



SAINT NINIAN CATHEDRAL PARISH

Antigonish, Nova Scotia

First Sunday of Lent March 9, 2025



BISHOP

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick
bishopkirkpatrick@dioceseofantigonish.ca

RECTOR

Rev. Daniel MacLennan
pastor@saintninian.ca

DONATIONS/FINANCE

Jennifer MacEachern
finance@saintninian.ca

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Leonarda MacNeil, ofs
religioused@saintninian.ca

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Emery Van de Wiel
emeryvandewiel@hotmail.com

PARISH COORDINATOR

Mary Farrell
admin@saintninian.ca

ST. NINIAN PLACE (SNP) BOOKINGS

saintninianplace@saintninian.ca or
admin@saintninian.ca

PARISH OFFICE

Monday- Friday:
8:30am-12:30pm - 1:30pm-4:30pm
121 St. Ninian, Antigonish NS
P.O. Box 1628
(902) 863-2338

MASS TIMES

Tues-Wed-Fri: 9am
Thurs-6:30pm
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am and 10:30 am

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: 3:00pm-3:45pm

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Carleton MacNeil

FINANCE CHAIR

Tony Secco

CWL PRESIDENT

Toosje Van de Sande

KoC GRAND KNIGHT

Elliott Anderson

Our Mission Statement

"St. Ninian Cathedral is the Episcopal Seat for the Diocese of Antigonish, Nova Scotia. We humbly welcome all who wish to nurture their faith through sharing the Word, breaking the Bread, and celebrating God's love for us. Guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to worship and serve God through prayer and service to God's people, and by striving to live our lives in the likeness and image of God."

COLLECTION INFORMATION

March 2th, 2025
Sunday Collection: \$4716.50
Initial Offering: \$25.00
New Years Day : \$5.00
Diocesan Levy : \$15.00
Development & Peace: \$5.00
Good Friday: \$5.00
Easter Offering: \$5.00
Antigonish Diocesan Society: \$20.00
Restoration Friends: \$50.00
Pre-authorized payments February: \$10992.00

FOUNDATION-CEILING REPAIRS

Envelopes: \$6479.00
Soups of the World: \$1633.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday

Walter Grady, rip

Wednesday

Carroll Brosha, rip

Thursday

Theresa MacPherson, rip

Friday

Catherine MacGillivray Kuzyk, rip

Michael Cameron, rip

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

are ready and can be picked up at
The Parish Office.

DEBIT MACHINE

Our debit machine now accepts donations for both the Foundation and the General Parish Collection. Please visit the office to make your contribution. Thank you for your support!

HOPE IN GOD'S MERCY,

a parish Lenten retreat, will be held **Saturday, March 22, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in St. Ninian's Place.** The morning of reflection will include prayer, video presentations and small group discussions, and will include a break with coffee/tea and snacks provided. If you would like to participate and need babysitting, please let us know. Please register by calling the parish at (902)863-2338 or email admin@saintninian.ca.

ST. NINIAN'S CWL BURSARY

Applications are available at the back of the church. If you are a 2025 grade 12 graduate and meet the criteria, you are invited to complete the application and return it to St. Ninian's Place at the office clearly marked: CWL Bursary application; c/o Kim Grant, or mail it (address in application) by May 1st.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED PARISHIONERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS WHO HAVE DIED

Martin MacDonald, Antigonish
Florence MacIsaac, Georgeville
Dr. Brian O'Brien, Halifax, brother of Dr. Kevin O'Brien
Bobby Pula, father of Kath Aquilia
Mary Eileen Chisholm, St. Andrews
Pat MacKenzie, Antigonish

MASS SCHEDULE FOR LENT

March 5th - April 16th
Tuesday - 9am Mass
Wednesday - 9am Mass
Thursday - 6:30 pm Mass
with Stations of the Cross
Friday - 9am Mass

BAPTISM BLESSINGS'S

May God's grace and love guide you always in your journey of faith.

Mary Buglya, daughter of Xavier and Qi
Danton Jamison Phinney, son of Donovan Phinney
Kaitlin Bakelaar, daughter of James and Elizabeth

ST. PATRICK'S VIDEO DANCE

Join us for a fun night on March 15th from 8pm to 1am
St. Ninian Place
\$20 cover Music by One Stop Entertainment

COFFEE WITH FORMED!

Tuesday, March 11th, after 9 a.m. Mass, come to Room 21 for coffee/tea and muffin and find out all about Formed and how you can use it to enhance your faith life and Lenten experience.

RECTORS PICKS OF THE WEEK WITH FORMED

As we begin our 40-Day Lenten journey, there are various resources from Formed available to parishioners of all ages. Formed is a streaming service that helps dive into the beauty of the Faith at home, on the go, or from any internet-connected device. Sign up for FREE at <https://signup.formed.org/> by finding St. Ninian Cathedral Parish.

For everyone: How to Lent aims to equip Catholics with the tools to understand and practice the pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This series will challenge our preconceived notions about Lent, laying out a roadmap for entering the season with a purpose.

For youth: Lent with Brother Francis is an animated children's series offering up short and engaging episodes for young people ranging from learning about Lent, the Stations of the cross, and even daily meditations for each of the day of Lent.

For a complete interactive Lenten Calendar of content go to <https://tinyurl.com/FormedLentenCalendar>

ST. NINIAN CATHEDRAL

PLASTER CEILING IN NEED OF REPAIRS

The ceiling in the church is original, constructed of plaster onto wooden laths. Over the many years, the plaster is finally showing its age (150 yrs.) to the extent that some serious remediation work has to be done. An assessment was completed (November 2022) by "Historical Plaster Conservation Services" (Ottawa based company) and they have noted that the bond between the plaster and lath is beginning to fail, which is typical of very old plaster.

