

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

DECEMBER 12 - FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE, PATRON OF THE AMERICAS: Today's memorial commemorates the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in 1531 at Tepeyac, on the outskirts of Mexico City. An imprint of her image was left on a cloak belonging to Juan Diego to whom she twice appeared. This cloak is an object of great veneration and is preserved in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, one of the major pilgrimage centres of North America. Devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe has grown over the centuries, and in 1946 Pope Pius XII named her a patron of the Americas. *The Canadian Catholic Aboriginal Council, founded by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in 1998, proposes that the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe be a National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples. All are invited to pray for indigenous peoples on this day.*

DECEMBER 13 - MEMORIAL OF SAINT LUCY, VIRGIN, MARTYR: Lucy was born in Syracuse, Italy, and was martyred about 304. Because her name is derived from *lux* ('light'), during the Middle Ages people suffering from eye trouble began invoking Lucy's aid. She is also associated with festivals of light, especially in Scandinavia.

DECEMBER 14 - MEMORIAL OF SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, DOCTOR: Born in Spain in 1542, John later entered the Carmelite community and was ordained in 1567. With the great Carmelite mystic, Teresa of Avila, he worked for the reformation of his order and helped found the reformed ('Disalced') Carmelites. He wrote many spiritual classics, notably *the Ascent of Mount Carmel, The Dark Night of the Soul,* and *The Living Flame of Love.* John died in 1591, was canonized in 1726, and proclaimed Doctor of the Church in 1926.

The Gospel of Saint Mark: This Sunday, we begin a new church year. We celebrate the season of Advent. The world looks forward to the coming of Christ into our world. During the coming year, at the Sunday Masses, the Church reads and reflects on the Gospel of Saint Mark. The Gospels tell the story of the life and words of Jesus. These words were written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. But they were all inspired by the Holy Spirit when they wrote the accounts of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Saint Mark wrote the shortest of the Gospels. Most scholars think that Mark's Gospel was the first to be written. He was a companion of Saint Paul and he was with Saint Peter in Rome. In Rome, Mark wrote down the reflections and stories which Peter shared with him. The Gospel of Saint Mark begins with these striking words: ***'The beginning of the Good news about Jesus Christ, The Son of God.'***



ST. IGNATIUS PARISH

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

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent is a time of waiting and the readings today call us to change, to undergo an interior transformation. Just as we prepare in practical ways for the Christmas season, so too must we prepare our hearts, creating a place for the Lord Jesus to dwell and examining our lives to prepare for that final day when we will meet God face to face. The Gospel reading invites us to reflect on our lives so that we can best "prepare the way of the Lord". Let us reflect on how we are called to change so that God may more easily come to us. John the Baptist suggests one way – turning away from sin and starting anew.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass Schedule: Dec. 11th – Dec 15th

Monday----- No Mass
Tuesday----- 2:00 p.m.-----Twin Town Manor in Grand Falls-Windsor
Wed. ----- 7:00 p.m ----- Parish Chapel----- Eli & Veronica Organ
Thurs----- 10:00 a.m.----- Parish Chapel ----- Aloysius, Margaret & Allie Collier
Friday ----- 10:00 pm----- Parish Chapel ----- Howard & Agnes Barnes, Luke & Mary Farrell

Weekend Liturgy: Saturday Dec 16th and Sunday, Dec. 17th

St. Alban's-----Sat. --- 7:00 p.m.—St. Ignatius Church ----- Jaydon Strickland
St. Alban's----- Sun.---10:30 a.m.--St. Ignatius Church----- **Parish Family**
Conne River---- Sun. ---2:00 p.m.—St. Anne's Church----- Samuel & Florailda Collier

St. Albans ----- Sun ----6:00 p.m. – St. Ignatius Church ----- Advent Penitential Service

