

St. Paul's Parish – Summerside, PEI

Octave of Christmas - Feast of the Holy Family December 28, 2025

“The family is the first and most vital cell of society and of the Church.”

— St. John XXIII

Parish Office:

Reception Desk: 902 436-5112

Office Administration: Jackie Gallant: 902 436-5112

Email: office@stpaulsparish.ca

Website: www.stpaulsparish.ca

Parochial Administrator: Fr. John Molina

(Emergencies only 902 628-3147)

Pastoral Ministry: Rev. Ashok Veerabathina:

902 303-6816

Faith Formation: Tawnya Stanus: (1) 647 550-0472

education@stpaulsparish.ca

Office Hours:

Monday & Friday: 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Tuesday to Thursday: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

** The office will be closed from Dec 24th & reopens Jan 5th, 2026*

Worship, Sacraments and Pastoral Care

Mass Times & Intentions * *Please note Mass Times*

Monday, Dec 29

9:00 AM - St. Paul's: Intentions of Sr. Joan Marie

Tuesday, Dec 30

12:00 PM – St. Paul's: Memorial Book Mass

Wednesday, Dec 31

4:00 PM - St. Paul's: +Martin, Theresa & Rod MacKinnon,

Deceased members of the MacIsaac Family

4:00PM - St. John's: Intentions of Donor

Thursday, Jan 1, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

10:00 AM - St. Paul's: +Norma Hashie

Friday, Jan 2 -

NO MASS

Saturday, Jan 3

4:00 PM – St. Paul's: +Eileen Arsenault, +Clifford &

Theresa Gallant, +Theresa & Adelard Gallant

Sunday, Jan 4

9:00 AM – St. Paul's: +Doug Blanchard

10:00 AM - St. John's: Intentions of the donor

11:00 AM – St. Paul's: Intentions of Parishioner

- **Baptisms** – Celebrated the first Sunday of every month. Please contact the office to register and arrange preparation.
- **Marriages** – Please contact the pastor **6 months in advance**.
- **Anointing of the Sick** – Available anytime. If at the hospital, ask the nursing staff to contact us.
- **Funeral planning** – Contact your Funeral Home. The parish will assist families with all steps regarding liturgy and spiritual needs.
- **Home Visits & Communion for the Sick** – Call the office.
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation:** By appointment or **Tuesday:** 11:30 AM, **Thursday:** 8:30 AM & **Saturday:** 11:00 AM

Devotion to St Peregrin: Every Thursday Mass at 9:00 AM

Prayer for the Sick: Liz Turner, Betty Gallant, Pat Williams, Jean Murray, Mike Spin, Baby Alis, Tim McNulty, Leona MacDonald, Melvin Laviolette, Wilfred & Eva Gallant, Sheila Perry, Gail & Thomas Cybulski, Douglas Gaudet, Barbara Gillis, Jeanette MacKenzie, John Richard, Jeanette Maclellan

CWL Prayer Line: Our CWL Members would be honoured to pray for your intentions. Please call 436-5039 or 436-6135.

Stewardship

Sunday Offering Total: \$10,158.70

Regular Collection: \$5,849.20

Building Fund: \$137.00

Lights of Love \$1,989.75

Automatic Debit: \$1,677.75

E-Transfers: \$505.00

50/50 Legacy Fund Fundraiser... Thank you for your support!

As of December 18th, 2025 the total received this month from our 50/50 tickets is **\$735.00** (The winner receives half) Draw will be held after the 11:00 am Mass, in the Parish Centre lounge, on Sunday, December 28th.

Envelopes for the new year are here. You can pick them up in the hallway leading to the offices. Thank you.

Outreach

Society of St Vincent de Paul (902) 724-3454

Open M-W-F from 10:00AM to 12:00PM

Suggested items this week: tea/coffee, peanut butter, shampoo, deodorant. Perishable items are welcome but must be dropped off during food bank hours.

We sincerely thank everyone for your generosity at Christmas and throughout the year. The food bank exists because of the kindness of parishioners at St. Paul's and the wider Summerside and surrounding community. Recently, a woman, whom we had helped last Christmas, came to the food bank. She is in a better place financially this year and donated a \$100 gift card, asking that we give it to a family in need as she was last year - and so we did! Just one of the stories that remind us why this work matters and how generosity truly comes full circle.

Merry Christmas to all, and the best in 2026!

Sisters of the Sacred Heart Would you like the Sisters to visit a loved one? Contact: (902) 436-5386 | sacredheartpei@gmail.com

THANK YOU from St. Paul's Community Support

Committee: Heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this year's Christmas Dinner. Your generosity—through donations, volunteering, and food contributions—made this event possible. Because of you, we provided a warm, traditional sit-down Christmas meal for others. In addition to serving 75 registered guests, meals were also shared with the homeless and the Community Fridge. Every gesture, large or small, helped make this Christmas joyful and memorable for many. God bless you all!

Feed my Sheep: Initiative for helping feed the community - a complimentary hot breakfast every Saturday morning, 8:30-10:00AM:

1st & 3rd Saturday - St. Mary's Anglican church

2nd & 4th Saturday - Trinity United church

5th Saturday - St. Paul's Catholic church

Faith Formation

Catechism Update: Merry Christmas to all. We'll see you on January 11th.

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest: Congratulations to all the children who participated with their works of art! The winners this year are:

Ages 5-7 Axel St.Onge, Sophie Lynch and Ashton Woods

Ages 8-10 Rebecca Sijo, Khloe Ramos and Owen St. Onge

Ages 11-14 Josiah George, Joel George and Shawna Saju

Youth Group for Grades 7–12: Join us for our next meeting on January 2nd and bring a friend! Youth group leader - Nick Sauve

Seniors Reflection: Join Tawnya Stanus in unpacking what we can learn from the Magi's journey. **Tuesday, January 6th**, the feast of the Epiphany, **10:30 AM–Noon at the Marguerite Bourgeoys Centre.** Lunch to follow; donations appreciated. All are warmly welcome! Call Sr. Joan Marie at 902-330-4559.

Annual General Retreat at Our Lady of Hope Retreat Centre: Friday, January 30th - Sunday, February 1st with Father Eric Dunn. This year's theme is "The Sacraments." For more information or to register, contact Martin or Earla at 902-621-2385 or ourladyofhope@dioceseofcharlottetown.com.

Summit: Sunday, January 4th, 7:00-8:30PM. Join us for an evening of reflection, adoration, music and quiet prayer. Reflection led by Tawnya Stanus on her personal journey in light of the Magi's journey.

Discipleship

Catholic Women's League (CWL) Faith • Fellowship • Service Inviting women of the parish to live out their baptismal promises. Acting President: Judy Lewis
Next meeting: Saturday, January 3rd, 2026

PEI Provincial CWL invites Catholic girls and women attending university or college to apply for the **Catholic Girl's Bursary by**

January 31, 2026. Applications are available at your church or on our website www.cwlpei.ca.

Knights of Columbus Empowering Catholic men to live their faith. Grand Knight: Garth McKinnon

Upcoming Events

* January 21 at 12:00 PM **Midday Prayer for Christian Unity**

* January 31st 8:30-10am **Feed My Sheep complimentary breakfast** in the Emmaus Room.

Seeking God's Presence

By Fr. John Molina

Beginning the New Year in the Heart of the Holy Family

As we approach the end of the Christmas season and stand at the threshold of a new year, the Church places before us two luminous celebrations: the Feast of the Holy Family and the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Together, they invite us to begin 2026 not with resolutions rooted in pressure or fear, but with a deep desire to seek God's presence where He has chosen to dwell within family life, human relationships, and the ordinary moments of each day.

In Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, we discover that God's presence is not distant or abstract. It is lived in listening, patience, work, forgiveness, and love. The Holy Family was not free from hardship or uncertainty, yet it was in their trust and mutual care that God's plan unfolded. They teach us that holiness is not reserved for extraordinary circumstances but is built slowly, faithfully, in daily life.

As we begin this new year, we are invited to ask ourselves: Where is God asking me to look for His presence? Perhaps it is in our homes, in our relationships, in moments of reconciliation, or in the quiet fidelity of prayer. To seek God's presence in 2026 is to choose attentiveness; to notice Him in our children, our elders, our neighbours, and especially in those who need compassion and hope.

On January 1, as we honour Mary, the Holy Mother of God, we entrust the coming year to her maternal care. Mary teaches us how to receive God's gift with trust and to carry Christ into the world with tenderness and courage. She invites us to begin again, confident that God's grace is always greater than our fears.

At the dawn of the Second Vatican Council, St. John XXIII offered a simple but powerful gesture. He asked people to go home, embrace their children, and say: "This is a caress from the Pope." In that same spirit, may this new year begin with gestures of blessing—within our families, our parish communities, and our daily encounters.

To the people of St. John the Baptist Parish and St. Paul Parish, thank you for your faith, your generosity, and your commitment to walking together as a community. As we enter 2026, may our shared journey be one of deeper trust, renewed hope, and a constant desire to seek and recognize God's presence among us.

May the Holy Family watch over our homes.

May Mary, our Mother, guide our steps.

And may the New Year be filled with peace, blessing, and joy.

Happy New Year.