

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ~ FEBRUARY 25, 2024

**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*



WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 2 - Port Felix - 6:00 pm - †*Ronald Charles Bond*

Sunday, March 3 - St. Agnes Parish Hall - 9:30 am - †*Mary & †Joseph Keefe*
- Star of the Sea - 11:00 am - †*Nora Noonan*

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

Wednesday, Feb 28 - **2:00 p.m.** St. Joseph Church, Port Felix - ♥*For the Faithful*

Thursday, Feb 29 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel, Canso - ♥*For the Faithful*

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS - *The Hope of the Glory to Come*

The Liturgy of the second Sunday of Lent focuses on the Transfiguration of the Lord. Jesus gave a glimpse of his divine glory to three of his apostles. Why did Jesus manifest his divine glory to them? The apostles were distressed when Jesus foretold them about his passion and death. The purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to encourage his apostles and to strengthen their faith in view of his upcoming passion. This experience had an enduring effect on the apostles. Jesus gives strength and courage to those who follow him and he never lets them down. His strength sustains our struggles of life and his power complements what is lacking in our efforts. He never condemns us but gently leads us on the right path. Jesus "will not break the crushed reed, or snuff the faltering wick" (Mt 12:20). Christ is with his Church, and despite human failures and limitations, she enjoys the protection and assistance of her Lord. So, the Church can continue its mission of redeeming humankind with courage and hope. When Jesus manifested his glory to the Apostles, he asked them to look beyond the cross to his Resurrection and Glory. It was his passion and death in obedience to the Father that really won him glory (Phil 2:8-9). The cross is not the ultimate reality for Christians. It is the means or channel through which they will participate in the glory of Christ. The hope of this glory gives meaning to our pains and struggles of life.

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

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

Ministries Schedule, March 3

Lector - Ginny Boudreau

Cleaning - March 3 - 9 - Irene & Juanita

WAYS & MEANS EVENTS

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

Trivia Night - a very special thank you to all who helped in any way, your generosity is much appreciated! Profit was 876.00. Always fun!!

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

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

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| Star of the Sea (32) | 745.00 |
| Winter Fuel | 20.00 |
| St. Agnes (12) | 120.00 |
| St. Joseph , February 11/18 (42) | 449.00 |

NOTES: Mass for Shut ins - 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.

Jubilee Year 2025 Dec. 24, 2024 through Jan. 6, 2026. To prepare for the Jubilee Year 2025, Pope Francis has announced that we begin a Year of Prayer. It will be "a year dedicated to rediscovering the great value and absolute need for prayer in one's personal life, in the life of the Church, and in the world."

Lenten Reflections with Diocesan Hermit Sheila O'Handley - "The Resurrection is a cosmic event. It is our present and future HOPE. Each week I will highlight a word or phrase from the Sunday Scriptures as a way to facilitate our discernment of, and identification of, the treasures homing in our hearts."
<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/our-lenten-journey-2024/>

World Day of Prayer - is observed annually on the first Friday in March. It is an invitation for Christians to pause and pray together ecumenically and recalls our Christian responsibility to be sensitive to the signs of the times so that we might bring a more authentically Christian dimension to the concerns of our world, our country, our community. Sponsored by the Women's Inter-church Council of Canada and its national counterparts around the world, it is celebrated in approximately 165 countries. This year's theme is *I Beg You – Bear with One Another in Love* - WDP Committee of Palestine
Please remember in your prayers.

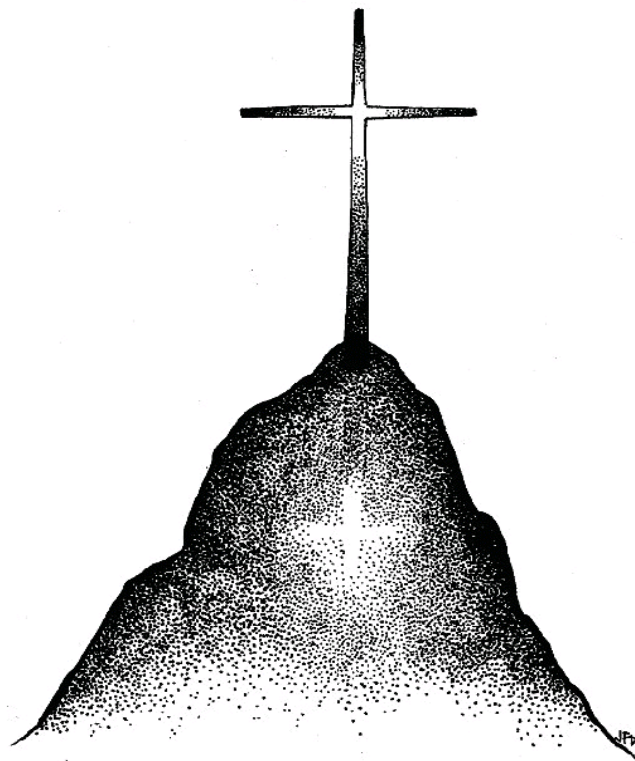
Who Exactly Is He?

This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 - The testing of Abraham
- ▶ Romans 8:31b-34 - God's love for humanity
- ▶ Mark 9:2-10 - Jesus transfigured

It's difficult to imagine this gospel scene when Jesus took Peter, James, and John up a mountain and was transfigured in front of them. There's nothing in our experience of seeing someone glow in dazzling white clothes brighter than any white we can imagine. Nor have we had visions of two people who lived long ago appearing in front of us like Moses and Elijah did with Jesus. Probably we would be terrified as the three apostles were—and maybe even wonder if we were losing our minds.

It gets even stranger when the three apostles hear a voice from a cloud telling them to listen to “my beloved Son.” At that point, they find themselves left alone with the same Jesus they have always known.



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“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.”

Sheepish Question:
What are my blind spots when it comes to making sacrifices for God?

Obviously, the experience is something the apostles couldn't have understood with their minds, at least not before his resurrection from the dead. Before this scene, the apostles—as well as pretty much everyone else Jesus was meeting—were trying to figure out just who he was. He appeared human to them in every other way except for the incredible miracles he was performing. How could a human do those things? The Transfiguration probably left the impression that although Jesus was more than just an incredible human being, the apostles still didn't fully understand who he was.

Questions of the Week

- 1 When you think of Jesus, do you think of him more as a human or as divine? How so?
- 2 If you were one of the apostles at the Transfiguration, what do you think you would have been thinking or feeling? How would it change how you thought of Jesus?

