

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT
ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX**
PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 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

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at
www.cansoparishes.org*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 10, 2024

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Mar. 16 - Port Felix - 6:00 pm - †*Violet Bellefontaine*

Sunday, Mar. 17 - St. Agnes Parish Hall - 9:30 am - †*William "Junior" Peitzsche*
- Star of the Sea Church Vestry - 11:00 am - †*Gladys Delorey*

**WEEKDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS TIMES - EVERY WEEK
DURING LENT**

Wednesday, March 13 – 2:00 p.m. St. Joseph's **No Mass** - Stations of the
Cross Only

Thursday, March 14 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

REFLECTION TODAY'S READINGS - *God's Love for us and the World*

The theme of today's liturgy is God's love for sinful humanity manifested in sending His Son, through whom we are saved from sin and death. John 3:16-17 are among the most famous verses in the New Testament. It is rightly regarded as the summary of the Christian Theology of Salvation. When John declares that "**God so loved the world that he gave his only Son**", he makes two assertions about God's love. He emphasizes how God chose to express his love, that is, **by sending His own Son**. Secondly, he speaks of the degree to which God loved the world, that is, **He gave His own Son**. The theme of God sending Jesus is central to John's theology, occurring over fifty times. The fact that God sent His Son not to judge the world but to save it should fill us with joy and hope. For we do not have a God who is distant and unconcerned about the world, but who

cares for the world. He is always concerned about our salvation and would hold back nothing to realize it.

What sort of world did God love? In the fourth Gospel, the word “**world**” is used with a negative meaning to mean those opposed to God. The object of God’s love is a world with sins and failures and rebellion and disobedience. The fact that God loved a world that is inimical to Him serves as a model of genuine Christian love. True Christian love is not reciprocal; it is not based on another’s character or conduct. It is the imitation of God’s infinite love. One is reminded of Jesus’ most famous teaching, “**Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven**” (Mt 5:44-45).

Easter Triduum Schedule:

March 28 - *Holy Thursday* – 7:00 pm
St. Joseph’s Church, Port Felix

March 29 - *Good Friday* – 3:00 pm
St. Joseph’s Church, Port Felix

March 30 - *Easter Vigil* – 8:30 pm
St. Joseph’s Church, Port Felix

March 31 - *Easter Sunday* – 9:30 am
St. Agnes, Little Dover

March 31- *Easter Sunday* – 11:00 am
Star of the Sea, Canso

Lenten Reconciliation Service

There will be a Reconciliation Service in preparation for Easter on Friday, March 22 at Star of the Sea Vestry at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteers for Feet Washing

We are calling for volunteers who would like their feet to be washed on Holy Thursday Mass to indicate in the sign-up sheet at the back of the Church or by contacting the Parish Office.

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, April 2 at 6:15 p.m. We are encouraging and begging for new members!

Ministries Schedule, March 17

Lector - Harry Delorey

Cleaning - March 17 - 23 - Harry Delorey

Ways & Means events

Easter Prize Bingo - will be held Sunday, March 24, 2:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Donations are needed and would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your past support.

ST. AGNES NEWS

Even Split Draws - profit was \$500.00, special thanks to the organizers! Winners were Heidi Bouchie and Ray Carrigan, congratulations! A huge thank you for the support.

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

ST JOSEPH NEWS

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

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea (23)	590.00
St. Agnes (22)	415.00
Loose	10.00
Initial (3)	15.00
St. Joseph	N/A

NOTES:

Development and Peace — Caritas Canada’s partner Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) defends farmers’ rights and helps protect their lands.

March 17 is Solidarity Sunday - Support the collection in parishes throughout our diocese, or give online at

<https://devp.org/en/make-a-donation/>

Bring It into the Light

This Week's Readings at Mass

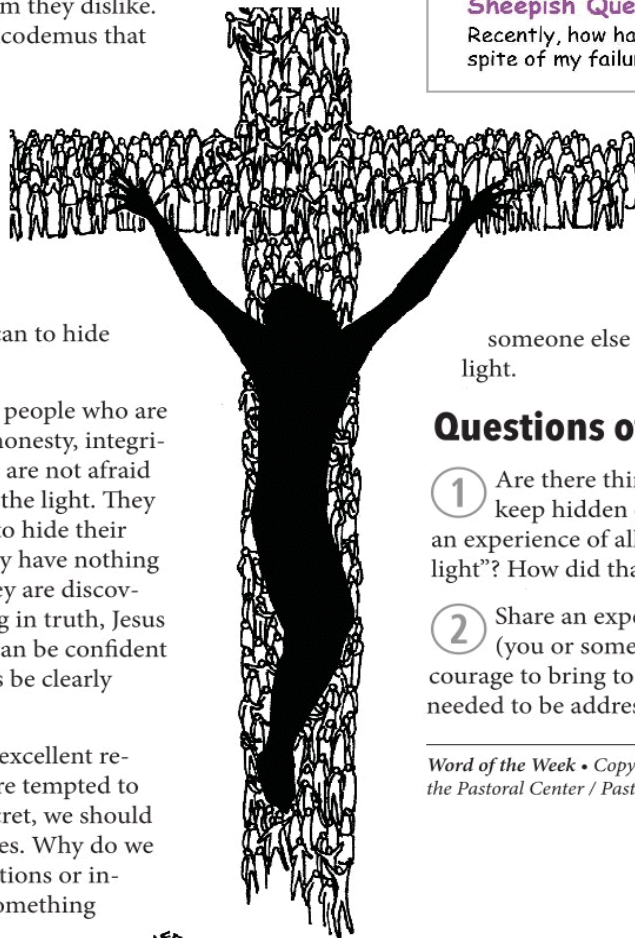
- ▶ 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23 - Defeat of Judah
- ▶ Ephesians 2:4-10 - Generosity of God's plan
- ▶ John 3:14-21 - Jesus' teaching to Nicodemus

In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches often about light and darkness. It is from here that we get the image of Christ as the light of the world, a light that can never be overcome, no matter how deep the darkness of the world might seem at times.

Nicodemus—a Pharisee—comes to Jesus at night, probably because he doesn't want the other Pharisees to see him meeting with Jesus, whom they dislike. Jesus explains to Nicodemus that people who are evil like to work in the dark where their wickedness can be hidden. They don't want to be exposed so they do what they can to hide their actions.

On the other hand, people who are trying to live with honesty, integrity, and truthfulness are not afraid to do their work in the light. They don't feel the need to hide their actions because they have nothing to be afraid of if they are discovered. If we are living in truth, Jesus assures us that we can be confident in letting our works be clearly seen.

This dialogue is an excellent reminder that if we are tempted to keep something secret, we should question our motives. Why do we need to hide our actions or intentions? Is there something



“By grace you have been saved by faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God.”

Sheepish Question:
Recently, how have I experienced God's grace in spite of my failures?

we are trying to cover up, and if so, why? St. Ignatius urged people to pay attention to when they were tempted to keep something secret. In such cases, he suggested they intentionally tell someone else about it so as to bring it into the light.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Are there things you have been tempted to keep hidden or secret? If so, have you also had an experience of allowing something to “come to the light”? How did that bring you freedom or relief?
- 2 Share an experience of a time when someone (you or someone else you know) had the courage to bring to light a troubling situation that needed to be addressed. What happened?

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