**LENT**

**LENT HAS TWO MAJOR PURPOSES:**
A) IT RECALLS BAPTISM OR PREPARES FOR IT
B) IT EMPHASISES A SPIRIT OF PENANCE.

Through forty days of closer attention to God’s Word and more fervent prayer, believers are prepared to celebrate the Paschal Mystery. It is a preparation for Easter.

Lent ends on Holy Thursday, as we begin the Sacred Paschal Triduum with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper in the evening. Some parishes like to mark the end of Lent by making an announcement after all have gathered and standing for the singing of a Lenten hymn just before mass. This hymn would be a favourite Lenten hymn of the parish and would ideally reference the season that is ending, eg. Forty Days. This would not be the entrance hymn of the mass.

**VOCATION GENERAL INTERCESSION**
Second Sunday of Lent – February 25, 2018

For all priests, who bring us to the mountain of Christ at every Mass and feed us with His transforming love in the sacraments, and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life, we pray to the Lord.

**VOCATIONS BULLETIN REFLECTION**
Second Sunday of Lent – February 25, 2018

If God is with us, who can be against us?” Is the Lord strengthening you to consider the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Fr. Jeff Kolonel (709) 745 – 8183; Fr. Ray Earle (709) 488 – 2525 or email: vocations@rcsj.org
CURRENT EVENTS

1. THE CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY
The Canadian Bible Society is looking for a Representative from each Parish to train as a congregational representative.

If you currently are a Church Representative or wish to be one please contact Gerry Donahue by:

Email: gdonahue@crosbiejob.com or

Cell Phone: (709) 727 – 4513

2. DEVELOPMENT & PEACE
Our solidarity Visitor is from Lebanon this year. Her name is Nagham Tarhini. She is a Community Outreach Coordinator with an NGO named Adyan, which promotes dialogue between Christians and Moslems in the Middle East. Come and meet her and hear her speak. She will explain her work and enjoy meeting us as well.” Dialogue and interaction is an important element in peace building between members of differing religious communities in the Lebanon and Syria.

Location: The Lantern, 35 Barnes Road, St. John’s, NL on

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

3. ARCHBISHOP HOWLEY ASSEMBLY, FOURTH DEGREE K OF C
The regular monthly meeting of Archbishop Howley Assembly, Fourth Degree, K of C, will be held on Thursday, March 1st, 2018.

There will be a complimentary buffet served at 6:00 p.m., followed by the meeting.

Please reply by February 24, 2018 by calling (709) 726 – 1452, ext. 201.

All members are encouraged to attend.
4. THE CONCERT CROWD
Celebrates its 50th anniversary! Enjoy a magical evening of music, dance and home-spun humor as this beloved community arts group looks back on fifty years of fund-raising and fun-raising. From humble beginnings, in the old school house in Outer Cove, to main stage at the Arts and Culture Centre, this trip down memory lane, presented in the usual Concert Crowd style, is sure to entertain and not to be missed. One night only.

Date: Saturday, March 3, 2018

Tickets: $25.00 - available at the Arts and Culture Centre Box Office

COUNSELLING AND PASTORAL SERVICES

5. THE CENTRE FOR LIFE
The Centre offers free, confidential professional pregnancy and post-abortion counselling.

Please email counsellors@centreforlife.ca or call (709) 579 – 3818 for more information

Seniors computer outreach is ongoing please call (709) 579 – 1500 for more information

6. CENTRE FOR LIFE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM
Will be held on Mondays beginning on March 5th to April 30th for seniors.

Please call (709) 579 – 1500 for more information and to make an appointment
7. RUAH COUNSELLING CENTRE
We provide individual, couple and family counselling.
Located at The Lantern – 35 Barnes Road, St. John’s, NL

Winter Group Offerings:
➢ *When You See Red – For Men (8 Weeks)*
  **Facilitator:** Jeff Pardy, BA, MA, B.Ed. (Couns. Psych)
  **Dates:** January 16 – March 06, 2018
    Tuesday Evenings = 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
  **Fee:** $120.00

➢ *Support Group for End of Relationship, Separation & Divorce (8 Weeks)*
  **Facilitator:** Nicole Cooper, MSW, RSW
  **Dates:** January 31 – March 28, 2018 (8 Weeks)
    Wednesday Evenings = 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
  Please note there will be no session on Valentine’s Day, February 14th
  **Fee:** $120.00

➢ *Self-Empowerment for Women (8 Weeks)*
  **Facilitator:** Robyn Hamlyn, MC, CCC
  **Dates:** February 01 – March 22, 2018 (8 Weeks)
    Thursday Evenings = 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
  **Fee:** $120.00

For further details, visit [https://rcsj.org/ruah-counselling-centre](https://rcsj.org/ruah-counselling-centre) or call (709) 579 – 0168
or email: [ruah@rcsj.org](mailto:ruah@rcsj.org)

To register, visit: [https://rcsj.org/ruah-counselling-centre/group-registration](https://rcsj.org/ruah-counselling-centre/group-registration)
RELIGIOUS CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS

8. SEASON OF LENT – EASTER
This 90-day season, from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost Sunday, is one of renewal for each person and the whole church. At the heart of the season is the paschal mystery of Jesus. Lent prepares for it and Easter celebrates it for fifty days.

