

MASS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS

Sat. - Dec. 23---7:00 pm---St. Ignatius Church
 Sun. -Dec. 24--- The 10:30 am mass will be **cancelled** in St. Alban's
 Sun. -Dec. 24--- The 2:00 pm mass will be **cancelled** in Conne River
 Sun. -Dec. 24---6:00 pm--- St. Anne's Church- Christmas Eve Mass
 Sun. -Dec. 24---8:30 pm---St. Ignatius Church- Christmas Eve Mass
 Mon- Dec 25--- 10:30 am---St. Ignatius Church--Christmas celebration

PLEASE NOTE: Several Masses will be cancelled

A celebration on Christmas morning: Most people look forward to the beautiful Mass on Christmas Eve in our parish. However, a small number of people also come to Church on Christmas Day. Although there will be no Mass on Christmas morning (Dec. 25th) we are hoping to have a joyful celebration for those who wish to come. At his celebration which will take place at 10:30 am, there will be Christmas hymns, readings and Holy Communion will be distributed by a Eucharistic Minister. You would be most welcome to this Christmas morning celebration

The Christmas Mass on TV

For those who cannot make it to church, please join the Catholic Community this Christmas. Watch the Daily TV Mass:

Christmas Eve on VisionTV at 10:00 pm AT

Christmas Day at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm AT on VisionTV

12:00 pm AT on Salt + Light.

You can also watch on the web at www.dailytvmass.com



ST. IGNATIUS PARISH

Pastor: Reverend Edward Brophy, **Secretary:** Regina Gould

P. O. Box 38, St. Alban's, NL AOH 2E0

Parish Office and House Phone 538-3106 Priest 538-3196

Email: st.ignatius@nf.sympatico.ca Website: www.stignatiusparish.net

Office hours: Mon – Fri 9:15 am to 12:15 pm, 1:15 to 4:15 pm

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, so called because of the first word in Latin of the entrance antiphon.(Rejoice). The Entrance Antiphon reads, Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Indeed, the Lord is near. It orients our prayer today and we realize that the Lord is indeed near. As Catholics, we are called to be people of joy today and every day of our existence. The Lord is always present in our midst: in the Eucharist, in Sacred Scripture, in our hearts, and in our community. We have reason to rejoice!!!

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

St. Albans ----- Sun--Dec. 17 ----6:00 p.m. – St. Ignatius Church ----- Advent Pentential Service

Weekday Mass Schedule: Dec. 18th – Dec 22nd

Monday----- No Mass
 Tuesday----- 7:00 p.m.----- Parish Chapel----- Ken, Michael, Elizabeth & Edgar Organ
 Wed. ----- 10:00 a.m ----- Parish Chapel----- Alfreda, Bessie & George Harding
 Thurs----- 10:00 a.m.----- Parish Chapel ----- Shirley & Palmer Sutton
 Friday ----- 10:00 a.m.----- Parish Chapel ----- James & Mary Collier, William Cox (Frances)

Weekend Liturgy: Saturday Dec 23rd

St. Alban's----- Sat. --- 7:00 p.m.—St. Ignatius Church ----- Debbie Way, Ron & Joan Kendall

Christmas Liturgy- December 24 & 25

Conne River-----Christmas Eve (Sunday) ----- 6:00 pm----- St. Anne's Church---- **Parish Family**
 St. Alban's----- Christmas Eve (Sunday)----- 8:30 pm----- St. Ignatius Church--- **Parish Family**
 St. Alban's----- Christmas Day (Monday)----- 10:30 am----- St. Ignatius Church---- Christmas Celebration, readings and Holy Communion

Penetential Service: On Sunday evening, the Christian community will gather as part of our preparation for the Coming of Christ. We gather in sorrow, for we are sinful people, and we are in need of God's forgiveness. Father David Joy will join us for this time of penance. At the end of the celebration, both Father Joy and Father Brophy will hear confessions for those who wish to go. We will gather at 6:00 pm at St. Ignatius Church, asking God to have mercy on his people, and purifying our hearts for the coming of our Saviour, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Community Christmas Choir Practice: Midnight Mass Christmas choir practice under the direction of Valerie Coombs will be held on the following dates: December 20 and Dec. 21 at 6:30 pm. at St. Ignatius Church. Everyone Welcome!

