★ STAR OF THE SEA ★

Catholic Parish · Canso, Nova Scotia

ST. AGNES — LITTLE DOVER · ST. VINCENT DE PAUL — QUEENSPORT · ST. JOSEPH'S — PORT FELIX

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time · Year A **October 11, 2026**

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS AT MASS

Isaiah 25:6-10a	**Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20**	**Matthew 22:1-14**
The feast on the mountain	God supplies our every need	The parable of the wedding feast

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS

Everything is Ready; Come to the Feast!

Week after week the harvest has been ripening in our readings, and this Sunday it is gathered in at last and set on the table. Isaiah saw it long ago: a feast on God's holy mountain, rich food and fine wine, and the Lord himself moving among the guests to wipe the tears from every face and to destroy death forever. It is an image to hold onto this Thanksgiving weekend, when so many of us will sit down at tables of our own. Every good meal we share is a small taste of the greater one God is preparing.

In the gospel, Jesus tells us how the invitations go out. A king throws a wedding feast for his son and sends for the guests, but they will not come. One has a field to see to, another his business, and the hall stays empty. So, the king does something startling. He sends his servants into the streets to bring in everyone they can find, good and bad alike, until the tables are full. That is good news for people like us, who would never have made anyone's first list. The door is wide open. Yet the parable ends with a quiet warning we should not hurry past. A man is found with no wedding garment, and he is shown out. The invitation costs us nothing, but it does ask that we come ready.

So, what is the garment? Saint Paul, writing from a prison cell, hands us the answer almost without knowing it. He has learned to be content, he says, whether he has little or plenty, because God supplies everything he needs.This Thanksgiving, the table is already set, and your place is kept. Count the gifts of this past year, name them one by one, and let that thankfulness be the garment you wear. Then come. Everything is ready.

"FOR YOUR WEEK" - REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. God has invited me to his feast. Am I making excuses, or am I coming, and coming ready?

2. The wedding garment is the one thing asked of me. What in my life needs to change so I come to God ready, not just present?

3. Paul found peace in both want and plenty. Where am I restless for more, and what would it take to say "enough, and thank you"?

4. Name three gifts from this past year you have not yet thanked God for.

WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Sat · Oct 17 · 6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's, Port Felix † **Cecilia Greencorn**

Sun · Oct 18 · 9:30 a.m.
St. Agnes Hall, Little Dover † **For the Faithful**

Sun · Oct 18 · 11:00 a.m.
Star of the Sea, Canso † **Dorothy Jean Bennett**

WEEKDAY MASS

Thu · Oct 15 · 6:00 p.m.
St. Anthony's Chapel, Canso † **NO MASS**

MINISTRIES - OCTOBER 18, 2026

Lector: Marie Parker
Cleaners (Oct. 11–17): Theresa Casey & Eileen Cohoon

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

3rd / 4th October 2026

Star of the Sea
Envelopes (31) **$585.00** · Loose **$20.00**
Winter Fuel (1) **$20.00**

St. Agnes
Envelopes (13) **$215.00** ·

St. Joseph's
Sept. 27 - Envelopes (14) **$182.00**
Oct. 04 - Envelopes (13) **$152.00**· Loose **$16.00**

St. Vincent de Paul
Envelopes (4) **$140.00** · Loose **$10.00**

COMMUNION CALL/SICK CALL - If you know of anyone who is unable to get out to Mass/Sick and would like to receive Holy Communion or Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office to schedule a visit.

"My God will fully satisfy every of yours accord ing to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."
— PHILLIPIANS 4:19 —

★ Grace at Table ★

For Thanksgiving Weekend

Bless us, O Lord, and bless this food we are about to share. We thank you for the hands that grew it and prepared it, and for the family and friends gathered around this table. Keep in your care those who cannot be with us, and open our hearts to anyone who has no table of their own. For all your gifts, this day and always, we give you thanks. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Fr. Jonathan Obinna Nnajiofor · 902-366-2927 · 613-929-7089
Congregation of Notre Dame · 902-358-2346 · www.cansoparishes.org

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Fall Cemetery Cleanup. Before the snow arrives, we gather one last time to tidy the resting places of those we love. Please join us on Saturday, 17 October 2026 at 10:00 a.m. Many hands make short work, so bring along rakes, gloves, and clippers if you have them. If it rains, we will move to Saturday, 24 October at the same time. Every bit of help honours those who have gone before us.

Flowers at the Cemetery. The flowers you place on a grave are a sign of love, and we are grateful for the care you show those who rest here. We ask one small kindness. In the wind along our shore, artificial and plastic flowers rarely stay put. They get loose and blow across the grounds, piling up along the edges, hence creating a sorry sight for such a holy place. Real flowers never cause this trouble: when their season ends, they simply fall and return to the earth. If you are able, please choose fresh flowers for your loved ones, and now and then clear away any faded artificial ones. Thank you for helping us keep our cemetery a place of peace, worthy of all who sleep here in the Lord.

Wooden Crosses for Unmarked Graves. Well-made wooden crosses are available for the graves of loved ones who have no headstone marker in the cemetery. Please feel free to come to the office and pick one up if you wish.

Prize Bingo. Saturday, 17 October 2026 at 7:00 p.m. — Canso Fire Hall.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre. 24 October 2026 at 6:00 p.m. — Canso Legion.

Church Steeple Repairs. The wind damage to the church steeple has been repaired (the replacement shingles are a slightly different colour). The work was done by NS Roofing Inc. at a cost of $4,902.00. Any donation toward the cost would be greatly appreciated.

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS

Bingo Game. Every Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Benefit Bingo. A benefit Bingo for Betty & Wayne Ehler (medical needs) will be held **Sunday, 18 October 2026** at **2:00 p.m.,** St. Joseph's Hall, Port Felix. To donate, please call **Kay 358-2750**, **Joan 358-2689**, **Marg R. 358-2407**, or **Jean Pennington 870-9332**.

Banana Split & Sundae Sale. This fundraising event will take place on ***Sunday, October 11, 202***6 at St. Joseph's Parish Hall. The time is **1 - 3 pm**. Banana Splits = **$5.00**; Sundae = **$3.00**.

Card Plays. This will start on **20th October 2026**, and it will be held every **Tuesday** at the Parish Hall by **7:30 pm**.

ST. AGNES' NEWS

Bingo Game. The usual Bingo Game will resume again on the **11th of october 2026**. The time remains **7:00 pm.**

DIOCESAN COLLECTION/NEWS

Arts Health Antigonish
offering free online Art Larks! workshops for older adults throughout Nova Scotia
No previous artistic experience is required, and participants can join from home using Google Meet. New participants only need to register once for the Art Larks! program. After registering, they may attend any workshop without signing up for each class separately:
https://forms.gle/GxZkmLGcDCNbcNTP8
Contact: Ashlie Johnson Coggins, Manager of Seniors' Programs Arts Health Antigonish, 902-318-3889 (mobile)
seniors@artshealthantigonish.org

Oct. 18
World Mission Sunday
Held annually on the second-to-last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday was instituted by Pope Pius XI a century ago. This collection directly sustains more than 1,000 mission territories where the Church is vulnerable or facing persecution.
Learn more about World Mission Sunday, read the message from Pope Leo XIV, download prayer cards, and more:
https://www.missionsocieties.ca/world-mission-sunday-2026/

PARISH CENSUS 2026

Every member counts, and this year we want to count everyone. The parish is holding a census across all our churches so we know how many we are and can plan well for the years ahead.

Please spread the word to everyone you know in the parish, those you see at Mass each week and those you haven't seen in a while. Everyone belongs here, and every name matters.

The form takes about five minutes. You can complete it in either of two ways:

- **Online:** scan the QR code below, or visit https://parish-census.netlify.app
- **On paper:** pick up a printed copy at the back of the church, fill it in, and return it to the Parish Office.

✦ GO IN PEACE, TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD ✦

May God bless you and your family this week. The complete bulletin is posted each Sunday at www.cansoparishes.org.