



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00

Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

July 24th, 2021
Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

**Masks are
mandatory in
the Church**

The **first reading** is taken from the Second Book of Kings 4:42-44. We have here an incident from the life of Elisha, the prophet in Israel who inherited the mantle of the great Elijah. He prophesied in Israel during the second half of the 9th century. By anointing Jehu as king of Israel, he helped to bring about the overthrow of Achab's dynasty which had introduced the worship of Baal into Israel and had almost paganized the whole northern kingdom. This reading describes a miracle worked by Elisha.

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6. St. Paul lays great stress on Christian unity which is the essence of the faith. In these six verses he gives a sevenfold formula of unity on which the various aspects of true Christian unity are based..

The **Gospel** is from St. John 6:1-15. Although Jesus had the intention of preparing the minds of the multitude for his discourse on the heavenly food which he would make next day, his principal motive in working this miracle was pity and compassion. He knew that they were hungry—they had been away from home all day and some for many days.

They were willing to suffer this inconvenience but he did not want them to do so. Even though he knew there were some among them who would never accept him, and perhaps even some who would be among the rabble that demanded his crucifixion on Good Friday; yet he made no distinction. He had compassion on them all.

This miracle should surely convince us that Christ is interested in our daily needs too, just as he was interested in those of his contemporaries in Palestine. Our principal and only real purpose in life is to be saved and Christ is ever ready to help us. However, we have first to travel through our earthly life so, of necessity, we have to take a passing interest in the affairs of this world. We have to provide for our earthly needs and for those of any others who may depend on us. For many, in fact for the vast majority of men, this has always been and will be a struggle against great odds. Here, too, Christ is ever ready to help us. He has a true interest in our progress through life and if we turn to him trustfully and sincerely, he will help us over our difficulties.

This does not mean that we can expect or demand a miracle whenever we find ourselves in difficulties. If, however, we are true to Christ and to the faith in our daily lives, he will find ways and means of freeing us from difficulties which would otherwise overcome us. If we look back over our past we may notice occasions when we were saved from grave difficulties by some unexpected intervention. We may not even have called on Christ to help us but he knew our needs and he answered our unspoken request. Those five thousand hungry people had not asked him for food, but he knew their needs. He knew too that their needs were caused by their desire to be in his presence—so he gave them what they had not thought of asking for. If we are loyal to him we, too, can trust that his mercy and power will be with us in our hour of need. He may not remove the cause of our difficulty. Remember St. Paul who had some bodily infirmity which he thought impeded his effectiveness as a missionary? Three times he pleaded with Christ to remove this 'infirmity, but Christ assured him: "my grace is sufficient for you." He would prove all the more

effectively that he was Christ's Apostle by preaching in spite of that infirmity: "for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12: 7-9). Thus it may be that Christ will use the very difficulty from which we are suffering, to bring us and others into more intimate union with him. Many of the saints suffered great hardships and afflictions during their years on earth—these very afflictions were Christ's gifts to them. Without these, and the virtues of patience, faith and trust which they had to practice, they might not be among God's elect today.

We must rest assured then that Christ is intimately interested in our daily lives on earth. We must not expect that this interest of his will remove all shadows from our path. This would not be for our eternal good—and our eternal happiness is Christ's first interest in us. It should also be our own first and principal interest too. It will help us, too, to bear with our lot, if we look about us and see so many others who are worse off, or at least as badly off as we are especially with regard to the snags of life. Christian charity will move us to help them; we may not be able to give them any material help, but we can help to lighten their load by showing our sincere interest in them and by offering words of comfort and consolation. This is the only charity that the poor have to offer to their fellow sufferers, but if it is Christ-inspired its effects will reach to heaven.

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

**Collection:
July 17, 2021**

Envelopes	\$255.00
Loose	\$10.00
	\$265.00

Notices:

1: Take-Out Herb Breaded Chicken Dinner

Included: Baked Potato, Vegetables, Rolls, Dessert

Saturday: July 31st,

Time: 4:45

Location: Johnstown Parish Hall

Cost: \$12.00

Tickets are needed for this event, so please let one of the following know if you would like tickets.

Louise: 902-535-3107

Barbara: 902-828-2079

Rita: 902-631-0209

Edie: 902-322-6543

Elizabeth: 902-539-2078

2: Take-Out Cold Plate

Included: Ham, Potato Salad, Pasta Salad, Dessert

Saturday: August 14th

Time: 4:45

Location: Johnstown Parish Hall

Cost: \$12.00

Tickets are needed for this event, so please let one of the following know if you would like tickets.

Louise: 902-535-3107

Barbara: 902-828-2079

Rita: 902-631-0209

Edie: 902-322-6543

Elizabeth: 902-539-2078

3: Cemetery Mass

Saturday: August 14th

Time: 4:00 pm

In the Diocese

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

The Apostolic Penitentiary, in order to increase the devotion of the faithful and for the salvation of souls, by virtue of the faculties attributed to it by the Supreme Pontiff Pope Francis by Divine Providence on the occasion of the First World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, recently instituted by the Supreme Pontiff on the fourth Sunday of the month of July, graciously grants the Plenary Indulgence, under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff) to grandparents, the elderly and all the faithful who, motivated by a true spirit of penance and charity, will participate on 25 July 2021, on the occasion of the First World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, in the solemn celebration that the Most Holy Father Francis will preside over in the Vatican Papal Basilica or at the various functions that will be held throughout the world, who may also apply it as suffrage for the souls in Purgatory.