**Charitable Donations
Income Tax Savings – 2017**

| Contribution | Federal Tax Credit | Provincial Tax Credit | Donor's Cost After Savings | Percentage Saved |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| \$200.00 | \$30.00 | \$17.40 | \$152.60 | 23.7% |
| \$300.00 | \$59.00 | \$35.70 | \$205.30 | 31.6% |
| \$400.00 | \$88.00 | \$54.00 | \$258.00 | 35.5% |
| \$500.00 | \$117.00 | \$72.30 | \$310.70 | 37.9% |
| \$600.00 | \$146.00 | \$90.60 | \$363.40 | 39.4% |
| \$700.00 | \$175.00 | \$108.90 | \$416.10 | 40.6% |
| \$800.00 | \$204.00 | \$127.20 | \$468.80 | 41.4% |
| \$900.00 | \$233.00 | \$145.50 | \$521.50 | 42.1% |
| \$1,000.00 | \$262.00 | \$163.80 | \$574.20 | 42.6% |
| \$1,100.00 | \$291.00 | \$182.10 | \$626.90 | 43.0% |
| \$1,200.00 | \$320.00 | \$200.40 | \$679.60 | 43.4% |
| \$1,300.00 | \$349.00 | \$218.70 | \$732.30 | 43.7% |
| \$1,400.00 | \$378.00 | \$237.00 | \$785.00 | 43.9% |
| \$1,500.00 | \$407.00 | \$255.30 | \$837.70 | 44.2% |
| \$1,600.00 | \$436.00 | \$273.60 | \$890.40 | 44.4% |
| \$1,700.00 | \$465.00 | \$291.90 | \$943.10 | 44.5% |
| \$1,800.00 | \$494.00 | \$310.20 | \$995.80 | 44.7% |
| \$1,900.00 | \$523.00 | \$328.50 | \$1,048.50 | 44.8% |
| \$2,000.00 | \$552.00 | \$346.80 | \$1,101.20 | 44.9% |
| \$3,000.00 | \$842.00 | \$529.80 | \$1,628.20 | 45.7% |
| \$4,000.00 | \$1,132.00 | \$712.80 | \$2,155.20 | 46.1% |
| \$5,000.00 | \$1,422.00 | \$895.80 | \$2,682.20 | 46.4% |
| \$10,000.00 | \$2,872.00 | \$1,810.80 | \$5,317.20 | 46.8% |

For clarification, there is no advantage to being in a higher tax bracket. The Federal savings is 15% on the first \$200 and 29% on any additional contributions. The Provincial savings is 8.7% on the first \$200 and 18.3% on any additional contributions.

Therefore, if you make donations around \$200 in a year, it is better to save them until the following year, if you do not need the short term cash. That way, additional money will be at the higher rate – 47.3% (federal and provincial together).



MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND MASSES

| DATE | Sacristans | Readers | Collectors | Communion Minister | Altar Servers | Music |
|---------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dec. 16 | Mary Strickland Patsy MacDonald | Christina Farrell | Pat Pittman Willie MacDonald Iris Greenham | Edith Organ | Kevin Willie | Julie Ann Chrissy |
| Dec. 17 | Mary Organ | Joanne Farrell | Necia Dollimont Mary Organ George Davis | Calvin Collier | Margaret Ellen | Jessica Willcott |
| Dec. 23 | Mary Organ | Ann Benoit Audrey Collier | Pat Pittman Willie MacDonald Iris Greenham | Matthew Willcott | Christine Mary | Lenora Lambert |
| Dec. 24 | Jenny Maggie | Pat Pittman | Pat Pittman Willie MacDonald Iris Greenham | Ralph Genevieve Mary Strickland | Edith Juanita | Community Choir Valerie Coombs |
| Dec. 25 | Jenny Maggie | Perry Cox | Necia Dollimont Mary Organ George Davis | Margaret Hoskins Ann Benoit | Matthew Mitchell | Chrissy, Julie Ann Clayton |

Weekly Parish Revenue

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| St. Ignatius Church – offertory ----- | \$1119.00 | St. Anne’s Church – offertory ----- | \$180.00 |
| Flowers : ----- | \$285.00 | Parish Dues: ----- | \$135.00 |
| Donation : ----- | \$120.00 | Advent Folders: ----- | \$10.00 |

Parish Dues: Pius and Mary Howse, Edith Collier, Eva Collier, Gerard Cox, Env#53

Sunday Missals: The cost per missal is **\$6.00**. Please try to have the correct amount with you when making your purchase. Thank you.

Advent Folders: are available on the tables at the back of the Church

IMPORTANT DATES

| | | |
|----------|------------|----------------------------|
| Thurs... | Dec. 14... | School Concert |
| Sun... | Dec. 17... | Christmas Pageant |
| Sun... | Dec. 17... | Advent Penitential Service |

Canada’s New Housing Policy: Last month, the Liberal Government of Canada announced a new policy on housing. The government stated that housing is a human right. In other words, everyone deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. Housing adds to a person’s dignity, health and safety. It contributes to their ability to hold down a job and properly raise a family. And having a home encourages more involvement in the town or in the community. Ottawa has committed forty billion dollars to this program over 10 years. But much of the federal government’s plan hinges on help from provincial sources. This is a wonderful initiative, but there is a long road ahead.

ST. IGNATIUS PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Flowers

In Loving Memory of Damien & Melva Benoit, by Mary & Christa Benoit
In Loving Memory of Bill & Dean Kelly, by Beth Kelly
In Loving Memory of Margaret & Aloysius Collier, Ally Collier, by Family
In Loving Memory of John & Winnifred Willcott, Margurite French, by Julie Ann
In Loving Memory of Almeda & Cecil Cox, by Gerry Cox
In Loving Memory of Luke & Mary Farrell, Agnes & Howard Barnes, by Bernadette & Isadore
In Loving Memory of Farrell & Kendall families, by Muriel Benoit and family
In Loving Memory of Farrell & Cox Families, by Margaret & Robert Farrell
In Loving Memory of Thomas & Gerard Benoit, by Muriel Benoit & Family
In Loving Memory of deceased members of Collier & Organ families, by Larry & Margaret Collier
In Loving Memory of Farrell family, by Farrell family
In Loving Memory of John & Terry Murphy, by Elizaebeth Murphy
In Loving Memory of Ed, Veronica & Patrick Lambert, by Lambert Family
In Loving Memory of Elizabeth & Edgar Organ, Russell Gould, by Russ & Jean Gould
In Loving Memory of Ken & Michael Organ, by Ann Organ
In Loving Memory of Ronald & Margaret Kearley, by Gordon & Paula
In Loving Memory of Ronald & Joan Kendall, by Gordon & Paula

Gloves for the Gathering Place: This year at the gathering Place in St. John’s, those who help-the volunteers, are hoping to have a little package for the people who come to the Gathering Place to receive help for meals. In the package, the staff is hoping to place gloves or mitts and socks and a nice winter cap. Could you help? I will be going into St. John’s at Christmas time, and I could bring these items to the Gathering place. I ask only for new or like new items, so that these people will feel proud and comfortable wearing winter items which we may have to spare. A box will be placed at the back of the Church, and if you could help, this would be a great act of Christmas kindness. **Jesus said: “I was naked, and you gave me something to wear.”**

Death of Archbishop Penney: After a short illness, Archbishop Alphonsus Penney has gone to his eternal reward. Archbishop Penney was our Chief Sheppard here in the Grand Falls Diocese from 1973-1979. During his time as our Bishop, he ordained Father Frank Aylward, Father Mike Ryan, Father Wayne Cummings, and Father William Hearn to the priesthood. Archbishop Penney also ordained Father Larry George who died as a young priest. After his transfer from our Diocese to the St. John’s Archdiocese, Archbishop Penney was caught up in a scandal concerning priests and sexual abuse. As he failed to act when he was given information about a certain priest who was abusing young men, the Archbishop was compelled to retire. He has lived quietly for a number of years at St. Patrick’s Mercy Home in St. John’s. His time as Archbishop of St. John’s was very difficult, and we pray now that he has found eternal peace in the presence of Jesus. “Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.”

Baptismal Congratulations: We welcome into the parish community, *Blake Kevin Campbell and Kolton Zachary McDonald* who will be baptized at St. Anne’s Church on Sunday. We wish Blake and Kolton and their families all God’s blessings.

Baptismal Congratulations: We welcome into the parish community, *Kolton* ----- who will be baptized at St. Ignatius Church on Sunday. We wish Emerson and her family all God's blessings.

Contest!!!!

Youth from 12-18 years of age are invited to send ideas (draw a picture, describe in 10 sentences or less) for a video game "**What Caring for Human Life Looks Like.**" All ideas are welcome!!! First prize is your choice of either \$100.00 Steam or iTunes card, second prize \$50.00 Steam or iTunes, third prize \$25.00 Steam or iTunes card. Top prize winner claims their name on opening screen of video game . Contest closes Jan. 31st 2018 and winners will be announced on Feb.28th 2018. See contest details on line at <http://www.centreforlife.ca/lifecontest/>. Any questions please email info@centreforlife.ca

Request Form for Envelopes for 2018

If you did not use envelopes this year but would like a box for 2018, please phone the parish office at 538-3106 or drop a note with your request into the Sunday collection. A box will be issued to you as soon as possible. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE ENVELOPES UNTIL JANUARY, 2018.

2018 Parish Envelopes will be available during December. Please make sure that the box you take has your name on it. If you did not use envelopes this year but would like a box for 2018, just record your name on the request form at the back of the church and a box will be issued to you the following week. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE ENVELOPES UNTIL JANUARY, 2018

Family Prayer: In the family, through the faith and love of parents, children first experience the love of Jesus in their lives. Through their parents, especially through prayer, children learn to know and love God. Parents can pray with little ones, and read Bible stories to them, and teach little ones to bless themselves. The parents can also teach their children prayers like the 'Our Father' and the "Hail Mary". Meal time is also an important time to ask God's blessing and to give thanks. It would be a beautiful blessing for families to spend some time each day, or each evening, praying together and asking God's help.

Gluten Free Hosts: Some people have an allergy which can be triggered by wheat. As you know, the Sacred Hosts which we receive in Holy Communion are made from wheat. Recently, we have purchased a small number of gluten free hosts. If you would like to receive Holy Communion with a gluten free host, we ask you to please phone the parish office at 538-3106, so we can be prepared beforehand.

Christmas Tickets: *St. Ignatius Christmas tickets are on sale now at St. Alban's Clover Farms. All the prizes were donated by St. Alban's Clover Farms. Hurry and get your tickets for a chance to win some beautiful prizes for Christmas.*

What They say about our church: The most beautiful treasure of the South Coast of Newfoundland is our Church here in St. Alban's. It is breathtaking. It is a joy to bring visitors

to our Church, as they are overwhelmed at the workmanship and its gracious dignity. Sometimes a stranger helps us to appreciate something we overlook or take for granted. Here are a few comments from our visitor's book which is at the back of the Church:

"A beautiful Masterpiece" "Awesome, His Holy Presence is Here" "The most beautiful Church." "Absolutely amazing Work." "Glad to be home, I love my church."

