



## Bulletin

**Sacred Heart Parish**  
**Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00**

**Masks are  
mandatory in  
the Church**

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**February 13, 2021**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### Sunday Readings:

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 and concerns the regulations enforced by the priests regarding certain bodily diseases which made a person unclean and a menace to the health of his neighbors.

The **second reading** is from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 10:31, 11:1 and speaks of our imitation of Paul as he imitates Christ for the sake of the Gospel, as well as of the unity of the Church of God.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 1:40-45. We see both the divine power and the divine compassion of Jesus in this act of healing. The divine power was necessary in all instantaneous cures. Even if the diseases were curable, the ordinary process of nature took time to fight off the causes and to return to normality. Therefore, where there was an instantaneous recovery some power above nature, some supernatural cause brought it about. But where the disease was incurable, as real leprosy then was, to remove it by a simple word of command was more emphatically still the result of divine power. This divine power Jesus had, for he was himself divine, the Son of God.

His compassion for suffering humanity was, however, co-terminus with his power, it was also divine. It was out of compassion for the sad lot of the human race on earth that he descended to man's level, becoming man, equal to us in all things except sin, in order to suffer with us and for us.

By his human sufferings he made an atonement, a satisfaction for all the sins of the world—a satisfaction which all mankind could never make—to his heavenly Father, and so obtained for us God's pardon. At the same time, 'by joining our human nature to his divine nature, he brought us into the divine orbit and made us adopted sons of God and heirs of the eternal life of the Blessed Trinity. Because this seems almost too good to be true, there are men who deny it or refuse to accept it. Such men make the mistake of measuring the infinite compassion of God with the limited yardstick of their own finite and puny compassion.

Thanks be to God, for his infinite compassion! Thanks be to God, for Christ his Son, who came and dwelt amongst us! He put heaven and a share in the life of God within our reach; he has shown us how to attain them, giving in his Church and the sacraments, all the necessary aids. But we still need all of Christ's compassion if we are to get there. Because of our inclination to sin and because of the many times we unfortunately give in to that inclination, nothing but the mercy of God can save us from our own folly. However, that mercy is available, if only we ask for it. What we sinners need is the faith and confidence of the leper in today's gospel reading. He believed firmly in the power and the mercy of Jesus. "If you will, you can make me clean," was his approach to Jesus.

This should be our approach too, if we have the misfortune to fall into serious sin. Jesus does will and does want our salvation. His incarnation, and death on the cross, proves that. The fact that he left the power to forgive sins to his Church is another proof of both his will and desire to help us. "All power has been given to me in heaven and on earth," he stated. Part of that power which he left to his Church is in the sacrament of penance where the leprosy of sin can be washed away and the sinner restored to new and

perfect spiritual health. What folly for any Christian then, to commit sin and isolate himself, like the unclean leper, from God. But it is greater folly still, to remain in this unclean state when the cure for his disease is so easily available to any sincere penitent.

— Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

### Old Calendar: Quinquagesima Sunday

A leper came to him (and kneeling down) begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean (Mark 1:40-42).

The feast of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, which is ordinarily celebrated today, is superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

### ASH WEDNESDAY LITURGIES

(Ash) Wednesday, February 17, 2021

As you know Ash Wednesday begins the penitential season of Lent. This year the three parishes will celebrate Holy Mass on Ash Wednesday at the time of their usual weekday Mass as follows:

St. Peter's – 9:00AM  
Holy Guardian Angels – 11:00 AM  
St. John the Baptist – 4:00 PM

### Collection:

**February 06<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Envelopes	\$290.00
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## Notices:

### 1: Richmond County: February's Outdoor Challenge

During the month of February, the Recreation Department is challenging all residents to get outside and document it! Each hour spent active outdoors will earn you your ballot into a draw at the end of the month. Prizes.... YES! we have prizes for each category and they will range from outdoor recreation equipment to local business gift cards. You will see all categories on the form as well as where to send the completed form before March 5, 2021. See poster and form attached.

### 2: HGA: Pork Roast Dinner - L'Ardoise Community Centre

Sunday February 28 Take out 11:00 - 11:45 - Eat in 12:00 - \$15.00 per person

Advanced tickets only

For tickets call Raymonde @ 902 587-2675

Andree @ Post office

Cotie's Convenience

Deadline for tickets February 21

### 2: Some new pastoral directives from Bishop Kirkpatrick -

#### 1) Removing the word "one" from the ending of the Collect.

Following a request from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments which was sent to the Bishops' Conferences of all English-speaking countries, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops agreed to adjust the English-language wording to the conclusion of the Collect (the opening prayer) in the Roman Missal as approved for use in Canada. As of Ash Wednesday, 17 February 2021, the word "one" is to be omitted from the conclusion of the Collect, and likewise of similar prayers in the liturgy. Instead of ending "one God, for ever and ever", the Collect will now end "God, for ever and ever".

The presider at liturgical celebrations will simply omit the word where needed. The reason for this change is to avoid possible misunderstandings about the identity of the Son within the Blessed Trinity, or even the misconception that Our Lord Jesus Christ is "one God" among others.

#### 2) Ash Wednesday – Distribution of Ashes in Time of Pandemic

The CCCB General Secretariat received from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments Note (N. 17/21) of 12 January 2021, concerning Ash Wednesday (17 February 2021) and the Distribution of Ashes in the Time of the Pandemic. In accordance with the Note from the Congregation, this year the ashes are to be imposed by sprinkling them on the head of the faithful. The rite of sprinkling ashes on the head of penitents is already a well-established and common practice in many countries across the world. The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes, he sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything, then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel", or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him. The Priest or Deacon takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything.

**3. Blessing of Throats on the feast of St. Blaise, February 3** Instead of individual throat blessings the priests will extend his hands over the congregation without the crossed candles while imparting the prayer of blessing. This blessing would also be imparted to those who join livestream.

#### 4. Concerns about Holy Week Celebrations

It appears that we will continue celebrating Mass with existing restrictions. Currently we are limited to 50% of our indoor capacity up to a maximum of 100 people. Physical distancing is required unless the people are with members of their own household or social group. These rules may change before Holy Week, further clarifications may be announced as we approach Holy Week. We will not be able to retain the traditional practices this year and so we will need to adapt how we celebrate:

**Passion Sunday** - Palm branches could be distributed by someone with gloves, in this way no one is directly touching the branches as they are distributed.

**Chrism Mass** – In order to accommodate a large number of clergy socially distanced, the Mass of Chrism will be celebrated at 3 p.m. at the Cathedral. Given the present situation, no other gatherings are planned for that day apart from celebrating the Mass.

**Holy Thursday** - there will be no foot-washing.

**Good Friday** – Since there can be no contact with the Cross, the Veneration of the Cross will be by a simple but reverent bow. Genuflecting remains a possibility, as long as people do not need to touch anything that would then need to be sanitized.

**Easter** - There remains some doubt about the Rite of Sprinkling throughout the Church on Easter Sunday. The concern is for those cleaning and sanitizing the church. However, since we only have one Mass per parish this concerns churches that have a number of Masses in succession.