Penitential Service: For many Christian, an Advent Penitential service is an important part of their preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas. As a community, we can come together and express our sorrow. As individual Christians, we can come, humbly asking forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. We will celebrate our Advent Penitential Service on Sunday, December 17th at 6:00 pm. Father David Joy will join us for this special time of forgiveness. Both Father Joy and Father Brophy will hear confessions at the end of the ceremony. ***"If your sins are like scarlet, I will make them white as wool."***

MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND MASSES

| DATE | Sacristans | Readers | Collectors | Communion Minister | Altar Servers | Music |
|---------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dec. 9 | Jenny Maggie | Knights of Columbus | Knights of Columbus | Knights of Columbus | Knights of Columbus | Clayton, Julie Ann And Chrissy |
| Dec. 10 | Mary Strickland Patsy MacDonald | Philomena Sutton | Necia Dollimont Mary Organ George Davis | Valerie Hoskins | Christine Mary Organ | Folk Group |
| 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 |

Weekly Parish Revenue

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|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| St. Ignatius Church – offertory ----- | \$1432.00 | St. Anne’s Church – offertory ---- | \$82.00 |
| Flowers : ----- | \$200.00 | Parish Dues: ----- | \$100.00 |
| Donation : ----- | \$100.00 | Funeral Stipend: ----- | \$200.00 |
| Mass Stipends: ----- | \$165.00 | Religious Articles: ----- | \$350.00 |

Parish Dues: Lenora Lambert, Ray Collier, Sue & Dan Snook

Gratefully acknowledged donation, *In Loving Memory of John & Laura Willcott*, by the Willcott Family.

Christmas Flowers

In Loving Memory of Kenneth Willcott & Willcott & Hoskins Families, by Clara Willcott
In Loving Memory of Clarence Collier , by Julia Collier & Family
In Loving Memory of Madeline & John Domalain, by Julia Collier & Family
In Loving Memory of Julia & Leo Collier and sisters & brothers, by Julia Collier & family
In Loving Memory of Thomas & Georgina Barnes, Jacob Benoit & Philip Cox, by Ann & Kevin Benoit

Sunday Missals: New 2017-2018 Sunday Missals will be needed for the new liturgical year which begins on December 3rd (First Week of Advent). These missals will be sold at the weekend masses for the next several weekends. 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

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

ST. IGNATIUS PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

Christmas Flowers: Parishioners wishing to donate towards purchasing Christmas flowers, may do so by putting an envelope marked “*Christmas Flowers*” in the collection basket. If the flowers are donated “*in memory of*”, please indicate this on the envelope. Thank You.

Tree Lighting: Once again, throughout the Christmas season, we will have our beautiful tree in front of the Church. People come from far and near to see our tree, and it is a reminder to all that Christ, the Light of the World, has come into our lives. Also, in front of the Parish House, we have our beautiful Christmas crib with Mary and Joseph and the Child Jesus. How simple. How beautiful. How wonderful that the Son of God has come down to live among us. I wish to thank sincerely the men who worked so hard to place these simple reminders near our church, knowing that they bring added joy to this Holy Season.

Condolences: The parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish extend to the family of the late John Skinner, their profound sympathies. We join you in prayer for the repose of your loved one. May God Bless you and console you.

Condolences: The parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish extend to the family of the late Anthony Organ , their profound sympathies. We join you in prayer for the repose of your loved one. May God Bless you and console you.

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

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.”***

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.'

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.

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."

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.

STIPENDS: (as recommended by the Diocese)

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

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.

TAKING ACTION TO PROTECT GOD'S CREATION: Here are some ideas based on those Pope Francis mentions in Laudato Si'(no.211):

1. Use fewer paper and plastic product- ex: use re-usable water bottle,etc.
2. Reduce water consumption- ex: take shorter showers, wash dishes by hand, etc.
3. Don't cook more that you will eat
4. Compost (instead of disposing) food waste
5. Recycle
6. Reuse instead of throwing away.
7. Instead of driving, walk, or ride a bike
8. Conserve electricity- ex: turn off lights and buy energy-efficient appliances
9. Plant trees