Isn't it a wonder that all this work was done with hand tools only, as there were no power saws or electricity when this church was built. Each morning when I go to open the Church, the same thought comes to me: *'Oh, Lord, I love the beauty of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.'*

When we find fault: There is a famous billboard on a very crowded highway which reads: "You aren't stuck in traffic, you are traffic!!" How easily we distance ourselves from problems, in our politics, in our churches, in our world. We feel we are stuck in a political or religious situation where we find it difficult to talk to the other person. But we may have become too rigid, too self-righteous, too stuck in our own ways to even try to understand the point of view of another person. We see things like injustice, bigotry, racism, greed, violence, murder and war, but we may be part of the problem ourselves. Like the man said **"Nobody is shot by a gun that wasn't shot before with a word."**

Children's Sunday Liturgy: *The children's liturgy takes place each Sunday morning, during Mass. Appropriate ages are 4+ years.*

Baptism Registration Form: This form can now be downloaded from the parish website at www.stignatius.net Just click on SACRAMENTS and select BAPTISM. You can also call – 538-3106 or email st.ignatius@nf.sympatico.ca the parish office to have a registration form emailed to you. **Please contact the parish office during the months of pregnancy (if possible) to arrange for Baptism Preparation.** Baptisms are celebrated upon request after Baptism Preparation has been completed.

STIPENDS: (as recommended by the Diocese)

FUNERAL: \$200.00
Wedding: \$200.00
Baptism: \$25.00

Readers at Funeral Masses: One of the most sacred parts of a Funeral Mass is the reading of the Word of God. Family members and friends of the deceased person look for comfort and hope in sacred scripture. If the proclaiming of the Word of God is not done well, those listening feel they have lost something precious. At our Funeral Masses, the proclaiming of God's Word should be done by our regular readers. These people have been formed over time by the Word of God, and in many cases, they are better suited to proclaim the Word and the intercessions. Both funeral directors have received a letter from the parish asking their assistance in this matter. Thank you and God bless you.

Grace before meals: *“Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts which we are about to receive from your goodness. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

PRAYER TO ST. ANNE

Remember, O glorious and Good Saint Anne, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help and sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, behold, I cast myself at thy feet, and beseech thee, by thy great prerogative of being the Mother of the Queen of Heaven and the Grandmother of Jesus, come to my aid with thy powerful intercession, and obtain from Almighty God through the ever Blessed Virgin Mary, this special favor which I beg of thee.....Cease not to intercede for me until, through Divine Mercy, my request may be granted. Above all, obtain for me the grace one day to behold my God face to face and with thee and Mary and all the Saints praise and bless Him through all eternity. Amen.

Reading the Word at Funeral Masses: At every Mass, the Word of God should be read with the greatest clarity and reverence and dignity. At every Mass, the Word of God should be proclaimed well. At Funeral Masses, the family and the people attending are most attentive to the Word to find comfort and peace at a very difficult time in their lives. I will speak to both funeral directors in our parish, and a list of readers will be provided so that the family of the deceased can choose readers who have had experience and training in reading of the Word of God. This way, the family do not have to choose family members to read the Word of God.

THE ADVENT WREATH

An Ancient Tradition

The Advent wreath has its roots in traditions practiced by the early Germanic peoples. As winter's short and dark days began growing brighter, they would celebrate the coming light by making wreaths of green and lighting fires. When these people became Christian, they began using wreaths in their churches, to celebrate the coming birth of Jesus, Light of the World.

The Circle: No Beginning or End

The wreath is formed in a circle, which has no beginning or end. This reminds us of our God, who is eternal -without beginning or end. The shape of the Advent wreath also represents the gift of eternal life won for us by Jesus' dying and rising to new life.

Green: The Color of Life and Hope

The wreath is made of evergreen boughs. Green is the color of life. It reminds us of the newborn life of Jesus our Savior. It also reminds us of the gift of new and eternal life we received at baptism. The color green is also the color of hope. Christian hope tells us that we can build a better world by living the Good News of Jesus' Gospel. Christian hope also tells us that nothing can overcome God's love for us in Christ.

Candles: For each Sunday in Advent

.During the first two weeks of Advent we light the first two purple candles.

The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent.

Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the soon-coming birth of the King of Kings.

Traditionally, each of the four Advent candles have a deeper meaning which is depicted in the lovely Four Weeks of Advent Pewter Wreath:

- The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the “Prophet’s Candle” reminding us that Jesus is coming.
- The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the “Bethlehem Candle” reminding us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.
- The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the “Shepherd’s Candle” reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.
- The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the “Angel’s Candle” reminding us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men