

Joint Statement- Delegation Update to Rome

Canadian Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Provide an Update on Delegation to Rome

"After careful assessment of the uncertainty and potential health risks surrounding international travel amid the recent spread of the Omicron variant, the Canadian Bishops, Assembly of First Nations, Métis National Council, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami have jointly decided to reschedule a delegation to the Vatican in December 2021 to the earliest opportunity in 2022.

The decision to postpone was a heartbreakin one, made after careful consultation with delegates, family members, community leaders, public health officials and the leadership of each of the three National Indigenous Organizations. Particularly for many elderly delegates as well as those who live in remote communities, the risk of infection and the fluid nature of the evolving global situation presents too great a threat at this time.

We take comfort in the desire, conveyed to us by the Holy See, that the safety of the delegation should inform any decision to move forward. It is also important to note that the delegation is postponed not cancelled.

Currently, the world's health experts are still learning about the transmissibility of the Omicron variant. As more information becomes available, we will continue to assess the feasibility of future travel plans, based on guidance from the Canadian government and relevant international authorities.

Our shared commitment to walking together towards healing and reconciliation remains strong. We understand that the Holy See is very much committed to rescheduling this visit in the new year and we look forward to the opportunity for Indigenous Elders, knowledge keepers, residential school survivors, and youth to participate in private meetings with Pope Francis."

OUR PARISH BULLETIN



Our Lady of Mercy Church
Honey Harbour



St. John the Baptist Church
Port Severn

Address:

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish
P.O. Box 126
2596 Honey Harbour Rd.
Honey Harbour, On P0E1E0**

Fr. Martin Dalida – Parish Priest

Tel. 705 756 2311

Email: office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca

Website: https://www.ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca/

Weekend Masses

Sunday 9 A.M. - Port Severn

Sunday 11 A.M. - Honey Harbour

Weekday Masses (See inside bulletin)

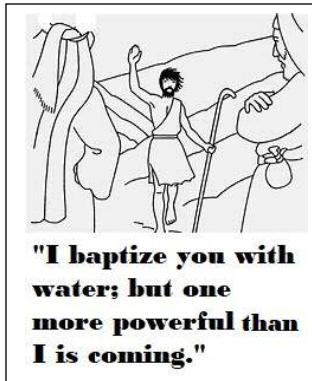
Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses

Wedding and Baptism: Call the office

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

Gospel Today: Luke 3:10-18—John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. What evidence of repentance is required? By naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel. John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.



"I baptize you with water; but one more powerful than I is coming."

Collections Last Sunday, December 5



\$2,570 - Regular Sunday Offerings

Weekday Masses (*Honey Harbour Chapel*)

Wednesday Dec 15, 11am Mass – For Peace in the world

Thursday Dec 16, 11am Mass - For Sick & Elderly parishioners

Friday Dec 17, 11am Mass - For End of Covid-19 Pandemic

Weekend Masses (4th Sunday of Advent)

Sunday December 19, 9am @ Port Severn - People of the parish

Sunday December 19, 11am @ Honey Harbour

Christmas Masses Schedule

Friday Dec 24 (Christmas Eve) 7:30pm @ St. John the Baptist, Port Severn

Saturday Dec 25 (Christmas Day) 9am @ St. John the Baptist, Port Severn

Saturday Dec 25 (Christmas Day) 11am @ Lady of Mercy, Honey Harbour

Our Lady of Guadalupe (feast Day December 12) - An elder Mexican man makes his way to Mass in the early morning of December 9, 1531. Each step he takes this morning is a step into history. The morning quiet is broken by a music as the beautiful sound of birds. Diverting his path to investigate the sound, Juan Diego comes face to face with a radiant apparition of the Virgin Mary. Our Lady of Guadalupe had this to say to Juan Diego: "Know for certain, least of my sons, that I am the perfect and perpetual Virgin Mary, Mother of the True God through whom everything lives, the Lord of all things near and far, the Master of heaven and earth. It is my earnest wish that a temple be built here to my honor. Here I will demonstrate, I will exhibit, I will give all my love, my compassion, my help and my protection to the people. I am your merciful mother, the merciful mother of all of you who live united in this land, and of all mankind, of all those who love me, of those who cry to me, of those who seek me, of those who have confidence in me. Here I will hear their weeping, their sorrow, and will remedy and alleviate all their multiple sufferings, necessities and misfortunes." On October 12, 1945, Pope Pius XII, decreed Our Lady of Guadalupe to be "Patroness of all the Americas." Her feast day is December 12, and it is a Holy Day of Obligation in Mexico.

Advent "The vision of life that Advent gives us is twofold; it looks back to the first coming of Christ at Bethlehem, and it looks to the future when Christ will come again. In the interval between these two events we find meaning for our life as a Christian."

Week 3: Preparation (Joy) - "For this week, we'll cover the third candle known as the candle of joy. This candle reflects the joy that comes through Jesus' arrival, and through the salvation he has gifted us. During a time where depression is at an all-time high and people seem to be in the most despair, this candle offers a bright light during a dark time. It is an extreme happiness that cannot be deterred by present circumstances. This type of joy comes from God alone. Joy can often be experienced when a Christian thinks about salvation, eternal life, or Jesus. It is an eager anticipation about wonderful things to come. The shepherds experienced this as they ran to Bethlehem to see Jesus."

Parish Property/Finance Committee Update – The Committee would like to welcome Gerry Scholz & Mark Vanlangenhove as new members. At the same time, the committee would like to sincerely thank Don Cadeau for his outstanding previous contributions and efforts towards our parish community. Thank you, Don!

Pope Francis In Greece – "Pope Francis said Sunday that the Greek language gave the entire Church a word that sums up the gift of Christ. This word is "eucharistia" — the ancient Greek word meaning "thanksgiving" adopted by the early Church as a word for the sacred host, the Eucharist. "For us Christians, thanksgiving is at the heart of our faith and life." "May the Holy Spirit make of everything we are and everything we do a 'Eucharistia', a thanksgiving to God and a gift of love to our brothers and sisters." In his homily, Pope Francis reflected on St. John the Baptist's call for conversion as "a voice of one crying out in the desert." "Dear brothers and sisters, in our lives as individuals or nations, there will always be times when we feel that we are in the midst of a desert. Yet it is precisely there that the Lord makes his presence felt". "Let us ask for the grace of hope, since hope revives our faith and rekindles our charity. It is for this hope that the deserts of today's world are thirsting."

Synod of Bishop Questionnaire – Thank you to all parishioners who completed the recent survey. Submissions were sent directly to Peterborough Diocese. As a continuation of the worldwide and local conversation in the church about community, engaged participation and the mission of Evangelization, please complete the questionnaire that is available at the church entrance and return it on or before Sunday, December 26. Results will be collated by our Parish Pastoral Council and a summary will be submitted to the diocese in early January.

