



## Bulletin

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

**Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei**  
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**March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**

**Masks are  
mandatory in  
the Church**

**Note new time for  
Easter Saturday Mass:  
8:00pm**

### Sunday Readings:

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 31:31-34. In today's extract, the prophet is foretelling the setting up of a New Covenant, to replace the Old Covenant made between God and his Chosen People on Mt. Sinai, a covenant which the Chosen People had not kept. The New Covenant would not be written on tablets of stone but on each individual's heart. It would be a covenant of love rather than one of obligation.

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews 5:7-9. The purpose of this letter is to confirm the converts in the Christian faith which they have accepted..

The **Gospel** is from St. John 12:20-33. On the first Palm Sunday, as Christ entered Jerusalem not as a conquering king on a charger but "riding on an ass" to show that he was the humble servant of all men, he clearly foresaw the sufferings and torments that would be his in that city, before the week was out. Among those who waved palm branches to honor him and who sang aloud: "Hosanna to the son of David, Hosanna in the highest," there were perhaps some who, urged on by the leaders, would be shouting the following Friday, "away with him, crucify him," and "we have no king but Caesar." Such was the fickleness of human nature then. Unfortunately it has not changed much, if at all, in the two thousand years that have since elapsed. We are still fickle when it comes to choosing between Christ and the things of this world. Yet he knew all of this, and was still willing to carry the cross for us who are such unworthy mortals!

This very thought should put us all to shame, for what repayment does the very best of us make for the incredible love he has shown for us? We grumble and complain when some small cross is laid on our shoulders; we are full of laments if life is not running smoothly for us; we cannot understand why God should let certain things happen to us, his friends! But see for a moment what the lot of his beloved Son was on earth. Born and reared in extreme poverty; insulted and offended by those he wanted to teach; quickly forgotten by those he benefited by his miracles; hounded by his enemies and betrayed by one who had been his disciple for over two years and who had sat at table with him that same night; deserted in his moment of trial by those very ones who had sworn undying allegiance to him. Then followed the torments wished on him by his enemies—those he had come to save; the mock trial and illegal condemnation; the scourging at the pillar; the crowning with thorns; the carrying of the cross and finally the three hours of intense torture and agony while his body hung on the cross! The next time we are tempted to grumble and complain about our sad lot. Let us look thoughtfully at a crucifix for a few moments!

"He who loves his life loses it," this is a truth stated by Christ at the solemn moment when he was speaking of the purpose of his own painful death. He died so that we might live, not for sixty or even a hundred years on earth, but forever in heaven. We can, we know, lose the eternal life Christ won for us if we are too attached to our transitory, earthly life. If we love our own comforts, pleasures, temporal gains, our own worldly will, more than we love our unending, happy future, then we are loving our earthly lives wrongly, and we are gravely risking the loss of the future, true life.

If, on the other hand, we do our best to be faithful servants of Christ, we shall always judge all our actions with eternity in view. We can use the things of this life which God gives us, and still be close followers of Christ. The lawful possession of the goods of this world, the enjoyment of the licit pleasures of life, are allowed to the fervent Christian. If these possessions and pleasures are accepted with Christian gratitude, they will become stepping-stones that will help us across the river of life to our everlasting home beyond.

Each one of us should look fervently and devoutly on the crucifix today, and try to compare our willingness to suffer those crosses sent to us by God, with the crushing cross and passion our Savior Jesus Christ gladly accepted for us and not for his own sake. Do not let the conclusion you draw stun you into inactivity, but rather let it shock you into a new outlook on life; a new resolve to serve, follow and imitate our loving Christ more closely in future. So may it be for all of us.

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

### Collection:

**March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
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## Notices:

**1: From Ann Cooke: St John the Baptist Parish -** Sunday, March 21, is solidarity day which is a day to act in solidarity with the poor of the world by donating to Development and Peace. This year, COVID-19 has taught us dramatically how interconnected the whole world is. As inconvenient and disruptive as the effects of the pandemic are in Canada, they are devastating in the Global South. More than ever, your support is needed to allow D&P to continue to support over 100 projects in 35 countries. Use the envelope in your box or visit [www.devp.org](http://www.devp.org) to donate on line or by phone or mail. Contact Ann Cooke at 902-535-2727 for more information.

### **2: Lenten Confessions**

Six priests will be available at St. Ninian's Cathedral in Antigonish from 10:00am to 1:00pm on Saturday, March 27. COVID restrictions will be in place. COVID has prevented the usual gathering of local priests for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

**3:** Please book your seat for Good Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Holy Saturday April 3<sup>rd</sup>. You can call Louise at 535-3107 or email [louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com](mailto:louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com) to book your church seat for those dates.

**4: A Take-out Fish Cake and Bean** supper will be held on Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Good Friday). The supper will be available at 4pm at the Parish Hall. To order a meal please call Louise at 535-3107 or email [louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com](mailto:louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com) Cost: \$12.00

**5: Silver Rose:** The Knights of Columbus in St. Peter's are planning to invite the Silver Rose, an image associated with the pro-life message of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to come to us in April (see the schedule and info in the link below). Fr. Yake suggested that since Sacred Heart, Johnstown, has a shrine to Our Lady of Guadalupe that we might hold the (out-of-doors) Mass there. It would offer an opportunity to gather Catholics around this important truth of our faith. Our time slot is Tuesday April 13th in the afternoon, time to be determined. <https://www.kofc.org/en/what-we-do/faith-in-action-programs/life/silver-rose.html?1tab=1tab5>

### **6: Facebook Live with Fr Patrick O'Neill and John Ratchford**

Sundays at 7 pm Fr. Patrick and John will host a 30-minute presentation of spirituality, talks and taking questions from viewers. Fr. Patrick is pastor of Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River, as well as producer of Mass for Shut-Ins and chaplain for the Canadian Armed Forces and CBRM police. John Ratchford is a renowned photographer from North Sydney who has shared his personal experiences of faith and mental illness as part of our Youth Ministry Let's Talk events in 2020 and 2021. To view the livestream: <https://www.facebook.com/frpatrick.oneill>

## **5: Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday** – March 27/28 – Regular Sunday Schedule - Palm branches could be distributed by someone with gloves, in this way no one is directly touching the branches as they are distributed

### **Thursday of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>)**

Thursday of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday)  
April 1  
4:00pm HGA  
5:30pm SP  
7:00pm SJB  
There will be no foot-washing.

### **Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good**

(Holy Mass is not permitted on Good Friday or Holy Saturday. The Good Friday Service consists of three parts: The Liturgy of the Word with Intercessions, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion.)

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.

Last year parishes had to double up but with COVID that cannot happen this year.

SJB - (officiant TBA)  
Chapel Island and SP - (officiant TBA)  
HGA – Mr. Arthur Doary officiating  
SH, Johnstown – Fr. Yake

### **The Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday)**

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.

### **At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night: Saturday, April 3**

**8:00pm SH – NEW TIME:**

### **The Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday): April 4**

8:30am SJB  
10:00am SP & Chapel Island  
11:30 HGA