witless Bay. Music by Ronnie & Johnny. Everyone welcome.

Flagperson (3) Positions Available on Bell Island: Must have TWS certification and Power Line Safety course. These certifications can be provided at cost to the employee. Please apply to Holly O'Neill by fax at 709-726-5990 or by email to honeill@247securityservices.com. No phone calls please.

Office Hours: The Parish Secretary will be in on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you need assistance at any other time please call 488-2525 and Fr. Jim will be available or leave a message and we will get back to you.



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 Lent
March 22nd, 2009

Reflection:

First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-17a, 19-23

The wrath and steadfast kindness of the Lord are shown by the exile and restoration of the people.

In this reading we hear about the exile of the chosen people. According to Old Testament logic, their sufferings are a punishment from God, because his anger is "inflamed" by their faithlessness. Their city is destroyed, the temple is despoiled, and they are taken in captivity to Babylon. But at the end of the reading, God chooses an unlikely instrument – their enemy, the Persian King Cyrus-to tell them that they may go home, and even to bless them: "may his God be with him!"

Second Reading: Ephesians 2: 4-10

Even when we were dead through our trespasses, God made us alive.

The reading from Ephesians emphasizes that God does not save us because we deserve it or because of our love for him. Quite the contrary is true. "Even when we were dead in our transgressions, God "brought us to life with Christ". It is not because of something we did, but "by grace" that we have been saved.

Gospel: John 3: 14-21

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that we may have eternal life.

John emphasizes the same theme of the love of God, freely given to the world. The reading is full of hope and full of challenge. What could be more consoling than the words, "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him". And what could be more challenging than "the verdict" at the end of the reading that "people preferred darkness to light."

In our examination of conscience - In what ways do we exile ourselves from God by forgetting him? In what ways do we prefer the darkness to the light? Do we really believe that God came into the world in Jesus not to condemn, but to love?