Their recommendation is to remediate the ceiling by treating the existing plaster from the top side (or attic), using a water based acrylic polymer that penetrates into the plaster. Basically, it consolidates and strengthens the plaster and its anchorage to the wooden laths. The treatment is spray applied and requires three coats. Scaffolding will be required throughout the area under the high ceiling therefore services in the Cathedral will have to be relocated during this time. We expect this project to take approximately 1 ½ months.

This is a serious problem that will have to be addressed as soon as possible. For more information, please watch bulletin notices for the Annual Parish Meeting (May) and the Foundation Annual General meeting (10:30am March 29 with snow date of April 5).

CEILING REPAIR DONATIONS

By making a donation to the Foundation, you are helping pay for ceiling repairs. The attached envelope is our first step in raising funds for this expensive repair. A Capital Campaign will occur in future. Please put your name and address on the envelope to obtain a tax receipt for donations over \$25.00

JOURNEY THROUGH LENT VIDEO SERIES -

first two videos now available

The CCCB is pleased to announce that the journey through Lent video series which includes reflections on the readings for Ash Wednesday, and each Sunday of Lent, including Palm Sunday, is available. The videos are available on the CCCB Website in English at www.cccb.ca/lent

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING

What does the Church teach about MAiD?

What are the moral questions that arise from this practise of dying?

StFX Philosophy Professors Louis Groarke and Will Sweet will discuss these and other questions about MAiD.

Wednesday March 19th at 7pm

St. Ninian Place, Antigonish

Sponsored by the Antigonish / Guysborough Deanery
All Welcome

CEILING REPAIR PROJECT

The St. Ninian Parish Foundation is looking to launch a Capital Campaign to raise funds to repair the ceiling in the main aisle of the Cathedral. Attached is a donation envelope to fund this necessary repair.

All donations over \$25.00 will receive a tax receipt. Please write your name and address on the envelope for tax receipt purposes.

Why are the donations going to the Foundation and not directly to the Parish?

General donations to the parish are taxed by the Diocese at 13.5%. This tax (levy) is not new, and the annual levied amount is used to fund the Diocese. St. Ninian's levy is approximately \$65,000 per year.

Donations to the Foundation are separate from the Diocese and not subject to the levy.

100% of the donations are held for the purpose of the Cathedral. Donations for the ceiling repair will be held at 100% until the Cathedral needs the funds. Thank you for your donations.

THIS LENT, TURN DEBT INTO HOPE

2025 is a Jubilee year. A year in which Pope Francis invites us to "forgive the debts of countries that will never be able to repay them."

Development and Peace - Caritas Canada is responding to this call through the global Turn into Hope campaign.

Here are a few ways you can join. Donating online at devp.org/give or during the Solidarity Sunday collection on April 6, the fifth Sunday of Lent.

"NO GREATER LOVE:

A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion"

by Dr. Edward Sri (Ascension Press).

We will be starting on Thursday March 13th at 1:30pm

MEETINGS

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Meeting

Tuesday, March 4th at 7pm

CWL MEETING

Sunday March 9th at 2pm Room 021

WEEKLY EVENTS

Prayer Group:

Tuesdays - 6:30pm- Vestry- All Welcome

OCIA Gathering

Tuesday at 7pm

Breaking Open the Word

Wednesday at 9:30 am.

Flame of Love Rosary - Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Thursday before 6:30 Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday after 9:30 am Mass until 3pm



SOUPS OF THE WORLD 2025

We are blessed to live in such a diverse and amazing community! A heartfelt thank you to all the incredible soup makers, bakers, and dessert makers who contributed to this year's event. It was wonderful to share delicious soups from Canada, France, Mexico, Ukraine, Acadia, Newfoundland, Bosnia, Holland, Italy, Scotland, India, Ireland, England, and Lebanon—along with homemade bread, rolls, cornbread, oatcakes, and sweets galore!!

Thanks to your generosity and support, we raised \$1,600 for the Foundation, which will go toward the ceiling project. We deeply appreciate everyone who donated, participated, and helped make this event such a success!

Message from Fr Danny

As we celebrate today, we are invited to enter the desert of Lent. We are to follow the example of Jesus and spend time in prayer and fasting. This allows us to embrace a life of serving others with works of mercy. Like Jesus we are led by the spirit into his experience because we are filled by the Holy Spirit.

After a wonderful weekend filled with a delicious chicken dinner celebrating the 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, exceptionally flavourful soups from around the world, and a delightful Shrove Tuesday dinner of pancakes and sausages, our Lenten journey begins.

How blessed we are as a parish to have such strong support from our parishioners and community.

Lent is a time to pause, reflect, and recognize the many blessings in our lives.

With three Masses on Ash Wednesday, early morning had over 150 and both the noon and evening masses had well over 250. A strong turnout like that shows such a deep commitment to faith and community.

Ash Wednesday always seems to bring people together in a special way—recognizing our need for God, for one another, and for renewal. A true grace, indeed!

This coming week, I will be meeting with representatives from the university to discuss parking issues. I welcome any suggestions, but as a reminder, St. FX does contribute to parking at St. Ninian Place and the west side lot.

Our schools will be entering their March break this week. I hope our students enjoy a well-deserved rest—stay safe and take care!

*God Bless,
Father Danny*