Welcome to The Historic Roman Catholic Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
200 Military Road, St. John’s, Newfoundland A1C 2E8

Archbishop of St. John’s: Most Reverend Peter J. Hundt
Pastor: Father Cecil Critch, P.P., V.G.
Associate Pastor: Father John Costello
Secretary: Anne Carew
Music Director: Dr. Kiera Galway
Custodian: Brian Penney
Parish Office: Tel. 754-2170 Fax: 754-5608 - open Monday - Friday 9-12 Noon; 1-4:30 pm.
E-mail basilica@rcsj.org Website: www.thebasilica.ca

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - APRIL 7, 2019

PARISH SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK

Weekend Masses: Saturday at 5:00 pm.; Sunday at 8:30 am. & 11:00 am.

Weekday Masses during Lent: Monday Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 12:10 pm.

Fridays during Lent: Mass at 12:10 pm. & 7:00 pm., Stations of the Cross @ 6:30 pm.
Rosary: Recited in the Basilica one half hour before weekday Masses
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday after the 12:10 pm. Mass for one hour
Reconciliation: Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 pm.
Music Rehearsal: Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 pm. New singers & instrumentalists welcome
Sacrament of Baptism: Baptism Preparation to be completed before the Sacrament is celebrated.
Sacrament of Marriage: At least six months notice must be given.
Mass at Bonaventure Retirement Home: Third Thursday of each month

MASS OF CHRISM This year’s Mass of Chrism is scheduled for the Tuesday of Holy Week, April 16th at 7:00 pm. The Holy Oils and the Sacred Chrism will be blessed by the Archbishop and distributed to the parishes of the Archdiocese for sacramental use during the coming year. After the celebration of Eucharist and the blessing and consecration of the Holy Oils, a reception will be held in the ambulatories of the Basilica. There will be no 12:10 pm. Mass celebrated in the Basilica on that day.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR FAMILIES Again this year you and your family is invited to pray the Stations of the Cross specially adapted for children and led by families preparing for Confirmation and Eucharist. We invite you to come to the Basilica at 11:00 am. on Good Friday, April 19th.

Prayer... We ask that you remember the sick of our parish... Bernadine Brake, Gerard Carey, Marie Joy, Graham Wells, Frank Kennedy, Frank Fowler, Tony Murphy, Peggy Reid, Rose Barrett, Teresa Bruce, David Fleming, Robert Rice, Mary Rice. Lord, comfort them in their time of sickness and bless those who care for them. If you would like to have a friend / family member named in the Bulletin & remembered at our Eucharistic celebrations please call the Office by Wednesday noon.

Funeral .. We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of the late

James Aylward
May the Lord console you and grant eternal rest to the soul of your loved one

<<<< PLEASE MAKE A NOTE ... Weekday Masses during Lent will be celebrated at 12:10 pm. (except on Tuesday, April 16th - Mass of Chrism @ 7:00 pm.). If there is a funeral it will be celebrated at 9:30 am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrated after the 12:10 pm. Mass on Wednesday.

SPECIAL NOTE: This year on the Fridays during Lent we will celebrate Mass at 12:10 pm. and 7:00 pm.; Stations of the Cross @ 6:30 pm. <<<<<<<
THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION  When you were baptized your parent or guardians committed to bringing you up to keep God’s commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and neighbour. Would you now like to make your own mature, personal commitment to Jesus Christ and to your Catholic faith? If so, please contact the Basilica Office @ 754-2170 or basilica@rcsj.org.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS ...  As members of the Basilica-Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, we are asked to pray for Maria and Luke who are asking to be received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Also we are also asked to pray for Anna who is asking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation later this year.

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<th>FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT - APRIL 7, 2019</th>
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<td>Today we see the Pharisees living up to their name again, in their judgmental attitude they cared little for the woman who they said was a sinner. She was merely a tool to be used to entrap Jesus. Often this type of smug sin isn’t recognized by society at all … but which is the greater? Jesus invites these judgmental people to judge themselves but he demonstrates his love and compassion as he gently corrects the woman. We often hear of the need for stricter punishment, for lengthier imprisonment, for “throwing away the key” … but what does Jesus tell us today. He connects mercy with justice and reminds us that we are all sinners. This is not to say that we can forget about accountability and responsibility, but we need to remember that the act of forgiving brings about healing and renewal for both the forgiven and the forgiver. When we celebrate Eucharist together as a reconciling community, when we keep the compassionate face of Jesus always before us, and when we see that Jesus in the faces of our brothers and sisters, we know that God is touching our lives - loving and forgiving.</td>
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Journeying with St. Luke (with Dr. Gerard Whitty, D.Min.)  We are proclaiming Luke’s Gospel every Sunday throughout the liturgical year, in Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time. We invite you to come together and take a journey with Luke as he paints a picture of Jesus for his context and culture. Using various dynamics we will explore what Luke underlines as important facets of Jesus’ life and ministry like the importance of contemplative prayer, of being a welcoming community, the role of women in his ministry, the meals Jesus shared, the importance of forgiveness and many more. Our meetings will be in the PARISH ROOM at the Basilica on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. We ask you to use the parking lot behind the Basilica which is accessible through the arch or behind St. Bon’s. From there you can enter directly into the PARISH ROOM. Please call the parish office (754-2170) OR email basilica@rcsj.org to register. Next session: Thursday, April 25th .

LENTEN TREE (Emmaus Tree) .. at the entrance of the Basilica we have our Lenten Tree decorated with little paper crosses. Written on these crosses are the names of different items which could be donated for the personal care of the needy. We invite parishioners to take a paper cross from the tree and on the following Saturday/Sunday bring back the specified item.

BASILICA COMMUNITY BUILDERS ...  Once again we will be filling baskets with Easter egg treats to deliver to a few local groups / organizations …. AND …. We will be sending Easter cards to parishioners who are shut-in, who have had to relocate to assisted-living or who are sick. Our goal as parish community builders, in these types of activities, is to convey messages of Easter joy and hope and to stay connected with the community beyond our immediate Church walls. The Basilica Community Builders always welcome contributions of time, talent or treasure!

BASILICA NATIVITY WINDOW CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT & STAINED GLASS BOOK... We have a new supply of the Basilica Nativity Window Christmas Ornament, $10 and Stained Glass Windows of the Basilica: An Illustrated Guide by John FitzGerald (194pp, $25), to help raise funds for the restoration of the Basilica’s stained glass windows. These items available from the Basilica Parish Office during regular business hours, by calling 754-2170 or contact us by email at basilica@rcsj.org.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES for 2019 May 10&11; May 31 & June 1.  The courses will be held at Mary Queen of the World Parish Hall on Topsail Road Anyone wishing to register for one of the courses please contact Teresa Whiffen @ 726-3660, ext. 236.
An Evening with the Archbishop Dinner & Auction
On May 8th, 2019 at the Delta St. John’s Hotel and Conference Centre, we will be celebrating our 11th Annual Archbishop’s Dinner & Auction. Our theme this year is “New Beginnings” as we welcome Archbishop Peter J. Hundt to our Archdiocese.
Last year’s event was a great success and allowed the Archdiocese to continue to improve its many Outreach Programs. We need your support to make this year’s event the most successful ever! We are currently seeking donations for the dessert, silent and live auctions. If you would like to make a donation please contact Anne Marie Curran at 726-3660.

Tickets for the event will be going on sale soon! Tickets are $200 ($140 charitable donation receipt). Thank you for your support!

“Christ Jesus, made me his own.” Are you called to belong to Christ alone as a priest, deacon or through the consecrated life? Please call Father Jeff Kolonel @ 745-8183; Fr. Ray Earle @ 781-1696; Fr. Philip Melvin @ 754-1195, or email vocations@rcsj.org.

St. Bonaventure’s College has rescheduled its information session for prospective families to Monday, April 8th. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The session will begin at 7 pm. with a tour of the campus by our high school students. Find out why St. Bon’s is “A Great Place To Be”. A bursary program is also available for students in Kindergarten and up, which provides financial assistance toward tuition for those in need. For more information about the session or applying to St. Bon’s, please contact Ms. Carol Noseworthy, Admissions Officer at 709-726-0024, ext. 201 or cnoseworthy@stbons.ca.

MARY QUEEN OF THE WORLD PARISH on Topsail Road will be hosting a 24 Hour Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning with Mass @ 9:30 am. Thursday, April 11th and ending with Mass @ 9:30 am. Friday, April 12th. We are praying for our priests but also praying that others will choose the priesthood for their vocation. Please join us for as little or as much time as you have available. All are welcome.

FINDING GOD IN THE DARK … As we begin Holy Week, you are invited to watch Betrayal (episode 8) and Passion (episode 9) of The Bible series, on Palm Sunday evening, April 14. You can enter more fully into the events of Holy Week from Palm Sunday to Good Friday. St. Pius X Church, Smithville Crescent, 7:00 pm. Come along and bring a friend. Free Admission.

2019 National Catholic TV Mission: Sin, Forgiveness & Reconciliation. Cardinal Thomas Collins is this year’s Mission leader, and he will explore the healing power available to all of us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Mission will air on Vision TV (Part 1 - April 15; Part 2 - April 16) and Salt + Light TV (Part 1 - April 16; Part 2 - April 17) during Holy Week. For more information please check the poster at the back of Basilica or call NCBC 1-888-383-6277 or visit www.dailytvmass.com.

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE FOR LIFE April 19th, 9 am., St. Pius X Church, Smithville Crescent. The Centre for Life invites the community to gather in a spiritual fellowship of reflection and prayer for all vulnerable human life in our society. Everyone is welcome for information please call 579-1500.

Pontifical Collection of Good Friday on April 19 for the benefit of the Holy Land. Each year on Good Friday, our parish is called to support Christians in the Holy Land. Many Christians in the Holy Land depend on the collection for their lives. As a Pontifical collection requested by Pope Francis, the annual Good Friday Collection helps to maintain not only the Holy Places above all, but also the pastoral, welfare, educational and social works that the Church carries out to the benefit of the Christian brothers and sisters and the local population.

New Evangelization Summit 2019 … St. Peter’s Parish, Mount Pearl, May 4th. Join thousands of Catholics from around the world at the premier conference on the New Evangelization. The event will be held live in Ottawa & webcast to host sites across Canada, the US, the UK, and Australia. This year’s Summit is once again featuring world-class Catholic speakers: Fr. James Mallon, Michael Dopp, Cardinal Gerald Lacroix, Michelle Moran, Fr. Jon Bielawski, and Michele Thompson. The NES has been designed to inspire Catholics and help them live out their personal call to evangelize. We are incredibly excited to be a host site for NES. This year, the Summit is FREE for all attendees! Be inspired, receive formation, and connect with other Catholics. Register now at www.newevangelization.ca.
SAVE THE DATE … THURSDAY, MAY 2ND, 2019 - 6:00 PM.
BASILICA PARISH ANNUAL FLIPPER DINNER - ALTERNATE: CHICKEN BREAST  Tickets: $25.00
Dinner, Dessert, Tea/Coffee. Thursday, May 2nd @ 6 pm.; Terra Nova Council, Knights of Columbus, St. Clare Ave. (upstairs). Take-Outs available downstairs @ 5:45 pm. Tickets available at: Parish Office: 9 am.-Noon; 1-4:30 pm. (weekdays); Religious Articles Store: Saturday before & after 5 pm. Mass; Sunday: after 8:30 am. Mass & before and after 11 am. Mass.

DEADLINE for ticket purchase: Monday, April 29th. After-Dinner entertainment: “KILMAINHAM”.

Remember that when you leave this earth you can take with you nothing that you have received
– only what you have given.” (St. Francis of Assisi)

WHEN YOU DO YOUR ESTATE PLANNING, PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR CHURCH.

COLLECTIONS … Sunday, March 31, 2019
Sunday Offertory ... $6,603.75; Assessment ... $40; Ash Wednesday ... $100;
Lenten Offering ... $91; Flower Fund ... $100.

Acknowledged with many thanks. Your continued support of the Basilica Parish is greatly appreciated.

It takes about $10,103.00 per week to operate the Basilica-Cathedral Parish. Our collection for February 3 was $5,390.30 and for February 10 it was 5,287.90.

As we go through increased winter costs of heat, light, snow clearing, etc. please consider making an extra donation in your envelopes in the weeks ahead.

CONSIDER USING PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENT (DIRECT DEPOSIT). IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO USE THAT METHOD, COMPLETE THE NECESSARY FORM AVAILABLE AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE CHURCH. THANK YOU.

.. DID YOU KNOW? ... If you attend weekend Mass at a church other than your own Parish Church and use your parish envelope for your weekly offering, that offering will be returned to your own Parish.

Bingo! Cowan Plaza – Corner of Topsail Road and Burgeo Street – seven nights a week.
Knights of Columbus - St. Clare Avenue every Wednesday and Sunday

ARCHBISHOP’S APPEAL COLLECTION -- WEEKENDS OF MAY 4/5 AND MAY 11/12
These monies are needed to help the Archdiocese fund the chaplaincies at our hospitals, at the prison, at the seniors homes, and at long term care facilities, as well as the RUAP Counselling Centre. Please be as generous as your means permit.

... THE CENTRE FOR LIFE offers free, confidential, professional pregnancy and post-abortion counselling. The Centre offers tax preparation through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Preparation for modest income seniors until April 29th by appointment only. Seniors support to help understand computers, phone texting, etc. is ongoing. For more information please call 579-1500.

... RUAP Counselling Centre offers individual, couple & family counselling. Group offerings: For more information on the services available please call 579-0168, or go to www.rcsj.org
Health Sciences Centre PASTORAL CARE …. VOLUNTEERS are needed as part of the Health Sciences Centre Pastoral Care Ministry to bring Communion to Catholic patients about once a month on Sunday mornings. Patients and their families are truly appreciative to receive the gift of the Eucharist. Please consider becoming a Eucharistic Minister at the Health Sciences Centre. if you are interested, please contact: Maurice Arsenault at 576-0675 or 764-5092. Thank you for your consideration.

ONE MILLION ROSARIES FOR UNBORN BABIES - a multinational pro-life prayer event scheduled for May 3,4,&5, 2019. Persons participating will pray at least one Rosary for the protection of the unborn. For details and to register go to: http://www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org.

THE ST. PAT’S DANCERS are dancing and cooking a breakfast scoff for you. Sunday, May 5th, 11 am. - 2 pm. at the B.I.S., 30 Harvey Road. Breakfast served: 11 am. - 12:30 p.m. Entertainment by: St. Pat’s Dancers, Luke Mercer, Ryan Parsons, Nate Hammond & Paul Hamilton. Tickets: $15, order by e-mail courtneygwalsh@gmail.com; Yvonne Steiner @753-9688 or Val Geary @ 747-5752.

... Applications for the Knights of Columbus Supreme Scholarship are due on May 1, 2019. Applications can be requested at www.koc.org under scholarships. The Scholarships are 4th Degree Pro Deo ad Pro Patris (Canada ) Scholarships.
WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS ... We extend a warm and cordial welcome to all visitors to our historic Parish and city. We hope you enjoy the warm hospitality of the Newfoundland and Labrador people and that your stay will be met with many blessings.

FASTING IN LENT - by POPE FRANCIS
Fast from hurting words and say kind words. Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude. Fast from anger and be filled with patience. Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope. Fast from worries and have trust in God. Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity. Fast from pressures and be prayerful. Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy. Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others. Fast from grudges and be reconciled. Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

** Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years and older on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. ** Fasting is to observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. **

*** BASILICA & PARISH OFFICE OPENING/CLOSING TIMES .... The Basilica is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am. – 4:00 pm.; Saturday 9:00 am. until after the 5:00 pm. Mass; and 8:00 am. – 4:00 pm. on Sunday. The Parish Office is open Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 9:00 am. to 4:30 pm. – closed for lunch 12 Noon to 1 pm. daily.

Prayer For Our Parish... O God, you have made us the Church of your Son. Make our parish a family of one heart and one mind in love toward you. Grant that our common life and witness may be an example to all about us. Guide our pastor and his assistants in their ministry. Listen to the prayers of John the Baptist, our patron, and keep us secure in your love. Teach us to reach out to other parishes less fortunate. Give us a great love for all the Church, for our Holy Father, for our bishop, and all those who serve. Help us to be a haven of joy and peace within the human family. Bring us all together to life eternal. Amen

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH
We welcome all newcomers to worship with us. If you would like to register with our parish, please complete the census forms at the back of the Church and place it in the collection next weekend or drop it off at the parish office.

MINISTRY OPTIONS FOR NEW PARISHIONERS
If you are new to the Parish, and wish to be involved in some ministry, please complete the yellow sheets at the back of the Church. They list a number of the various ministries and committees of our Parish. If you wish to be involved in any ministry you must ALSO complete a green volunteer ministry information sheet. If your ministry involves high risk categories like children and vulnerable individuals, you must ALSO compete a police records check before you can serve on that committee or in that ministry. Please consult the RISK CATEGORY sheet to see where your ministry category lies.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK ... If you know of a parishioner who is aged and shut-in and would like a priest to visit them for the sacrament of the sick; or if they would like a Pastoral Worker/Eucharistic Minister to bring them Holy Communion, please contact the Basilica Parish Office (754-2170 or basilica@rcsj.org) to arrange a date and time for the visit.
COMMUNION TO THE SICK ... The Basilica Parish is trying to rejuvenate our Ministry of Communion to the Sick. We have an aging population in our Parish. We are receiving more and more calls from Parishioners who can no longer get out to Sunday liturgy and would like to have the Eucharist brought to them. We would sincerely like to be able to fulfill their request. To accomplish this, we need parishioners who are willing to sign up for this Ministry. It is also suggested that family members or relatives may also be able to bring Communion to their sick or elderly loved ones. Of course, the Parish will provide training in this area. If you are able to contribute to this vital Ministry, please call Anne at the Parish Office, 754-2170.

.. We would like to get to know you! If you would like to become a registered member of the Basilica Parish please complete a Parish Census Form. The forms are available on the tables at the entrances to the Basilica or can be picked up at the Parish Office. When completed, the form can be dropped off at the Parish Office or placed in the Sunday collection.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS ... The Christian community has a role in Christian Initiation of Adults. The Christian community supports the candidates by love, prayer, and witness and by testifying that they are ready to complete their initiation. Some members of the community help to instruct them in the faith of the Church. Candidates are also assisted by sponsors who walk with them in faith and present them to the community during the liturgical rites. If you are interested in the RCIA program please contact the parish office # 754-2170 or basilica@rcsj.org.

Prayer to Know Vocation ... Lord, I want to be happy in this life and spend eternity with You in the life to come. From the first moment of my existence, you knew my vocation. Please help me discover Your plan for my life. Help me to know myself. Help me to overcome my fears. Help me to want what You want. Help me to trust You completely. Send Your Holy Spirit into my mind and heart so, I can see the gifts You have given me and hear Your call to serve the Church. Increase my desire to bring others to You and to help them reach heaven. Mary, Most Holy Mother of God, pray for me, that I can discover my vocation and have the courage to respond in faith. AMEN

Our Alpha Program is continuing each Tuesday evening. We pray for the 80 participants in this program.

PLEASE NOTE ... The Basilica Community Builders (BCB’s) will be starting up new in-house, as well as and outreach activities for the coming year 2019. There will be notices in our parish bulletin prior to each event. Any parishioner who would like to participate in any of the BCB activities is most welcome. To participate through the donation of your time, talent or treasure, simply phone the parish office, leave your name and contact information and a member of the BCB’s will get in touch with you.

... SCENT FREE! ... In today’s society, in many public institutions, we see the sign “no perfumes/scents allowed” because people with allergies are often very severely affected by scents. We have received letters and phone calls asking that we strive to make our churches scent free. As a Church we care for the good of all so we ask your support and cooperation in our efforts to make the Basilica a scent free environment.
*** SNOW CLEARING ... During the winter months when there is a heavy snowfall the east and west doors of the Basilica will be the first to be cleared. These entrances are to be used by all attending daily Mass. The main entrances will be cleared only after the east and west have been cleared. A reminder that when the schools in the city are closed because of inclement weather, the Mass for that day (unless it is a Funeral - check parish phone 754-2170) will be cancelled. Of course sometimes it does snow on the weekend ... if in doubt about whether or not Mass is being celebrated ... please tune in to the local radio stations.

BASILICA WINDOW RESTORATION -- The Archdiocese is in the process of fixing our stained glass and exterior windows. They were last done in the 1930s. Any contribution to this Archdiocesan project would be greatly appreciated.

/// LEARNING OPPORTUNITY - Diploma in Theology and Ministry (Roman Catholic Stream) The Archdiocese of St. John’s, in partnership with Queen’s College, is offering a two-year Diploma in Theology and Ministry. Do you wish to grow in Faith? Do you want to deepen your knowledge? For more information, go to www.queenscollegenl.ca or contact Anne Walsh at amfwalsh@gmail.com

SPRING CONCERT - SUNDAY, MAY 5th, 4 PM., HOLY TRINITY PARISH IN TORBAY. A concert celebrating the beauties of life. The Aurora Women’s Choir with special guests Jennifer Johnson and the Young Virtuosi of the St. John’s Suzuki Talent Education Program. Tickets: $20/$18, children under 12 free. Food donations to North East Avalon Food Bank welcomed.

Catholic Alpha for Youth (youth aged 12 to 18) … Sunday, April 7th - Sunday, May 26th The series is open to all youth in our Archdiocese and is appropriate for ages 12-18. There is no cost for the program. Sessions take place at St. Peter’s Parish, 110 Ashford Drive, Mount Pearl. For more information on this series or to register, please visit https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/alpha-youth-seroies-tickets-33741358311 or you may contact Sara at sbroderick@rcsj.org.

STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC YOUTH CONERENCE - JULY 2019 … Youth aged 14-21 are invited to join us for Steubenville Atlantic this July 5-7! Conference will be held in Halifax, NS at Dalhousie University. For more information, please contact Sara at sbroderick@rcsj.org.

APRIL IS CANCER AWARENESS MONTH: A time to take charge of your health and take care of yourselves! Call your health care provider to make an appointment and discuss when your next Pap test is due. How far will you go to prevent cervical cancer?

YOUR BLOOD DONATION MATTERS - It matters to every patient across Canada. Because it is something we can do today to help others wake up healthier tomorrow. Canadian Blood Services, 7 Wicklow Street: Tuesday & Wednesday 3 to 7 pm., Thursday 9 am. - 3 pm., Friday 9 am., - 1 pm., Saturday 10 am. - 2 pm.

From St. Pius X Parish --- There are no Friday evening Masses in St. John’s, nor in Mount Pearl, so we have begun having a First Friday evening Mass, here at St. Pius X a 7:00 pm. Working people who like to attend can now do so. These First Friday Masses will focus attention on the Sacred Heart devotion. Dates: May 3rd, June 7th.
Traditional Latin Mass - Permanent Time Change … The Traditional Latin Mass is celebrated at St. Pius X Chapel will commence at **5:00 pm**.

**MASS** is offered daily at MUN (M-F) at 12 Noon in UC3016. All are welcome.

***WESLEY UNITED CHURCH*** >>> Will be holding Lenten Services each Wednesday during Lent in the Chapel at 2:00 pm. All are welcome to attend; >>> Men’s Choir & Rev. Bill Mercer will hold a service on Sunday, March 31st, starting at 6:50 pm. Special guests will be four representatives from the MUN School of music. All are welcome to attend.

“**Jiggs Dinner & Card Game**” Wesley United Church, Thursday, April 11 @ 6 pm. Salt Beef, vegetables, pease pudding, dessert, tea/coffee. Tickets: $20. Marvin @ 579-7900, Pheobe @ 726-1689 or Church Office @ 579-3682.

**Come “Awaken The Energy Within:** for more relaxation, energy, wellness and joy with Wisdom Healing Qigong and T’ai Chi Chih Joy thru Movement, two mindfulness meditation practices. Daytime and evening sessions Tuesday to Thursday from April 2nd to May 23rd at The Lantern, 35 Barnes Road. Also Saturday Retreat Day sessions in April and May at Presentation Sisters Retreat House, 47 Parsonage Drive. New and returning participants welcome! For more details please contact Sheila at 727-7863 or sheilaleonard@nl.nf.sympatico.ca or visit www.ksheilaleonard.ca Can also call The Lantern @ 753-8760.

… INTERESTED? Pilgrimage to Fatima & Medjugorje - September 2019, approx.. 14-16 days, includes return airfare, accommodations, breakfast/dinner, services of English-speaking guide. For more info contact Betty Melvin 745-7436 or email: brmelvin1@hotmail.com.

... **EMMAUS HOUSE ....** is in need of supermarket bags and twist ties. If you have any at home you may drop them off at Emmaus House, Monday to Friday 1-3 pm. or you may bring them to the Parish Office. Your support of the needy of our Parish is greatly appreciated.

**EUROPE TRIP …** Would you be interested in a trip to Europe in the spring of 2020? This 12 day coach-tour will travel from Greece to Croatia … beginning in Athens and finishing in Dubrovnik. It begins on April 27th and finishes on May 8th. Registrations are taking place now and spaces being booked. It you are interested please contact Fr. Jeff Kolonel at St. Kevin’s Parish office, Goulds (745-8183, or Brian Bursey, tour organizer at 576-4551 or e-mail bbbbursey@hotmail.com. A full detailed TOUR INFORMATION PACKAG is available.

**Topsail United Church Annual Good Friday Luncheon** will be held on Friday, April 19th at 11 am. Menu of Fish Cakes, Baked Beans, Molasses Raisin Bread, Desserts, Tea & Coffee. Cost: Adults $14, Children $7. To reserve your ticket please call the Church Office @ 834-4567. There will be no tickets available at the door. All are welcome.

**Topsail United Church Men’s Club Annual Breakfast** with the Easter Bunny will be held on Saturday, April 13 from 8 - 11 am., usual great menu. Cost $8 Adults, $4 Children. Face Painting, Colouring and Pictures with the Easter Bunny. All are welcome.
**Welcome to New Immigrants ...** Are you a new immigrant to Canada or new to St. John’s? Would you like to be connected to a larger Multicultural Catholic Association? Please contact Celia Quadjovie @ 763-5757 or email mcca.diversity@gmail.com. or if you want to talk to a Multicultural Catholic Priest call 689-9647.

.. If you attended a Jesuit institution other than in St. John’s please contact Fr. Joe Mroz, SJ at ej_mroz@yahoo.co (chaplain at MUN)

*** The Irish Messenger of the Sacred Heart is a little magazine that’s read all over the world. It’s a wonderful, inspirational gift that keeps giving. If you would like to give someone this gift or get it for yourself, please call 738-3236 for further information.

/\ Do you have a spare 2 hours in your week? Pastoral Care at St. Patrick’s Mercy Home is offering you an opportunity to fill these hours as a volunteer. Volunteers are needed to porter residents to the chapel, to be Lectors and Communion Ministers. The time commitment is two hours between 10 am. and 12 Noon Sunday to Friday. For further information, you may contact Judy Cook, Volunteer Services at 752-8705 or Theresa Ryan at 752-8716.

*** MEN, WOMEN & YOUTH are invited to serve as Eucharistic Ministers at St. Clare’s Mercy Hospital and/or the L.A. Miller Centre. There is a schedule and you would serve at least every fourth Sunday. You will need to be registered with the Eastern Health volunteer service - to register please contact Debbie Oakley 777-6959 or debbie.oakley@easternhealth.ca. You may contact Sr. Diane Smyth 777-5470 for more information.

** A Notice from the St. John’s Hospital Chaplains to parishioners ... A reminder for persons entering the St. John’s Hospitals and who would like to see a chaplain during your stay ... make sure you or a family member tells the admitting clerk “I would like to see the chaplain during my time in hospital”. You will then be asked your religious affiliation and will receive a visit from the chaplain within a day or two.

--- Volunteers are a wonderful asset to Nursing Homes and greatly enhance the lives of residents. Volunteers welcomed in assisting with a variety of social activities for residents at The Agnes Pratt Home. Meal Time companion, recreation, friendly visiting, community companions and pastoral care. If interested please call Judy Cook, Coordinator Volunteer Resources, Longer Term Care St. John’s at 752-8705 or email judy.cook@easternhealth.ca.

* Seniors Resource Centre’s “Friendly Visiting Program” offers seniors a new and supportive friendship, a link to community programs and services, and regular visits from a volunteer. The Friendly Visiting Program coordinator matches a senior with a volunteer based on their shared interests. For information call Sharon at 737-2333, email: fvc@seniorsresource.ca or visit www.seniorsresource.ca
** On the occasion of the death of a loved one, please consider a donation to our Heritage Foundation in memory of the deceased. Keep their memory alive in the restoration of our beautiful Basilica. If you would like to make a donation, envelopes are available at the Funeral Homes and in the Basilica, or you can call the Parish Office at 754-2170. We still require approximately $600,000 to meet our goal.

“Secure your vehicle while in Church”  Over the past number of years many incidents of vandalism to parked cars have taken place on the Basilica grounds during Church services. As of late there has been an increase in vandalism. Please ensure that when parking your vehicle that there is nothing left visible, that everything is secure.

Stewardship Prayer  ....  Almighty and ever-faithful Lord, gratefully acknowledging your mercy and humbly admitting our need, we pledge our trust in you and each other. Filled with desire, we respond to your call for discipleship by shaping our lives in imitation of Christ. We profess that the call requires us to be stewards of your gifts. As stewards, we receive your gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible manner, share them in practice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. We pledge to our ongoing formation as stewards and our responsibility to call others to that same endeavor. Almighty and ever-faithful God, it is our fervent hope and prayer that you who have begun his good work in us will bring it to fulfillment in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen