

ADVENT SEASON: “The season of Advent has a twofold nature: it is a time to prepare for Christmas, when we recall Christ’s First Coming among us, and it is a time when we look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of the ages. In this way Advent is a period of devout and joyful expectation” (*General Norms for the Liturgical Year, 39*). During Advent, each Sunday’s Gospel reading has a specific focus. The Old Testament readings, especially those taken 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.

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.



ST. IGNATIUS PARISH



Pastor: Reverend Patrick Osuji , **Secretary:** Regina Gould

P. O. Box 38, St. Alban’s, NL AOH 2E0

Parish Office and House Phone 538-3106 Priest 709-280-4904

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This is the first Sunday of Advent and the first Sunday of the new liturgical year (Year C). There are three aspects of anticipation to Jesus’ coming in the Advent season: the celebration of his birth some 2000 years ago (past), receiving Jesus in our lives today (present), and his coming again at the end of time (future). Today’s readings emphasize the third aspect when Jesus comes again in glory. In the Gospel Jesus speaks about the signs that will occur at the end of time and says, “Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man”. Let us take time during this Advent season to examine our lives to prepare for that final day when we will meet God face to face.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass Schedule: Dec. 3rd – 7th

Mon -	3:00 p.m.-----	St. Ignatius Church-----	Funeral Mass for James Gaulton
Tues -	11:00 a.m.-----	Parish Chapel-----	Albert Morris (Ann)
Wed.-	11:00 a.m.-----	Parish Chapel-----	Palmer, Shirley & Edmund Sutton
Thurs.-	5:15 p.m.-----	Cathedral in Grand Falls -----	Feast of Immaculate Conception
Fri.	-----	-----	No Mass

Weekend Liturgy: Saturday, Dec.8th and Sunday, Dec.9th

St. Alban’s-----	Sat. --- 7:00 p.m.	St. Ignatius Church-----	<i>Deceased members of Knights of Columbus</i>
St. Alban’s-----	Sun.--- 10:30 a.m.	St. Ignatius Church-----	Parish Family
Conne River----	Sun. --- 2:00 p.m.	St. Anne’s Church-----	Florilda Collier

A New Church Year: 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 Luke. 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.

MINISTRIES' SCHEDULE FOR WEEKEND MASSES

DATE	Sacristan	Reader	Collectors	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Servers	Music
Dec. 1	Jenny Maggie	Pat Pittman	Anthony W. Kevin Organ Francis M.	Elizabeth Murphy	Edith Patsy	Julie Ann
Dec. 2	Mary Patsy	Mary Organ	Necia D. Mary Organ George Davis	Mary Strickland	Kevin Anthony	Mary Organ
Dec. 8	Mary Patsy	Elizabeth Barlow Thomas Collier	Anthony W. Kevin Organ Francis M.	Edith Organ	Knights of Columbus	Folk Choir
Dec. 9	Mary Organ	Lydia Walsh	Necia D. Mary Organ George Davis	Mary Organ	Jenny Brenda D.	Folk Choir

Weekly Parish Revenue

St. Ignatius Collection:-----\$939.50

Flowers: ----- \$55.00

Religious Articles:----- \$10.00

Misc:----- \$50.00

Parish Dues: Eva Collier

St. Anne's Collection:----- \$149.00

Candles:----- \$206.25

All Souls Day: ----- \$20.00

New Christmas Religious Articles are available in the cabinet at back of church. Some nice gifts on are display.

New Missalettes: will be on sale after the Masses. The cost is \$6.00.

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

Jesse Tree: Don't forget to pick up the new symbols...

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.

Chase The Ace- Game 5: Held at the RC Legion , St. Alban's on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm. Fundraiser open to all persons 19 years and older. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

Condolences: The parishioners of St. Ignatius Parish extend to the family of the late Jim (James) Gaulton their profound sympathies. We join you in prayer for the repose of your loved ones. May God Bless you and console you.

Important Dates to Remember:

Dec. 8-7:00 pm--- Mass in memory of deceased Knights of Columbus and outdoor tree lighting

Dec. 16-10:30 am---Children's Pageant

Inside Tree Lighting--- **Date to be announced**

Dec. 18-7:00 pm---Penitential Service

Christmas Flowers

In Loving Memory of Albert Morris, by Anne, Mike Helena & grandchildren

In Loving Memory of George, Bessie & Alfreda Harding, by Doreen, Calvin and family

In Loving Memory of William & Annette Drew and Drew family, by Calvin, Doreen and family

In Loving Memory of Olive & Ralph Organ, by Anne & Teresa

In Loving Memory of Junior, Shirley, Edmund & Helena,

by Anne & Teresa

Lighting of the Church Christmas Tree: On Saturday, December 8th, the Knights of Columbus will have a special Mass for all their deceased members. During this Mass, they will also have the Lighting of the outdoor Christmas Tree.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: *Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated in the Cathedral in Grand Falls-Windsor, on Thursday, December 6, at 5:15 p.m*

Penitential Service: On Tuesday evening, December 18th, 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. At the end of the celebration, Father Patrick will hear confessions for those who wish to go. We will gather at 7:00 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.

December 6 - Memorial of Saint Nicholas, Bishop: In the early fourth century Nicholas was made Bishop of Myra in Lycia (now Turkey). He was famous for his charity and was so popular that he was chosen joint patron of Russia with Saint Andrew; he is also a patron of sailors and children. In many parts of the world, Saint Nicholas still plays a role as Santa Claus.

Christmas Tickets: St. Alban's Clover Farms are selling tickets on beautiful prizes they have donated for our annual Christmas ticket draw. Tickets are \$1.00 and are available at St. Alban's Clover Farms

. Parishioners from the various parishes of the Diocese are encouraged to attend this Mass .

2019 Parish Envelopes By now, you should have your 2019 set of envelopes. For those who did not use envelopes in 2018 but would like to do so in 2019 there are extra unnamed boxes available at the back of the church. If you take one of those boxes for 2019, don't forget to record your name opposite the box number on the sheet provided. PLEASE DO NOT USE THE ENVELOPES UNTIL JANUARY, 2019

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).

The following are from Pontifex, the Official Twitter page of His *Holiness Pope Francis*:

- +Pontifex: In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we find our way back to the Lord, and rediscover the meaning of life.
- + Pontifex: If we dedicate more time to prayer, our hearts will reveal the lies with which we deceive ourselves, and we will find true consolation in God.

- + Pontifex: What would happen to us if God did not always give us the chance to start over again?
- + Pontifex: Living the encounter with Jesus means allowing yourself to be turned inside out by Grace every day.
- + Pontifex: When we allow Jesus to enter our lives we discover the secret to keeping alive the flame of our spiritual life.
- + Pontifex: Lent is the road that leads from slavery to freedom, from suffering to joy, from death to life.

Parish Council: The Parish Council will be seeking new members in the New Year. The terms of the majority of the current parish council members will expire at that time. If you would like to nominate a person, please fill out the form below and mail, email to the parish office. Forms can also be placed in the collection box in an envelope clearly marked "Nomination Form".

St. Ignatius Parish
Nomination Form

I, _____, being a member of St. Ignatius Parish
nominate _____ to serve as a member on the
Parish Pastoral Council.

Signature

I, _____ accept the nomination to serve
for a two year term on St. Ignatius Parish Council.

Signature

Date:

- + Do I live life to the fullest for God and His people?
- + Do I give thanks to God every day?
- + Am I a generous and giving person?
- + Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue "Do not fear, only believe". Do I follow those words of our Lord?
- + What can I do this week to improve my prayer life?

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.