

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES 2022

Most Reverend Daniel Miehm, Bishop of Peterborough

“Christmas is a special time which touches our hearts in real and deep ways. It conjures up images of family, hearth, and home, and we know that it is natural to want to be “home for the holidays.” People will travel great distances to be with the ones they love, eager to share together the joy of this season. It is ironic therefore to think that, at that first Christmas, Mary and Joseph were far from home, away from family, having to rely on the kindness of strangers while bunking down in a stable. Despite all these challenges, they welcomed the baby Jesus with joy, knowing that he was God’s gift not only to them, but to the entire world. That stable may have been messy and noisy, but it was a place filled with love, faith, and thanksgiving. And it was a moment that would forever speak of God’s love, compassion and faithfulness toward each of his beloved children. Wherever we find ourselves this Christmas – at home or far from it – we are called to make a place for the Lord Jesus, whose humble birth we celebrate. He is truly Emmanuel, God with us, who comes to us in our joys and sorrows, our triumphs and trials, our celebrations and our sadness. Let the Lord find a home in your hearts this Christmas: be assured of God’s constant love for you and let that grace inspire you to gladden the hearts of others. May you enjoy a Merry Christmas Day and Season.”

Pope Francis

“What does that Child, born for us of the Virgin Mary, have to tell us? What is the universal message of Christmas? It is that God is a good Father and we are all brothers and sisters. This truth is the basis of the Christian vision of humanity. Without the fraternity that Jesus Christ has bestowed on us, our efforts for a more just world fall short, and even our best plans and projects risk being soulless and empty. For this reason, my wish for a happy Christmas is a wish for fraternity. Fraternity among individuals of every nation and culture. Fraternity among people with different ideas, yet capable of respecting and listening to one another. Fraternity among persons of different religions. Jesus came to reveal the face of God to all those who seek him. The face of God has been revealed in a human face. It did not appear in an angel, but in one man, born in a specific time and place. By his incarnation, the Son of God tells us that salvation comes through love, acceptance, respect for this poor humanity of ours, which we all share in a great variety of races, languages, and cultures. Yet all of us are brothers and sisters in humanity!”

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

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Email: office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca

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

Weekend Masses

**Port Severn: Saturday 5 P.M. (From Victoria to Thanksgiving Only)
Sunday 9 A.M. (All Year Round)**

Honey Harbour: Sunday 11 A.M.

Weekday Masses

(See inside bulletin)

Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses

Wedding and Baptism: Call the office

CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY

December 24-25, 2022

GOSPEL TODAY John 1:1-18 "The Mass at midnight proclaims the birth of Jesus. The Gospel for the Christmas Mass during the day presents the Creation story as the framework for announcing the Incarnation. Each of the Gospels makes clear that Jesus' birth was the result of God's initiative, the divine intention from the moment of Creation. The Feast of Christmas celebrated in the darkness of winter seems to remind us of the darkness of sin. Into this darkness, God comes to dwell among us and to save us from the darkness of sin and makes us his children."

"And the Word was God who became flesh and dwelt among us."



COLLECTIONS Last Sunday



\$4, 555 - Regular Sunday Offerings

WEEKDAY MASSES (Honey Harbour Chapel)

Thurs Dec 29, 10:30am – For sick members of our parish

Friday Dec 30, 10:30am – Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Mass

WEEKEND MASSES (New Year)

Sunday January 1, 2023, 9am @ Port Severn- For Health Recovery of Claudia Savoie by Geraldine Gorbutt

Sunday January 1, 2023, 11am @ Honey Harbour-For the people of the parish

JESUS THE MESSIAH IS BORN - Luke 2: 11: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." John 1:14: "And the Word became flesh and lived among us". John 3:16 : "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

RIDES TO CHURCH FOR MASS- If you need a ride or know of anyone who needs a ride to Church in Port Severn on Sunday mornings for 9:00 Mass, feel free to contact the following: 1. Gerry- 14167498442 (Six Mile Lake & Honey Harbour area) 2. Mark - 7057187443 (Waubaushe & Coldwater area) 3. Wally -705 5382579 (Port Severn & Honey Harbour area). If you would like to become a volunteer driver for any of these areas please leave your name & number with any of the above parishioners. Thank you.

BISHOP MIEHM & POPE FRANCIS' CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Find their messages at the back page of this Bulletin.

POPE FRANCIS – (On His Resignation):

"Pope Francis reveals that at the beginning of his pontificate he gave the then Secretary of State, Cardinal Bertone, a letter declaring he would step down in the event of serious and permanent health impediments that made it impossible for him to exercise his role as Bishop of Rome and pastor of the universal Church. 'I signed the resignation and told him: In case of a health impediment or whatever, here is my resignation'." (Praying for Peru): The crisis in Peru deepens following the impeachment of its leader and ensuing protest demanding elections. Ongoing protests have killed 20 people and the death toll is expected to rise. "We pray for peace. May the violence in Peru cease and may the path of dialogue be taken to overcome the political and social crisis affecting the people." (South Caucasus): Around 120,000 Armenians, including 30,000 children, live in the enclave, and the alleged road closure has isolated them from the world and deprived them of food, medicine, and basic necessities. "I am concerned about the precarious humanitarian conditions of the people, which are in further danger of deteriorating during the winter season". (War in Ukraine): "If the Lord gives us this joy to celebrate Christmas, all together, in peace, let us also think of those who suffer of war especially the children, the elderly, and those who are ill. Let us pray, pray for them!"

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS & THANK YOU – I extend my gratitude to all the

volunteers who have helped make our Christmas celebrations wonderful this year. A special thank you to those who looked after the altar decorations during Advent and Christmas Seasons, to our long time loyal cottagers who sent extra financial support towards increased expenses during winter times, and to all of you who come out religiously all the time with your constant participation in our holy liturgy as well as your continued financial offerings to our parish. May you and your family and homes be filled with the blessings of Peace, Joy and Love. At the same time, I thank you all, most sincerely for your thoughtful prayers, inspiring Christmas greetings and priceless gifts. May all of you my dear parishioners be over shadowed with the mighty and powerful blessings of the Baby Jesus, the Emmanuel (God with us). A Blessed & Merry Christmas to you all! Fr. Martin

"A good news of great joy for all people, a Saviour Christ our Lord is born today."



Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas