

**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](http://www.cansoparishes.org)*

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ JANUARY 21, 2024**

**WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, January 27** - Port Felix - 6:00 pm - ♥*For the Faithful*

**Sunday, January 28** - Star of the Sea - 11:00 am - †*Dorian Harnish*

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES**

**REFLECTION TODAY'S READINGS - *The Call to Repentance***

*On this Third Sunday of the Church's Liturgical Year, the readings teach us that once we are ready and willing to repent of our sinful ways God is ready to forgive us. People of Nineveh repented of their sinful lives and as a sign of their repentance, they put on sack clothes and fasted. The Lord saw their repentance and showed his great mercy towards them. Jesus also began his ministry by calling us to repentance. Therefore, when Jesus calls us to assist in spreading the kingdom of God on earth by bringing others into the fold, we should not allow for any hindrance. We should be fully detached from everything that hinders us from working for the kingdom of God just like Peter, Andrew, James, and John who left everything in order to follow Jesus.*

**STAR OF THE SEA NEWS**

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

*Ministries Schedule, January 28*

Lector - Edmund LeBlanc

*Christmas Cleaning* - January 21 - 27  
- Harry

**WAYS & MEANS EVENTS**

*Events Calendar 2024* - is available in the entrance of the church. Please pick one up. Please contact a committee member if you want to donate or are interested in helping out. An important note: if you belong

to other organizations, please share the calendar and consider the events that are already scheduled.

*Tickets on Heat Certificate* - are available from committee members, value is \$300.00, draw date is February 27.

*Trivia Night* is scheduled for Saturday, February 17 at 7:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Preregistration is required. Pizza, chips and drinks will be available. Thank you

**ST. AGNES NEWS**

*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**

<b>Star of the Sea</b> (24)	525.00
Initial (2)	30.00
Winter Fuel (3)	60.00
Loose	20.00
<b>St. Agnes</b> (6)	85.00
Initial (1)	5.00
Memory Tree	575.00
<b>St. Joseph, Jan 7 &amp; 14</b> (28)	350.00
Loose	5.00
New Years Day (5)	50.00
Initial (5)	25.00

### **NOTES**

*Mass for Shut ins* - now airing its 61st season. Mass for Shut Ins airs Sunday mornings on the CTV channel and is available for viewing on demand on our Diocese of Antigonish YouTube Channel. an. 18-25

*Week of Prayer for Christian Unity* - The Week (January 18 - 25) of Prayer for Christian Unity is an annual ecumenical celebration and invitation to Christians worldwide to pray, worship, and explore faith together.

### **What is Lent? Wednesday, February 14, 2024 - Thursday, March 28, 2024**

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which

we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).

In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

## "Leave Our Jobs? For What?"

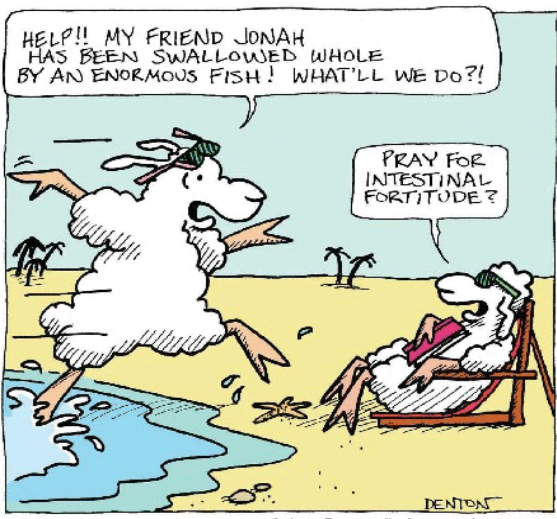
*This Week's Readings at Mass*

- ▶ Jonah 3:1-5, 10 - Conversion of Ninevah
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 - Encouragement within a hostile world
- ▶ Mark 1:14-20 - Call of the first disciples

The fishermen who are called by Jesus in this reading knew a life of hardship. They probably could not read or write. They did hard physical labor over long hours to just get by, probably following in the footsteps of their fathers and grandfathers who had always done the same work. When the fishing was good, they could sell the extra fish to provide for their families' needs. When the fish weren't biting, they needed every last one to feed their families. There weren't ways to get ahead in life. They lived under the brutal Roman Empire that occupied their country and ate up extra income with unfair taxes.

Then Jesus came along and invited Simon, Andrew, James, and John to follow him. What is it that made them willing to go without hesitation? They were living a hard life, but at least it was a known life. Joining Jesus to become "fishers of people" would have made no sense at all to most people.

We'll never know the thoughts racing around their minds that day—the day their lives changed in ways they never could have imagined. Up until then they had probably never traveled more than a few miles from their homes. Yet within a few years these four fishermen would be preaching to crowds and baptizing thousands as they traveled throughout their world to tell people about the man who changed their lives. They must have recog-



HELP!! MY FRIEND JONAH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED WHOLE BY AN ENORMOUS FISH! WHAT'LL WE DO?!

PRAY FOR INTESTINAL FORTITUDE?

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"The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe the gospel."

**Sheepish Question:**  
When do I need courage to fully believe and live by God's way?

nized something very special about Jesus to agree to follow him.

### Questions of the Week

- 1 Do you know anyone who made a life-changing decision so radical that no one saw it coming? Why do you think that person had the courage to change?
- 2 What words would you need to hear from Jesus to convince you to give up a known future in order to follow him into an unknown future?

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