Can a dialogue between this Paschal Mystery and the Universe Story yield new insights for living our faith today?

We invite you to come to Presentation Sisters Virginia Waters Retreat House for an hour of contemplation, reflection and dialogue

Location: 47 Parsonage Drive, St. John’s, NL

Date: February 18th – May 20th
       Sunday, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Facilitators: Phil Lewis, Gerard Whitty

Please call (709) 754-1582 to register

9. CURSILLO
Will hold its Lenten Reflection. The reflection will end with a light lunch. Come and bring a friend.

Time: February 24th, 2018, Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

Location: St. Patrick Parish, 6 Patrick St., St. John’s, NL

10. 24 HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
You are invited to spend an hour with JESUS from 9:30 a.m., March 22nd to 10:00 a.m., March 23rd, 2018.

We pray for all those in authority, especially our spiritual and political leaders, that they be filled and guided by the Holy Spirit in their decision making.

Location: Mary Queen of the World Parish, 777 Topsail Road, Mount Pearl, NL
11. 12 HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
St. Kevin’s Parish is planning to have a 12 Hour Adoration which begins with 9:30 a.m. mass on Wednesday, March 21st, and concludes with Musical Adoration and Benediction from 8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 22nd, 2018.

Location: St. Kevin’s Parish, 454 Main Rd, Goulds, NL

12. CATHOLIC RENEWAL SERVICES
Presents seven sessions of Catholic scriptural teachings on the Gospel of Luke by scriptural scholar Frances Hogan of Ireland.

First Session Begins: May 11th, 8:00 p.m.

Location: St. Teresa’s Parish Hall, 120 Mundy Pond Road, St. John’s, NL

For information call Gerry @ 727-4513

13. CELEBRATE FAMILY CONFERENCE
Celebrate is a lively Catholic, faith-filled weekend for the whole family. Inspiring talks, children age appropriate streams, Mass, drama, worship, workshops. Fun for the whole family.

Date: July 14th – 15th, 2018

Location: Corner Brook, NL

More information will follow, but mark these dates in your calendar.
14. YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES
There are many opportunities in our Archdiocese for youth to get involved with the church, learn more about their faith and meet other young people. Youth groups, youth conferences, evenings of prayer, bible studies, catechesis, social events like movies, bowling, games, and opportunities to volunteer - just to name a few!
There are currently activities for youth from grade 6-12, and this year we will be adding some events specifically for youth in grades 4-6, as well as adults who are interested in getting involved with youth ministry.

If you would like to be added to our upcoming event mailing list, or if you would like to get involved, please contact Sara at sbroderick@rcsj.org

15. STEUBENVILLE ATLANTIC - REVEALED
The Steubenville series of conferences are held across North America each year. They seek to invite teens into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church, empowering them to live as His disciples. These conferences are high energy events featuring inspiring talks, amazing music and worship, and opportunities for encounter with Jesus through the Eucharist and the sacrament of reconciliation.

Each year, young people from our Archdiocese travel to Halifax, NS to attend the "Atlantic" conference. This year, it will be held from July 6-8 at Dalhousie University. Youth between the ages 14-21 are encouraged to join us!

For more information on this conference, please contact Sara at sbroderick@rcsj.org

16. WORLD YOUTH DAY – PANAMA
The next World Youth Day will be held in January 2019 in Panama. This pilgrimage is for young adults, aged 18 – 35 and the theme will be “I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” (Lk 1:38).

If you would like more information on this pilgrimage, please contact Sara at sbroderick@rcsj.org
17. NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT
Join over 3000 Catholics across Canada and the USA at this premier conference for the new evangelization. It will feature 6 world-class Catholic speakers on the New Evangelization including Curtis Martin, Sr. Anne Shields, George Weigel, Patrick Madrid, Christy Dupuis and Michael Dopp.

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 the NES. The conference will be webcasted from Ottawa, ON to St. Peter's Parish, Mount Pearl, NL. Be inspired, receive formation, and connect with other Catholics.

Where: St. Peter's Parish, 110 Ashford Drive, Mount Pearl, NL

When: Friday, April 27th and Saturday, April 28th

Registration Cost: $40.00 per person; Lunch will not be provided.

Register now at www.newevangelization.ca

For more information, please contact catholicnl@gmail.com

18. MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND CHAPLAINCY
"If you’re going to MUN this winter, be sure to check out the Catholic Chaplaincy. My office is at UC 3006 (we're right beside the "ASK" desk in the UC - this will make sense when you get there). We have a Facebook page at MUN Catholic Community and my email is ej_mroz@yahoo.ca

Fr Joseph Mroz SJ, Catholic Chaplain, MUN