

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, QUEENSPORT
ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT FELIX**
PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN OBINNA NNAJIOFOR, 366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 358-2346

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

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A - MARCH 08, 2026

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS -

Saturday, Mar 14 - 4:00 p.m. St. Joseph's Church, Port Felix - †*Donna Horne*

Sunday, Mar 15 - 9:30 a.m. St. Agnes Church Hall, Little Dover - †*Elizabeth & †Wilfred Bouchie*

Sunday, Mar 15 - 11:00 a.m. Star of the Sea Church, Canso - †*Pat Vincent Parker*

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES –

Wednesday, Mar 11 - 2:00 p.m. - St. Joseph's Church, Port Felix - ♥*For the Faithful*

Thursday, Mar 12 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel, Canso - ♥*For the Faithful*

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS – *Jesus' Encounter with the Samaritan Woman!*

The exchange between Jesus and the Samaritan woman in today's gospel reminds us that every event, even if seemingly insignificant, in our lives is a medium through which God discloses himself to us. If we are open, such events become moments of encounter in which God reveals himself to us. The encounter between Jesus and the woman began with a simple conversation about water, but in the end, the woman was led by Jesus to recognize his divinity and confess Him as the Messiah. More than this, through her experience, she could take the good news to others and bring them to the same experience. Hence, she is often presented as a model of evangelization. If we relate to the events of our life in faith and through faith, we too can experience the tangible companionship of Jesus in our journey through life, and, transformed by this encounter, we will naturally become vehicles for the transmission of the good news. Of what value to others is our faith in Christ if we cannot share our experience with others and bring them to give their lives to Christ?

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS – 28th Feb./1st Mar. 2026

Star of the Sea

Envelopes (21) 430.00

Winter Fuel 20.00

St. Agnes

Envelopes (18) 355.00

Loose 5.00

Initial (1) 20.00

St. Joseph's

Envelopes (17) 235.00



Notice: For the Season of Lent, there will be **Stations of the Cross** every week before the start of the normal Weekday Masses in Port Felix (**Wednesday**) at **2:00 pm** and Canso (**Thursday**) at **6:00 pm**. Weather Permitting!!

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>

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Ministries Schedule – March 15, 2026

Lector – *Eileen Carrigan*

Cleaners – March 15 – 21 – *Theresa Casey & Eileen Cohoon*

ST. AGNES NEWS

Money Bingo: Every **Sunday**. The time is **7:00 pm**.

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

Prize Bingo: Prizes are needed for this Prize Bingo Event. We solicit your generous donation towards this event. The date of the event is yet to be determined.

Tickets - are available on a donated 8000 Watts Generator. The draw date will be **April 26, 2026**.

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS

Card Plays: Every Tuesday, and it starts at **7:30 pm**

WEEKLY NEWS UPDATE

March Activities at CORAH

NSCC Strait Area Campus, Port Hawkesbury

CORAH is the Centre of Rural Ageing and Health.

Join us for the CORAH Café, Crafternoon, Puzzle and Scrabble Clubs, Tai Chi in Creignish, and an Afternoon at the Movies. We're also offering energizing wellness and learning sessions, including Advanced Care Planning, Sustainable Development Goals, Chair Yoga & Meditation, Cooking for One Made Easier, a Sleep Well Workshop, Provincial Grants & Programs, and Interrupting Ageism. Plus, don't miss the lively Sea Shanties with Bob! There's something for everyone—come join the fun! To register, visit our Facebook page for the registration link, or phone us at 902-625-4252. We look forward to seeing you at CORAH!

Can you help? The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

has identified an immediate need for volunteers to help prepare simple tax and benefit returns for those in need in our community. Visit canada.ca/taxes-volunteer or call 1-866-837-1531 to volunteer today!

New National Appeal To Support Ukraine

On the fourth anniversary of the full-scale war in Ukraine, the Catholic Near-East Welfare Association (CNEWA Canada) calls on Canadians to renew their support for urgent humanitarian and pastoral programs assisting families and communities in Ukraine that still face the daily realities of the conflict.

Since February 2022, CNEWA, working with church partners on the ground, has provided approximately \$10.4 million in aid to Ukraine. This assistance has helped fund emergency shelter, food boxes, hygiene kits, winterization and rebuilding efforts, childcare services, medical and psychological support, pastoral care and the ongoing formation of priests and church workers serving communities that have been most impacted. Projects have also supported people displaced within Ukraine and strengthened the local church's ability to respond to urgent needs.

CNEWA Canada encourages individuals, parishes and community groups to support the appeal through donations, prayer and participation in upcoming events throughout Lent.

To learn more and to donate: <https://cnewa.org/ca/>

Giver of Water

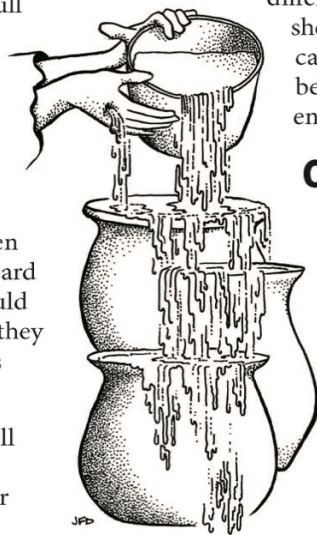
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Exodus 17:3-7 - Water from the rock
- ▶ Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 - Faith, hope, and love
- ▶ John 4:5-42 - The Samaritan woman at the well

The first reading and the Gospel connect well with the theme of thirst and God's satisfaction of that thirst. In the Exodus reading, the Israelites, who are wandering lost in the desert, are literally in danger of dying of thirst. God provides water miraculously through Moses so that the people can continue their journey to the Promised Land. The Gospel drama unfolds on a stage invoking the Moses story and other Old Testament stories of famous ancestors having significant encounters at wells, places of life-giving water.

The Gospel reading continues the theme of God providing water to quench our thirst, only this time it is living water that Jesus promises will quench our emotional and spiritual desire. The encounter between Jesus and this woman is a famous one, but the woman isn't always commended for the brave, direct, honest, and courageous dialogue she engages in with him in the light of day. (A chapter earlier in this gospel, Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews, came to Jesus under cover of night to ask him some questions.) The Samaritan woman is the first person in John's gospel to whom Jesus reveals his full identity, using the great "I AM" name for himself (John 4:26), the same name for God given to Moses in the Hebrew scriptures. In our English translations, the Hebrew is often translated as "I am He," but in the original language, it would have simply been "I AM." For any Samaritan who heard that name "I AM," a light bulb would have turned on in their head, and they would have instantly known it was God talking.

At this point, the woman at the well moves from being suspicious and skeptical about this Jewish stranger



who initiated a conversation against all social customs. Now she is convinced who Jesus is. Then, in the great mark of apostleship, the woman leaves the symbol of her livelihood—her water jug—and goes to call others to meet Jesus for themselves. This is the equivalent of the male apostles leaving their fishing nets to follow Jesus.

Clearly, this woman has known thirst in many aspects of her life. Clearly, she recognizes something different about Jesus, and by the end of the encounter, she trusts that he has something that no one else can give her to quench her deepest thirsts. Then, because she has the courage to share her experience of Jesus, many more came to believe in him.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What are you thirsting for in your life right now?
- 2 What feels like water to your parched soul these days? Consider the possibility that this is how God is providing "living water" for you currently.

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