

**TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ OCTOBER 8, 2023**

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO  
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER  
ST. JOSEPH, PORT FELIX  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR 902-366-2927  
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 902-358-2346**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Donna Jackson, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer,  
Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,  
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne,  
Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at  
[www.cansoparishes.org](http://www.cansoparishes.org)*

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**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**Saturday, October 14** - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*  
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Rita David*  
**Sunday, October 15** - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*William 'Junior' Peitzsche*  
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Earle O'Halloran*

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**

**Thursday, October 12** - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

**COMMUNION CALLS** - If you know of someone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

**REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS** - ***Yielding The Desired Fruit***  
*There is no pain more intense or distressing than that of being rejected or not being appreciated. Like a sword of sorrow, it pierces our hearts and leaves us deeply wounded. Rejection or ingratitude is something we all encounter on our journey through life, and Jesus was no exception. The Son of God came to us, showing his love in every possible way, but people rejected him. This gospel passage exposes us to the blunt truth that God has done everything possible for us by sending his only Son. In return, we have turned our backs and offered him nothing but indifference or ingratitude. And he laments through Isaiah: "What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done?" Each of us is a tenant cultivating a small portion of God's vineyard and, when harvest time arrives, we are expected to produce the fruits of compassionate caring and generous sharing as shown in the gospel. The parable challenges us to keep working in God's service and not to become complacent. A time will come when we will be answerable for how we have carried out the task God has entrusted us*

*with. What if at the end of our life, we have nothing to offer the Lord but the sour grapes of selfishness, ingratitude, unfaithfulness and neglect of our duties? Christ wants us to respond to his appeal to bear good fruit and become an immense, beautiful harvest.*

### **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

<b>Star of the Sea</b> (31)	340.00
Loose	100.00
Winter Fuel (2)	40.00
Nativity Scene	175.00
<b>St. Agnes</b> (29)	335.00
Loose	10.00
<b>St. Vincent de Paul</b> (6)	85.00
<b>St. Joseph</b> (17)	222.00

**Thank you so very much for your ongoing support.**

### **ST JOSEPH NEWS**

Weekly Bingo - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

### **ST. AGNES NEWS**

Bingo - resumes October 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

Fall Fund-raiser - **Profit was \$2,938.00!! Special thanks for donations and support!**

### **STAR OF THE SEA NEWS**

Cemetery Clean up - will be held Saturday, October 14 at 9:00 a.m. Anyone capable of helping is invited to tidy up the cemetery before the winter. Rain date is October 21.

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, October 10 at 6:15 p.m. We welcome new members. Please help out!

Ministries Schedule, October 15

Lector - Martha Rhynold

Cleaners - October 8 - 14 - Theresa & Eileen

**Glebe Hill** - There will be no public access through the glebe hill due to the condition of the road. **The church and Glebe can be accessed through Chapel Street.** Thank you for your cooperation. We are working on having the road repaired.

**STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH - NATIVITY SCENE** - requires a new Nativity Scene. The present one is in deplorable condition with some of the figurines taped together with duct tape. We are asking for donations to help with the cost of replacement. If each family could donate \$20.00, the bulk of the cost would be covered. Donations may be placed in Sunday Collection, Etransferred to [support@cansoparishes.org](mailto:support@cansoparishes.org), or dropped off at the parish office.

### **EVENTS - STAR OF THE SEA**

Prize Bingo - Will be held Sunday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. We are short on prizes so we are asking parishioners to donate a prize. Thanking you in advance.

Club 100 Tickets - Congratulations to Betty Ann Munroe, Patricia Rhynold, Rene LeBlanc, David Casey and Carolyn Quann! Thank you so much.

## NOTES

Mass for Shut Ins - Mass for Shut Ins will soon begin its 61st season. Starting October 15, will air Sunday mornings on the CTV channel.

Contact coordinator, Nick Vince, at [nick@dioceseofantigonish.ca](mailto:nick@dioceseofantigonish.ca) for scheduling details or for donations.

October 8, 2023 • 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A

## Look to the Good Things

*This Week's Readings at Mass* ▶

Isaiah 5:1-7 - The vineyard song

▶ Philippians 4:6-9 - Joy and peace in Christ ▶

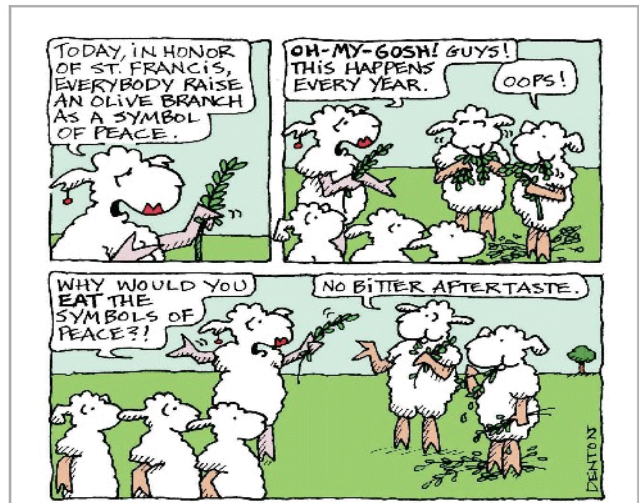
Matthew 21:33-43 - Parable of the tenants

We don't often focus on the second reading from the epistles, but Paul has a particularly beautiful message for us this week.

The words in Paul's letter to the Philippians are timeless in their comfort and encouragement, especially considering that historians think Paul wrote them while he was imprisoned. By the time of this writing, Paul had suffered immensely as a result of his faith. During his travels throughout the Mediterranean world teaching and preaching about Jesus, Paul had been arrested, beaten, imprisoned, chased out of town, shipwrecked, gone hungry, and bitten by a poisonous snake. Yet at times, he was still able to feel profound peace and gratitude and offer his troubles to God in prayer. We know from some of his other letters that he didn't always feel that way—there were times he agonized about how difficult his life journey was. But here he is in a good space, confident and trusting.

Paul's encouragement to "have no anxiety at all" may be easier said than done. Sometimes we can't just turn off our anxiety. Other times, though, just the reminder that we can bring our fears and concerns to God in prayer can bring some relief and a sense of peace.

Paul's next piece of advice, to focus on the good, is just as pertinent today as it was for him during a time of great suffering and unrest. Anyone who follows the news or is attentive to the immense pain in the world today knows how easy it is to feel overwhelmed by bad news: natural disasters, racism, poverty,



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"Keep on doing what you have learned, received, heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you."

### Sheepish Question:

How and with whom shall I SHARE the peace of God in Christ Jesus today?

illness, etc. The media feeds us the more sensationalized stories—focusing on the one plane that crashes rather than the many that land safely each day. Paul isn't telling us to bury our heads in the sand and ignore difficult things but to turn our attention to all of the ways God is active and present in the world: in matters of beauty and truth and honor. This advice is an antidote just as needed today as any time in history.

## Questions of the Week

- 1 Have you ever had an experience of being anxious but then finding peace through prayer?
- 2 What are some true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, or gracious things in your life right now to which you are invited to give more attention?

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