

March 15,2020

3rd Sunday in Lent

**Confirmation Retreat With Bishop Bart**

The date has been changed to **Saturday, March 21st, AD 2020**. It begins at **10:30 am** in the morning at St. Stephen's Parish, and will continue until about 3:30 in the afternoon. Lunch is, of course, provided.

After several years of Confirmation preparation, the retreat with the Bishop of our Diocese forms a capstone to the programme. This is the final step for all the young people who are planning to receive this Holy Sacrament.

If you are in the Confirmation programme, it is essential that you attend this spiritual exercise. No-one should be missing, and nothing should take higher priority. The grace of God in this Sacrament demands commitment and dedication, and this time spent with the Bishop will certainly be worthwhile.

Theme: ***Empowered by the Spirit***

**Development and Peace**

Week 3: March 15 The Mura: Beset by Buffaloes, Plagued by Potash

For several years now, the Mura people of Brazil's Amazonas state have sought to assert their claim to their ancestral lands. To their frustration however, it has been much easier for cattle herders and a potash mine to occupy and control those lands than it has been for them to have their rights respected. Development and Peace's partner, the Indigenous Missionary Council (CIMI), helps them advocate for, defend and publicize their cause more effectively. "On behalf of the Mura in my region, I want to thank Canadians. We are very happy to have your support. It helps us in our struggle to have our rights and our land respected." — Jeremias Oliveira, representative of the Mura community, Brazil Watch the Mura's testimony at [devp.org/campaign/mura](http://devp.org/campaign/mura).

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**St. Stephen's Parish**

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**BISHOP OF CORNER BROOK & LABRADOR: Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen**

**Administrator:** Rev. Krishnarao Mekala (Chris) Email: [fatherchrisstsp78@gmail.com](mailto:fatherchrisstsp78@gmail.com)  
**Associate:** Rev A.H. White Email: [fatherahwhite@gmail.com](mailto:fatherahwhite@gmail.com)  
**PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR**  
Warren Quinton  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**  
Kelly Samms  
**RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY COORDINATOR:** Theresa Dollimont  
**LITURGY COORDINATOR:** Bernice Maddock  
**Knights of Columbus** - Grand Knight Clyde Russell **4th Degree Assembly** - Faithful Navigator Bob Miller  
**St. Anne's Guild** - President Millicent Penton  
**MARRIAGES.** Six months notice is required; a year's notice is recommended.

**ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH SCHEDULE**

<p><b>SUNDAY MASSES</b> Saturday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Sunday Morning -10:30 A.M.</p>	<p><b>ROSARY</b> Saturdays from 11:00 am <b>RECONCILIATION</b> Saturdays at 3:00 P.M.; or any time by request</p>
<p><b>MARIA REGINA PARISH SCHEDULE</b></p> <p><b>SUNDAY MASSES</b> Saturday - 4:30 P.M. Sunday - 9:00 A.M.</p>	<p><b>REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES</b> Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9:30 A.M. Thursday Adoration 10 A.M. - 12 NOON 1st Friday - Acadian Village - 2:00 P.M. 3rd Friday - Silverwood Manor - 2:30 P.M.</p>

**BAPTISM PREPARATION-** Thursday February 27, at 7:00 *Please call to register.*  
**MASS FOR THE SICK-**The First Friday of every month.  
**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.** The 3rd Sunday of the month beginning at 2:00 P.M. and ending with Benediction at 4:00 P.M  
**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET-** Everyday at 3 pm

**PRAYER MEETINGS:**  
St. Stephen's Prayer Group — Wednesday at 7:45 P.M. in the Parish Meeting Room.  
Word & Spirit Prayer Group — Tuesday at 8:00 P.M. in St. Anne's Hall.

**OFFICE HOURS:** MONDAY - 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, FRIDAY - 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM **CLOSED DAILY 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

**RECEIVED WITH THANKS MAR 7-MAR 8:**

Offertory	\$ 2303.50
Capital Repairs	\$ 20.00
Dues	\$ 200.00
Catholic Mission	\$ 29.30

**SCENT-FREE:** Please be aware that some people have allergic reactions to perfumes and other scents. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated!

**PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17th.**

**MASS INTENTIONS, MAR 16-MAR 20**

**MONDAY MAR 16, 7:00 P.M.**

For the late Patrick Brennan  
For the late Agnes Gallant  
For the intentions of Phyllis Young

**TUESDAY MAR 17, 10:00 A.M.**

For the late Bruce Pellerin  
For the late Damien Drake  
For the intentions of Albert Blanchard  
For the intentions of Tom & Linda Doyland

**WEDNESDAY MAR 18, 7:00 P.M.**

For the late Ronald & David Rose  
For the late Ray Smith  
For the intentions of the Youth

**THURSDAY MAR 19 9:30 A.M.**

For the late Jim Conran  
For the late Peter MacNeil  
For the intentions of Cecilia Russell

**FRIDAY MAR 20, 9:30A.M.**

For the late Maude/Douglas Walsh  
For the late Natasha Connolly  
For the intentions of Irene Hall

**EASTER FLOWERS:** If you wish to donate Easter Flowers in memory of a loved one, please put the name of your loved one and a donation in an envelope, and place it with the Sunday collection, or bring it to the Parish Office.

**BAY ST. GEORGE WOMEN'S CENTER:**

The Bay St. George Status of Women/Women's Centre is looking for help with personal care items and household cleaning items. If anyone has any of these items which they can donate it will be greatly appreciated. Please see the attached poster for the list of specific items needed, If you have any questions, please call 643-4444.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**ST. STEPHEN'S LENTEN MISSION:** Our Parish is taking part of a special Mission during Lent. Bishop Bart will lead the Mission March 22nd to 24th.

There is a different theme every night;  
Sunday, March 22nd, 6:30 pm- Eucharistic Adoration.

Theme: **Christ: The Longing of our Hearts.**  
Monday, March 23rd, 7 pm- Penitential Service.  
Theme: **The Work of Reconciliation**  
Tuesday, March 24th, 7 pm- Celebration of Mass.

Theme: **God's Summons**

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION COURSE:**

The one-hour Baptismal Preparation course will take place on Thursday, March 26th, at St. Stephen's Rectory. We don't normally administer the Sacrament of Baptism during the Lenten Season. Please call to register.

**MASS OF CHRISM:** Will be taking place 7pm, April 1st at the Cathedral in Corner Brook. If you would like to attend by bus, please fill in the sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

**WHY IS THE FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH ON MARCH 19TH?**

Devotion to St. Joseph, husband of Mary, and earthly Guardian of Jesus, can be traced back to the beginning of the Church. The Feast of St. Joseph wasn't fixed through until the 15th century. According to some oral traditions, March 19th was the day of St. Joseph's death, though there is a little evidence to support it, as it is unclear when St. Joseph died.

It is certain that he was present when Jesus was 12 and "lost in the temple" but there is no mention of him at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, say at the Wedding in Cana, when Mary was present. The Scriptures are entirely silent about his death and as a result, the Church relies on the oral tradition that was passed down over the centuries.

By 1621 Pope Gregory XV extended a Feast of St. Joseph to the entire Church and it was elevated even more when Pope Pius IX declared St. Joseph the "Patron of the Universal Church" in 1870.

This placement of St. Joseph's Feast in March puts him in proximity to another Biblical episode where he is directly mentioned. On March 25th, the Church celebrates the Annunciation of the Lord, when the Archangel Gabriel visited Blessed Mary. As the Gospel of Matthew narrates, "before they lived together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man, unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly" .( Matthew 1:18-19)

In any case, the primary focus of the feast on March 19th is revealed in the liturgical title " Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary." This Solemnity- with the highest liturgical ranking accorded to Saints- honour his lifelong loving commitment to Mary and his dedication as a faithful and devoted husband.

**PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE**

**March 2020**

**Please note that both classes of Year 2 and Yr 8 will meet at St. Anne's Hall, all other meetings will be in church basement unless notified before the meeting. Thank you.**

**Yr 5 & 6 March 19th at 6:00 pm**

O Glorious St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires.

O St. Joseph, please assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your powerful Heavenly intercessions, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

O St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him close in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

