

**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

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ SEPTEMBER 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

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, September 16 - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Denise Cashin*

Sunday, September 17 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Beattie Horne*
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Rita (Cphoon) Brackenridge*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Thursday, September 14 - 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 - *Fraternal Correction* - *We all have this duty also to watch over our brothers and sisters. We must not turn a blind eye toward the fault of the other person. We must point it out. But whenever we point out the mistake of the other person, we must do it in love and never be rude about it. Many of us tend to point out the mistakes of others in public, insulting them. In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us that it is wrong to do so. In correcting people or telling them their fault, Jesus tells us in the gospel the steps we should follow. First, we should meet the person one-on-one about the issue. Sometimes, people get to know themselves through gossip. If we have met with the person and he/she refuses to listen to us, then we can invite two other persons not to slight but to talk to the erring person. And if that fails, then we call the community intending to help this person. Gossip, unforgiving hearts, and individualism destroy relationships and we must run away from them. We must learn to face the person who hurt us and tell the person the wrong he/she has committed. Through this teaching, Jesus is inviting us to be extra-generous while correcting or dealing with an erring person. How do I deal with my brother/sister who prefers to go the wrong way and refuses to change? Am I willing to go the extra mile in bringing back a person who has gone astray, or do I condemn him/her? Do I act as "my brother's or sister's keeper"?*

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, September 12 at 6:15 p.m.

Ministries Schedule, September 17

Lector - Harry Delorey

Cleaners - September 10 - 16 - Harry Delorey

We are inviting parishioners to serve as Sacristans, Ushers and Altar Servers for Funeral. Please contact Fr. Jonathan for more information.

EVENTS - STAR OF THE SEA

Trivia Night - Saturday, September 23, 7:00 p.m. - Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Pre-register by September 21, teams of 4 Club 100 Tickets - are available form committee members, draw date is September 26.

Cake Booth - profit was 1,384.00

Chowder Luncheon - profit was \$891.00 Just splendid! Special thanks for your ongoing support for these events.

ST. AGNES NEWS

Bingo - will resume in September.

Upcoming Fund-raiser - donations/prizes are needed and would be greatly appreciated! Date of draw will be announced later.

ST. JOSEPH NEWS

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

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea (28)	585.00
Loose	50.00
St. Agnes (13)	230.00
Loose	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul (6)	135.00
Loose	15.00
St. Joseph (16)	225.00
Loose	15.00

The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer

Shrine - Annual Celebration at the Shrine - Sunday, September 10th, a Continuous Rosary will start at 1:00 pm at the Shrine and will continue until 3:30, just in time for Feast Day Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Following Mass there will be refreshments at the Mabou Hall. Compliments of our CWL. The gift shop is open, 10:00 am until 4:00 pm, everyday including Sundays and Holidays. The Shrine is always open. Divine Mercy Chaplet - St. Ann's Parish Church, Guysborough, Sept. 27, 6:00 pm Join in celebrating the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Benediction.

Feast of St. Ninian - Saturday, September 16. St. Ninian is the Patron Saint of the Diocese of Antigonish. This year, St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish, is launching the celebration of its 150th anniversary in 2024 with a Mass and supper on the feast day. St. Ninian, pray for us.

A Two-Way Challenge

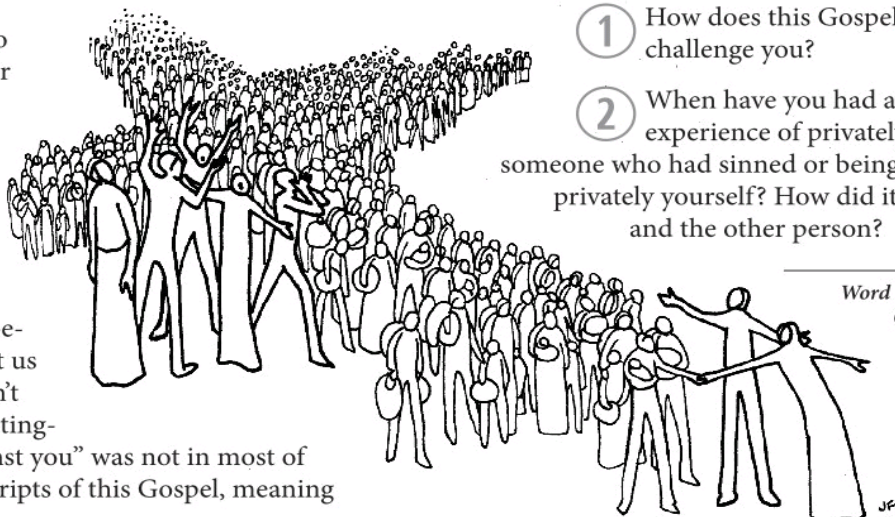
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Ezekiel 33:7-9 - The prophet a watchman
- ▶ Romans 13:8-10 - Love fulfills the Law
- ▶ Matthew 18:15-20 - Fraternal correction

The first reading and the Gospel reading today both address the responsibility of believers to call out and name injustice and sinfulness when they see it. In the Old Testament reading, God tells the prophet, Ezekiel, that he must speak out to dissuade wicked people from doing harm, or he will be responsible for their deaths. Likewise, Jesus gives his disciples instructions for confronting those who have done wrong.

Jesus' teaching in the Gospel reading today about reconciling someone who has sinned is a challenge for two kinds of Christians. First, it is a challenge to those in the Church community who judge others publicly—boldly proclaiming in print, from the pulpit, or in the media. It is often easier for an accuser to go public with an accusation than address the matter privately and with more humility and sensitivity first. Jesus is asking such accusers to do the hard work of personal conversation first, which may have the effect of helping the accuser to grow in understanding and acceptance of the “sinner.” (Of course, Jesus isn't asking people to put themselves in danger to do so, for example, asking a victim to approach her rapist in private.)

Jesus' words are also a challenge for other Christians who are too hesitant or timid to call out sinfulness and injustice when they see it. Sometimes we let injustice continue because it doesn't hurt us directly—the sin isn't “against” us. Interestingly, the phrase “against you” was not in most of the ancient manuscripts of this Gospel, meaning



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“Whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Sheepish Question:
What is it about the good news of Jesus that I'm keeping from people I love? Why?

it was probably added later. So Jesus was calling on his disciples to privately point out their brother's sin (before escalating to a broader audience), regardless of whether they were directly impacted. Jesus is asking for courage here to stand up for any victim who is hurt by another's behavior. When a white person confronts another white person privately for a racist comment, that is the first step toward growth and reconciliation.

Questions of the Week

- 1 How does this Gospel reading most challenge you?
- 2 When have you had a growthful experience of privately confronting someone who had sinned or being confronted privately yourself? How did it change you and the other person?

Word of the Week •
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