

# All Saints Parish

December 24th, 2023  
4th Sunday of Advent



Merry Christmas!

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**Parish Life Coordinator:** Glenna O'Quinn

**Bookkeeper:** Evelyn Currie

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## ASP CENTRAL OFFICE:

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B4H 4E2

**Office Hours - 9am to 1pm, Monday - Friday**

**Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/)

[AllSaintsParishCumberlandCountyNovaScotia](https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsParishCumberlandCountyNovaScotia)

**Website:**

[www.allsaintsparishcc.ca](http://www.allsaintsparishcc.ca)

**PRAYER LINE:**

**902-664-9396**

**SOCIETY ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HELP  
LINE:**

**902-661-0433**

## WEEKEND MASSES

### DECEMBER 23 - 4th Sunday of Advent

#### Saturday

3:00 pm Joggins/River Hebert Lay Service

4:00 pm Parrsboro Lay Service

4:00 pm Pugwash Lay Service

4:30 pm Amherst Mass – Father Mark Cherry

6:30 pm Streets Ridge Mass – Father Gregory

### DECEMBER 24 - Christmas Eve Vigil

#### Sunday

6:00 pm Pugwash Mass – Father Gregory

6:00 pm Amherst Mass – Father Mark

8:00 pm Amherst Mass – Father Gregory

8:00 pm Springhill Mass – Father Mark

6:30 pm Streets Ridge, Lay Service

### DECEMBER 25 - Christmas Day

#### Monday

10:00 am Parrsboro Mass – Father Gregory

10:00 am Joggins/ River Hebert Mass – Father Mark

## WEEKEND MASSES

### DECEMBER 30 - Holy Family of Jesus,

#### Mary and Joseph

#### Saturday

3:00 pm Joggins Mass – Father Gregory

4:30 pm Amherst Mass – Father Gregory

6:30 pm Streets Ridge Lay Service

### DECEMBER 31 - New Year's Eve

#### Sunday

9:00 am Pugwash Lay Service

9:00 am Parrsboro Mass – Father Gregory

11:15 am Amherst Mass – Father Gregory

### JANUARY 1 - New Year's Day

#### Monday

10:00 am – Amherst Mass – Father Gregory

*\*The 6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass and the New Year's Day Mass at Holy Family Church will be livestreamed\**

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

### Holy Family Church Reconciliation Schedule\*

Saturday, December 23rd—3:15-4:15pm

Sunday, December 24th—10:00am-12:00pm

Saturdays prior to Mass—3:15-4:15pm

*\*Or by appointment*

## FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN MASS—DECEMBER 26TH, 2023

Father Gregory invites everyone to Springhill for Mass at the chapel to celebrate the Feast of St. Stephen. Mass will begin at 10:30am.

Following Mass, join Father and members of the community upstairs for a pot luck lunch. Bring your favorite dish to share!

**Baptism Preparation** – If you plan to celebrate the Baptism of your child this coming year, we invite you to pick up (or request to be mailed) a baptismal preparation package. Baptism preparation courses are run throughout the year. Please contact the Central Office and we will be happy to assist in registering you for the next available session.

**Baptisms Celebrated during Mass** - Our practice is that Baptisms are celebrated with the whole community who can participate, enjoy and welcome the children into our family of God. Celebrating this sacrament with the faith community is an important first step in a child's faith journey.

## ASPARISH COLLECTION UPDATE - December 16/17 Weekend

**Total Parish Weekly Collection \$4,505.65 (vs. BUDGET projection \$4,624.20) UNDER BY \$118.60**  
Amherst (\$2,721.35), Pugwash (\$473.25), Springhill (\$243.85) Parrsboro (\$455.00), Joggins (\$279.25),  
River Hebert (\$80.00) and Streets Ridge (\$153.00)

## YOUTH FAMILY FAITH FORMATION @ Holy Family Church

**Resuming on January 7th, 2024 to make a craft and learn about our Bible hero Joshua!**

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

**Resuming on January 7th, 2024!**

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE SICK

*Sylvia Belliveau, Vera Comeau, Bette Cormier, Gerry Cormier, Denise Dorn, Julie Goldstein, Gerald Gouchie, Brenda Grant, Simone Lirette, Michele Maltby-LeBlanc, Doris Murray, Josie Stevens and Glenna O'Quinn*

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

*Rosemarie Irving, sister of Ruth St. Peter; Beatrice "Pat" MacKenzie; Reg Remington, brother of Jerry Remington*

## Synodal Prayer

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit as we gather together in Your Name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.*  
*All this we ask of You who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.*

**Amen**

**Welcome to the Family** - We would like to have you join our faith family by going to our website and filling out the parishioners welcome form at [www.allsaintsparishcc.ca](http://www.allsaintsparishcc.ca), or pick up a copy at your local church. If you have any questions about our community or how to register as a family member, please contact the Central Office at 902-667-2523.

**Knights of Columbus** - **Regular Council Meeting is the 4th Thursday of Month.** If you are interested in becoming a Knight visit [kofc.org](http://kofc.org) or contact Gary Graham, Grand Knight at 902-614-4160.

**Holy Family CWL** - The next **executive** meeting will be held on **January 10th at 1:00pm**. The next **general** meeting will be held on **January 17th at 10:30am**.

We are looking for new members and volunteers! If you are interested in helping with various charitable events and are not a member, we would love to talk to you! Please contact the office for more information.

**SSVP** - Holy Family Saint Vincent de Paul Conference members wish to extend Christmas blessings to all parishioners, especially those who have generously supported our mission throughout the year. We would not be able to serve those in need without your weekly donations. Our monthly meetings will resume on **January 22, 2024 at 6:00 pm**. If you feel the call to join the volunteers with us, you are welcome to come and see how we help in this community.

**Prayer Group Ministry** - Our last regular gathering was held Thursday, December 14th prior to Christmas. Regular prayer meetings will resume **Thursday, January 11th at 7:00 pm** in Holy Family Church.

**Holy Family Mass Choirs** - **WELCOME!** We are looking for new members to join our Holy Family choirs on Saturday or Sunday. **Sunday Choir practices on Wednesday evenings at 6pm at Holy Family** with Choir Director Lisa Baldwin. **Saturday Choir please speak to Janice Melanson or Glen White before or after Mass on Saturday** to find out more details of joining in song!! We are really looking forward to expanding and hope you will consider this as a way to serve the Lord at church!!

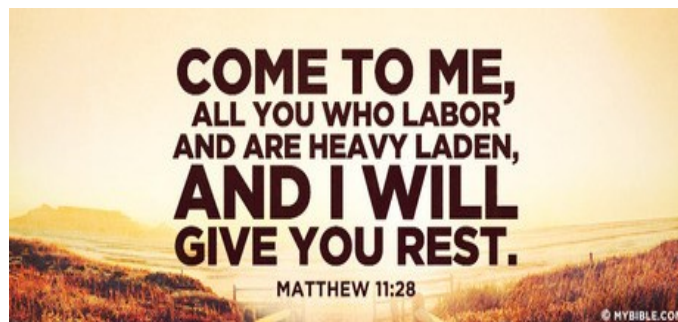
### Eucharistic Adoration

Come and have a quiet hour of adoration, prayer and meditation before our Lord Jesus and receive peace and strength for your daily life challenges. Everyone is welcomed and all will be filled with the Lord's presence!

**Holy Family, Amherst:** **Regular Adoration will resume Monday, Jan. 8th at 9:30am**

**St. Thomas More, Pugwash:** **Fridays 9:30-10:30am**

**St. Brigid's, Parrsboro:** **Paused through the winter; will resume in the spring**



## ASParish Truth & Reconciliation

Sgt. Tommy Prince was a member of the Brokenhead Ojibway Nation at Scantbury, Manitoba. At the age of 24, in 1940, he enlisted in the army. He served as a reconnaissance expert in what was called, by the Germans, the Devil's Brigade. He was awarded 11 medals for his service in WWII and the Korean War. His service shows a great commitment to his country.



In 2022, Canada Post issued a new stamp to remember and honor his life and achievements. Post-war, he and other Indigenous Veterans were excluded from Legion Halls because they served alcohol, so information about benefits and programs available to them as veterans was not able to be accessed there. Their exclusion from places where alcohol was served was a restriction placed on them by the Indian Act.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, through the Divine Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we pray for the grace to understand your will for our parish, All Saints Parish. You call us to embrace the "New Evangelization" and to be laborers in your vineyard. We are mindful that the Holy Spirit is the principal agent of evangelization without whom we labor in vain. And so, we ask you to breathe into us your Holy Spirit as in a new Pentecost that we may experience the depth of your love and be filled with the fits and apostolic zeal we need to share the good news of Jesus, your son.

Amen

**MASS INTENTIONS—ASPARISH**

If you would like to have a mass said for a loved one, contact the Central Office. The cost is \$10.00

DAY	DATE/TIME	CHURCH	MASS FOR	PRIEST	OFFERED BY:	
Saturday	23	4:30 pm	Holy Family	Marcella Landry	Fr. Mark	Holy Family CWL
	23	6:30 pm	St. Cornelius	Sherman Little	Fr. Gregory	Mary Ann Belliveau
Sunday	24	6:00 pm	St. Thomas More		Fr. Gregory	
	24	6:00 pm	Holy Family		Fr. Mark	
	24	8:00 pm	Holy Family		Fr. Gregory	
	24	8:00 pm	St. John the Baptist		Fr. Mark	
Monday	25	10:00 am	St. Brigid's		Fr. Gregory	
	25	10:00 am	St. Thomas Aquinas		Fr. Mark	
Wed.	27	10:00 am	Holy Family	Pauline Griffiths	Fr. Gregory	Frank Allen
Thurs.	28	10:00 am	Holy Family	Wayne Fredericks (Living)	Fr. Gregory	Kathy Gardiner
Friday	29	10:00 am	Holy Family	Ronald "Frenchie" Comeau	Fr. Gregory	Frank Allen
Saturday	30	3:00 pm	St. Thomas Aquinas	Wilfred Burbine	Fr. Gregory	Dianne Burbine
	30	4:30 pm	Holy Family	Paul and Emilia Mills	Fr. Gregory	Kathy Gardiner
Sunday	31	9:00 am	St. Brigid's	Dennis Smith	Fr. Gregory	Nancy Curleigh
	31	11:15 am	Holy Family	Pauline Griffiths	Fr. Gregory	Plassey Rodrigues, Evelyn Pollard, Carolyn d'Entremont and Betty Nelson
Monday	1	10:00 am	Holy Family		Fr. Gregory	



Offertory envelopes for 2024 are available for pick up at your church. As always, please discard all old envelopes as numbers may have changed.

Also, for the first few weeks in 2024, please **put your name on the envelope** to ensure we have the correct numbers in our system. These changes are due to people leaving and people switching to pre-authorized payment (PAR). If you are on PAR, we have special collection sets to allow you to contribute to the Special Collections, such as heat and cemetery. Just call the office and we will get a set ready for you with your assigned "envelope" number.



**Offer from West Nova Fuels**

The Archdiocese has arranged preferred pricing for our churches with West Nova Fuels/Superline Fuels. They are inviting parishioners to contact them directly and to identify as members of the church. West Nova and Superline Fuels have indicated that they can offer discounted prices to parishioners but that it will be on a case by case basis. If applicable, the offer would be a per-litre discount off of the posted price for heating oil and would be based on the individual's circumstances.

**The Friendship Tree**

Thank you to everyone who donated gifts for the Friendship Tree initiative! Your generosity and compassion is evident in the abundance of items we received to make Christmas a little more cheerful for our most vulnerable community members.

*Merry Christmas!*

**Food and Fellowship!**

Otherwise known as the Tuesday Luncheon will be serving on **Tuesdays** at Holy Family Church. Dinner will begin at 11:00am and lunch is served from 11:30am until 1:00pm. This is a tree will offering.

**Will resume on January 9th, 2024!**



## Week In Advance Readings—Take Time in Prayer

**December 31st, 2023**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

**FIRST READING—SIRACH 3.2-6, 12-14**

**PSALM—128 “Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord.”**

**SECOND READING—COLOSSIANS 3.12-21**

**GOSPEL—LUKE 2.22-40**

*“Long ago, God spoke to our ancestors by the Prophets; in these last days he has spoken to us by the Son.”*

### ADVENT

Our “Journey to Joy” comes to an end. This year (2023) Advent is very short with Sunday being the only day in the fourth week. December 24th is the last day of Advent, and also Christmas Eve, and beginning with the vigil Mass is the first day of Christmas time. The liturgical texts express wholehearted confidence in the imminent coming of the Redeemer. There is much joyous expectation. Most families have their own observances, customs that should be preserved from generation to generation. Pope Francis reminds us that: *“The true joy experienced in the family is not something casual or accidental. It is a joy born of the profound harmony among persons, which gives us a taste of the beauty of being together, of supporting one another along the journey of life. But at the heart of that joy is always God’s presence, his welcoming, merciful, and patient love toward all. If the doors of the family are not opened to the presence of God and his love, the family loses its harmony, selfishness prevails, and joy is extinguished. Instead, the family that lives the joy of life, the joy of faith, spontaneously communicating it, is the salt of the earth and light of the world. It is the leaven for all of society.”* Let us remember these words as we move from Advent to our celebration of Christmas.

### *St. John the Baptist Chapel - Springhill*



The faith community of St. John the Baptist in Springhill invites you to the Vigil Mass at the chapel at 8:00 pm on December 24th.

On December 26th, The Feast of St. Stephen, you are welcome to attend a 10:30am mass followed by a potluck lunch.

*We hope to see you there!*

### **For those traveling to Halifax for Christmas...**



#### **Live Nativity**

Worship and Fellowship



Celebrate a Franciscan tradition!

Carols, reading of the Christmas Gospel at 6pm

Hot chocolate available

5-7 P.M. | Saturday,  
December 23, 2023  
Parking lot @ St. Theresa’s  
church  
6351 North Street, Halifax

Donations of non-perishable food items will be collected and given to Feed NS

### **A Note Regarding Masses at Holy Family Church**

Beginning in January 2024, there will be one lay-led service per month at Holy Family Church. The service will replace one of the Saturday afternoon masses. This change will enable Father Gregory to provide Mass to the All Saints Parish community in Joggins at least once a month. We look forward to this opportunity to engage our parishioners in the duties of leading a service and to bring our faith communities closer together.