



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00

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

Masks are
Mandatory in the
Church

November 13, 2021
Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of Daniel 12:1-3. Today's reading puts before our eyes the fact that this world will have an end marked by great upheavals and disasters. However, these will be followed immediately by a new and everlasting existence..

The Second Reading is from the Letter of St. Paul the Hebrews 10:11-4; 18. St. Paul continues to compare the priesthood of Christ with the Jewish priesthood.

The Gospel is from the Gospel of Mark 13:24-32. There are some obscurities in this extract from St. Mark. Firstly, because Christ was discussing and answering questions on two distinct topics : the destruction of the temple and the end of the world. Secondly, because we may not have the ipsissima verba of Christ here, as many exegetes suggest. The message we must learn from today's gospel comes across without any ambiguity or doubt : we must always be ready to face our judgement for we know not the day nor the hour when we will be called from this life. When or how this world will end is of no great importance to us; what is important is that we shall leave this world very soon and our eternity will depend on the state of our consciences at the moment of our departure.

This is the steadying thought the Church, in her wisdom, wishes to put before our minds today. We all know that we must die someday. We are strangers and pilgrims on this earth; we have not here a lasting city, as St.

Augustine says. No sane person among us will try to deny this and yet, many of us are so immersed in the things of this world that we forget or try to forget that we must leave this world soon. This is very natural : life is a precious gift and as our earthly life is the only one of which we have experience our every inclination is to hold on to it at all costs. Even when our intelligence tells us that it can, in spite of all our endeavors, end very soon we try to convince ourselves that that "very soon" is really in the distant future.

We have God's word for it and the example of Christ's resurrection to a life of glory. Let us appreciate the truth that our death on earth is not the end of life but rather the beginning of the true life that will never end. As the liturgy says in the Mass for the Dead : "Life is changed (by death) not taken away." Our death is the doorway through which we pass into the unending life. The years on earth are a gift of God to enable us to earn the infinitely greater gift which in his loving mercy he has prepared for us from all eternity.

God in his mercy is calling on each one of us to be ready when our call comes. We can do nothing about the when or the where of that call, but we can do much about the state of our relationship with God when death comes; in fact, aided by God's grace we can ensure that all will be well with us. We cannot avoid a sudden death, but we can avoid an unprepared death by striving always to live in peace with God. This does not mean that we must be always on our knees praying to God and that we must take no interest in the things and the joys of this world. Far from it. God wants us to use the things of this world, but to use them so that they will not hinder us on our journey.

A very practical way to see how we stand in relation to God and to the things of this world, is for each one of us to ask himself today : "How would I fare if I were called to render an account of stewardship tonight?" This is the practical question that God, through today's readings, is asking us to put to ourselves. If, to our dismay, we find there are several things which have to be put right before facing our judge we will start right away to put them right. We may get another chance, another warning, and we may not. If we value our eternal happiness we will take this warning; we will put our books in order; we will make peace with God and our neighbors—and with God's grace we will do all in our power to persevere in this good resolution.

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

Collection:
November 06/21

Envelopes	\$450.00
Loose	\$54.00
	\$504.00

Notices:

1: AGM: The annual general meeting of the Bras d'Or Lakers is scheduled for Saturday, November 13th at 1:30 PM, at the Red Islands Fire Hall. Covid19 precautions will be in place, along with proof of vaccination. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as can attend.

It has been another quiet year for our club because of pandemic limitations on public gatherings; however we have been able to carry on with a few things. Our Thursday after noon craft and sewing sessions with Rita Campbell has continued, and Yoga classes have resumed. We look forward to expanding our activities in the New Year, and we will talk about that at our AGM to get feedback from our membership.

We will be doing our annual Christmas Toy drive again this year in early December. More on that soon, in a separate email.

2: Christmas Merchandise Bingo: Sunday November 14: Time: 2:00 pm. No canteen will be provided. Covid19 restrictions will be followed including proof of vaccination and masks. The bingo will be held at the Parish Hall

3: Christmas Bake Sale: Sacred Heart Ladies Group will be hosting a Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday December 5th. Come and do some Christmas Baking without the hassle. We will also be looking for donations to the Bake Sale, so if you have time to help bake that will be greatly appreciated. Time: 10am – 12pm. This will be our last event for the year

4: St. Mary's Parish Frenchvale Fundraiser: 4 cords of firewood split and delivered with the CBRM, or \$500.00 cash. Tickets: \$1.00 each available from Cathy Johnston, 902-535-2774. Draw date: December 4th, at St. Mary's Parish.

5: Religious Christmas Cards for sale: There are available many different designs and also mixed packs of religious Christmas cards through www.lifecyclebooks.ca You may order on line or Maureen Sampson of HGA has ordered several mixed packs for anyone in our surrounding communities who may be interested. The cost is \$5 for a pack of 10. Phone 902-587-2517 for more information.

Christmas/New Year's Schedule: Johnstown - An update for all parishes will be added later

Christmas Eve: Friday, Dec 24, 2021: 4:00 pm

Sunday December 26: 2021 9:00 am

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God: Friday, Dec. 31, 2021 - Holy Day of Obligation – 4:00 pm

Sunday January 2nd, 2022 – 9:00 am