

STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT
ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX

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CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 358-2346

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

16TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YEAR A – JULY 19, 2026

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS –

Saturday, July 25, 2026 - 4:30 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul's Church, Queensport - ♥*For the Faithful*

Saturday, July 25, 2026 - 6:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Church, Port Felix - †*Patricia Mannette*

Sunday, July 26, 2026 - 9:30 a.m. St. Agnes Church Hall, Little Dover - ♥*For the Faithful*

Sunday, July 26, 2026 - 11:00 a.m. Star of the Sea, Canso - †*Anne Marie Murphy*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES –

Thursday, July 23, 2026 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel, Canso - ♥*For the Faithful*

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS – *The Justice and Mercy of God!*

As long as we are what we are, human beings with human nature tainted by sin, there cannot be perfect humanity having only good people. Good and bad, like the wheat and the weeds of today's Gospel passage, will always coexist till the end of the world. Good and evil will always be found together among persons and in institutions. God respects people and is patient with them. In God's court of justice, his mercy sends the Advocate pleading for the culprit beyond measure. His patience grants parole to the sinner, giving room for repentance. In love, he sent his only begotten Son to atone for the sinner by his passion and death. However, he would not tolerate the abuse of his goodness by the obdurate sinner, who would be excluded from the marriage feast of the Lamb for not wearing the wedding garment. So, we also need to respect others, no matter who they are, and be patient with them. What happens quite often is that, like the overenthusiastic servants of the Gospel, we want the bad elements in society and the world to be plucked out and eliminated. But God is not like that. He wants both to grow together till harvest time. For he knows that, as the wheat will survive despite the presence of weeds, so good people can grow in God's ways, although they will be inconvenienced and may have to suffer on account of the evil ones. Besides, it is not very easy to distinguish the good from the evil, just as it is not easy to distinguish the wheat from the weeds. So, we need to be patient and at the same time watchful not to be led astray by the evil ones. It is God and God alone who can separate the good from the evil at the time fixed by him. What we need to do is to make sure that we are among the good.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS – 11th/12th July 2026

1 Star of the Sea

Envelopes (31) 560.00

Loose 70.00

Building Fund (2) 100.00

St. Agnes

Envelopes (13) 205.00

Cemetery Donation 50.00

St. Joseph's

Envelopes (21) 427.00

Cemetery Donations 200.00

1 St. Vincent de Paul

Envelopes (2) 60.00

Loose 40.00

Cemetery Maintenance Campaign 1,860.00

MODG Grant (Dave Hanhams) 300.00

*Thank
you*

Confirmation Class Sign-up: We are calling on all parents who have kids between Grades 8 – 12 who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation and are willing to do so to register by calling the Parish Office or sending an email to frjonathan@cansoparishes.org. You can also sign up by clicking/copying this link - <https://forms.gle/R5TtfpdfBxr2wxxG9>

Cemetery Notice – All Parishes: This is a reminder that the Cemetery maintenance fee of **\$50.00** is now due. It can be paid in a lump sum or in installments. All support is very much appreciated.

Wooden Crosses for Unmarked Graves:

This is to once again remind the parishioners that we still have available a well-made wooden crosses that can be used for the graves of our loved ones that have no headstone markers in the cemetery. Pls feel free to come to the office and pick one, if you wish.

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Prize Bingo (Regatta) – This event is scheduled for **August 9th 2026**. Prizes are needed. Thanks in advance for your usual generosity.

Ministries Schedule – July 26, 2026

Lector – **Marie Parker**

Cleaners – July 19 – 25 – **Irene MacDonald**

Church Steeple Repairs -

This is to inform the parishioners that the wind damage to the church steeple has been repaired (only that the colour of the shingles used was different). **NS Roofing Inc.** did this, and the cost of the repairs was **\$4,902.00**. If anyone wants to help out by making a donation towards the cost, that will be greatly appreciated.

ST. AGNES NEWS

Chase the Ace: This takes place every **Thursday @ 7:00-8:00 pm.**

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS

Bingo Game – Every **Saturday**, starting at **7:30 pm.**

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

On June 4, the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha announced its decision to remove its name from the hospital. The Health Authority will rename the hospital in accordance with the Nova Scotia Health Facility Naming Policy as part of the hospital transition.

“The conversation around moving forward is a difficult one as it has the emotional attachment of 120 of our 125 years as a Congregation,” the Sisters of St. Martha said in its release announcing the name change. “The Sisters are pleased that the ministry of Spiritual and Religious Care will remain as a blessing for people of all faith traditions.” The congregation will assist with the transition and work with the province to “design creative ways to celebrate the 120-year history of St. Martha's Hospital.”

Read the release:

https://www.themarthas.com/csm_news-detail.php?54

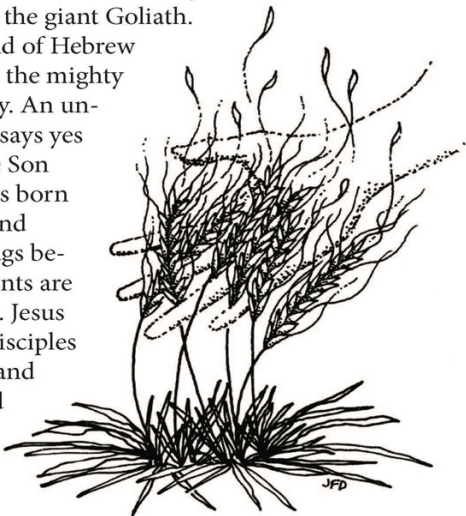
God Works with Small Things

This Week's Readings at Mass

- Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 - On God's mercy
- Romans 8:26-27 - The intercession of the Spirit ►
- Matthew 13:24-30 - The parable of the weeds

We are in the midst of a period of hearing Gospel readings about the Kingdom of God and how God is active in the world, sometimes in subtle ways. At the same time, the First and Second readings point out other characteristics of God. The First Reading, from the book of Wisdom, was written in the decades around Jesus' birth. The author stresses how mighty and powerful God is, yet how God is also tolerant, forgiving, and kind. Paul's words to the Romans teach that the Spirit of our God speaks in and through us, especially when we don't know how to pray. Taken together, all three readings today provide hope that God is alive and active in our lives, whether we always recognize it or now.

The parables of the mustard seed and the yeast which leavens the bread are well-known parables that point to God's ability to bring about great things starting with something small and seemingly insignificant. In fact, that is a theme found throughout the Bible. The entire Jewish race begins because of Abraham and Sarah's faithfulness. The boy David defeats the giant Goliath. The small band of Hebrew slaves escapes the mighty Egyptian army. An unwed teenager says yes to bearing the Son of God. God is born into a stable and wrapped in rags because his parents are poor refugees. Jesus reminds his disciples to have hope and trust that God



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"You taught your people by these deeds, that those who are just must be kind."

Sheepish Question:
Which is more difficult for me: being good and just, or being kind? What must I fix?

can and does, work through small things to do great things.

On the other hand, the parable about the wheat and the weeds seems to make a different point: we must have patience when we experience good and evil existing side-by-side in our world. Just as the farmer had no control over the fact that weeds were growing amidst his wheat crop, we have no control over bad things that happen to us. We can do all that is possible to cultivate the good (by sowing good seeds), but we have to live with unexpected and disappointing outcomes. As the farmer teaches his crew, it is not their job to sift out the bad from the good. Ultimately that is God's job. In the meantime, God invites us to live, and still grow together with the bad in the world.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What do you make of the above interpretation—that Jesus is affirming the equal role of women and men in discipleship?
- 2 Are there roles in the church that you would be uncomfortable seeing women in and might find yourself protesting like Martha to Jesus. Why?

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