

**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**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 10, 2023**

**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)*

**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**Saturday, December 16** - 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - ♥*For the Faithful*

**Sunday, December 17** - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Donald & †Marie Bouchie*  
-11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - ♥*For the Faithful*

**NOTE** - **St. Vincent de Paul, Queensport** is closed for the winter. Parishioners are encouraged to attend the 6:00 pm Saturday Mass at St. Joseph, Port Felix.

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**

**Thursday, December 14** - 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.

**ADVENT**: The Season of Advent is where we prepare for Christmas, when we recall Christ's first coming among us, and it is also a time when we look forward to his second coming at the end of the ages. Advent is a time of joyful expectation. Let us remember and respond to this expectation in prayer, quiet time and preparation for the celebration of Christmas.

**MEMORY TREES** - will be displayed until Sunday, January 7, 2024. Donations will be deposited to the parish of your choice. Memorial cards are available in the entrance of our churches.

**REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS** - ***LETTING GOD FIND US***

*During this Advent season, we have our own sets of expectations, longing for a better world. While it is true that the reign of God has, in Jesus Christ, been established among us, it is likewise true that we humans have not responded to God's offer, as we should. We long for peace. We cry out for justice. Security remains elusive. Dishonesty, corruption, and greed still beset us. We lament the condition of the world we have to live in. Yet, God continues to come into such a*

world much as he came two thousand years ago. He continues to challenge us to remain as positive as we can be. He continues to call us to selflessness, generosity, honesty, and love even in the negatives of this life. He was not recognized by most of the people when he first came. Will we recognize him when he comes now? Will we recognize "the one who comes"?

### **SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

<b>Star of the Sea</b> (29)	632.50
Winter Fuel (2)	70.00
Loose	25.00
<b>St. Agnes</b> (20)	285.00
Loose	20.00
<b>St. Joseph</b>	N/A

**Special thanks for your ongoing support.**

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

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 6:15 p.m.

Ministries Schedule, December 17

Lector - Buzz Lumsden

Christmas Cleaning - December 17 - 23 - General cleaning for Christmas, please note if you have been in to clean and what you cleaned so it does not get repeated. Thank you all!!

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

Christmas Bazaar - Profit was 3,039.00, a huge thank you for your donations and support! It is much appreciated.

Ticket Draw - Canso Coop Grocery Certificate, value \$300.00. Draw date December 12. Tickets are available for committee members

### **ST JOSEPH NEWS**

Card Plays - continue Tuesdays, at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome

Christmas Prize Bingo - special thanks for your support!

### **ST. AGNES NEWS**

Bingo - Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall

Craft Market - Special thanks for your support

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** Anyone wishing to make a donation in memory of a loved one to help with the cost of Christmas flowers and decorations can do so by dropping the information in the collection basket in an envelope marked Flowers. Christmas flowers can be placed in the vestry of Star of the Sea after December 20.

**JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT** - A series of reflections by diocesan hermit Sheila O'Handley "Deep-seated anxiety seems to cover not only our world, but also our hearts. We need Advent's Hope of anticipating, gestating, and welcoming LIFE'S fidelity to New Life."

Join in the journey with a new post each week:

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/celebrating-advent-2023/>

### **NOTES**

Mass for Shut Ins - has begun its 61st season.

As of October 15, Mass for Shut Ins will air Sunday mornings on the CTV channel

# A Long Road Ahead

*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 - Promise of salvation
- ▶ 2 Peter 3:8-14 - Christ will come in judgment
- ▶ Mark 1:1-8 - John the Baptist

In the First Reading, the prophet Isaiah addressed the Jewish people, who were captives in Babylon. It was a time of great darkness in the history of our Jewish ancestors. Their country had been conquered, and their people were captured and taken away to a foreign land. Isaiah was speaking to people who knew what hopelessness felt like, people who understood personal and national darkness and despair. They didn't know if their nation would survive the conquest or if they would ever see their homeland again. Home was 500 miles across the wilderness as the crow flies, but a 900 mile trek because of the terrain.

Isaiah proclaimed words of comfort, and promised that their ordeal was about to end. He knew the journey back home would be long and hard. The people would have mountains to climb and valleys to cross as they passed through the rugged landscape, but Isaiah promised that God would be with them to smooth the way. He assured them that their God was coming with power, and like a shepherd, would feed his flock and lead them with care.

OMIGOSH! I FEEL SOMETHING WELLING UP INSIDE ME... IT'S AS TONGUES OF FIRE FILLING EVERY CORNER OF MY HEART... IT'S THE SPIRIT SPEAKING!!

It's the chili pie speaking

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"Prepare the way of the Lord ... he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**Sheepish Question:**  
How can I recognize and follow the urging of the Holy Spirit within me?

## Questions of the Week

- 1 Of all the disturbing situations in the year 2020, which one(s) disturb you the most and make you long for God's relief or comfort?
- 2 In what personal situation(s) are you experiencing mountains, valleys, and rough country?

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