

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

PASTOR: FR. ANDREW GILLIES, 366-2927
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: MARIE PARKER, 366-2336
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME: 358-2346
SISTERS OF ST. MARTHA 625-4303

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, NOVEMBER 29, 2009

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 5 - 4:30 - St. Vincent de Paul
Saturday, Dec. 5 - 6:00- St. Joseph
Sunday, Dec. 6 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes
Sunday, Dec. 6 - 11:00 a.m. Star of the Sea - Intentions of all parishioners

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday, November 30 - 9:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea
Tuesday, December 1 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph
Wednesday, December 2 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Agnes
Thursday, December 3 - 9:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS: by appointment, please contact Fr. Andrew

COMMUNION CALLS: Please contact the parish office if you wish to receive communion on First Friday. Communion will be brought to the sick and shut-ins the first Friday of each month.

WELCOME - We wish to extend a warm welcome to Fr. Andrew Gillies, our new pastor. We pray that we will welcome you in peace, joy and hospitality. May God bless your time with us.

SEASON OF ADVENT: Begins Sunday, November 29. Advent is a time for prayer, for eagerly awaiting the greatest of all gifts, Jesus the Lord. He is the light who shines in the darkness of our world. Advent wreaths are lighted. We pray to Mary, and with her proclaim the great wonders God has worked among us. The Church considers how marvelously the Father has blessed us in Jesus' first coming, and calls for his return in fullest glory: Come, Lord Jesus!

SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS

This week's Gospel is a parallel to that of the feast of Christ the King. Jesus predicts the destruction of Jerusalem. He develops the idea further, to include a description of the end of the world. He teaches that there will be cosmic signs in the sky to herald these events. Jesus adds the idea that the "Son of Man" (a phrase that means "human") will be seen in the heavens, coming on a cloud. The book of Acts--also by Luke--begins with an angelic prediction of the same event. We can't be sure of the nature of these "signs". They may refer to actual physical events involving planets and the sun. Equally possible is the explanation that Jesus is talking about the "powers of heaven" and political governments, doomed to fail.

A JUST SHOOT

Judaism, like Catholicism, is a connective religion. This means that individuals do not have to carry the burden of salvation alone. We are saved by our link to others in our faith: we're all in it together. For the Jewish people this is hereditary. God promised to bless Abraham and his descendants. This explains why there are so many genealogies in the bible — Abraham was the father of Isaac, and so on. The most important family tree was that of King David. The "just" or honorable "shoot" would be part of that tree. Jeremiah predicts this and points to Jesus.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Group sessions continue at Canso Academy for primary, two, three, seven and eight on Monday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Groups one and four will meet after school on Mondays at Fanning Education Center, Groups 5 & 6 will meet Mondays **Advent/Christmas Play** - practise will take place TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 immediately after school (2:45 p.m.) in the vestry.

at 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Canso Academy.

St. Agnes Rel. Ed continues primary, year 3 and year 6 meet in the hall on Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Year 5, 7 & 8 will meet as indicated by their respective catechists. For more information please contact Marie.

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Ministries Schedule for Sunday, December 6
Lectors - Barry & Emily Lumsden
Euch. Ministers - Dorothy Bennett

Presentation of Gifts - Louise Lumsden & Marie Hines

Church Cleaning - Irene MacDonald & Brenda Garrity

Ushers/Coll.- Rita Johnson & Paul Horne

Hospitality - John & Cindy Myatt

Sacristan - Rita Johnson

Servers - Zachary

Parish Council - Regular monthly meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 13** immediately after Mass. All members are requested to attend.

Christmas Dinner - We want to extend a very special thank you to all those who worked on this event. It is always so beautiful and the special feeling that comes from a job well done is one of the ways God thanks us for hard work. You all do a great job. Much appreciated!

Christmas Bazaar -. The Bazaar will be held Saturday, December 5 **starting at 12 noon.** Parishioners are asked to give donations of **Baked Goods, Candy/Fudge, Parcel Post, Crafts or a Bingo Prize.** Lunch will be served for \$4.00. The Prize bingo will start at approximately 1:30 p.m. Please note: If we have extra donations for bingo, they will be held over for another bingo later in the year. Donations can be dropped off at the Canso Fire Hall on Saturday after 10:00 a.m. Or in the vestry of the church.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS:

Tickets/Bingo - profit realized from these two events were \$1,317.00. We want to extend special thanks and appreciation to all who supported and helped in any way. Greatly appreciated.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

St. Agnes (41)	327.00
Loose	9.00
Star of the Sea (68)	693.00
Loose	58.00
St. Joseph (29)	210.00
Loose	29.25
St. Vincent de Paul (13)	190.00
Loose	10.00

NOTES

Note: Please note that the formal Settlement Notices (in English and French) of the class action lawsuit against the Diocese are posted on our Church Bulletin Boards located at the entrance of our churches.

St. Joseph Sunday Missals - are available in each of our four parishes. Missals for 2010 start on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29. Cost is \$4.00 per copy and money can be put in the envelopes provided. Missal money is deposited in your parish's account.

Food Bank Donations - Boxes have been placed in the entrance of the churches to accept donations for the local Food Bank. Please feel free to drop in any non-perishable items. This gives us an opportunity to reflect on the difference between justice and charity. In justice, one gives to others what is theirs by right. There are a number of intrinsic rights that we have as human beings. These basic rights include life, **food**, clothing, housing, work, and a living wage. These rights are given because it is just and fair, not only

because we feel generous. The other is our neighbour and we carry responsibility for the other in justice.

Note - The Giftshop at The Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine in Mabou is holding a Saturday to Saturday Christmas Shopping Sale. Starting on Saturday, December 5th and each day from 1 to 4 p.m. until Saturday December 12th, all merchandise in stock will be 50% OFF the regular price. During this 8 day sale you may choose to shop by phone, using your Master Card or Visa. (Postage fees will apply). Just call on any of these days from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (902-945-2221). You may also wish to consider a gift of membership in "Friends of the Shrine". Enroll a friend or loved one as an Annual or Perpetual member. Call 902-945-2221 for more details. The Shrine remains open for visitation throughout the winter months.

