



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

Mass: 9:30 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

The **First Reading** is taken from the Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33 and concerns bearing witness to the "name" of Jesus, and the implications which this witnessing necessarily brings with it. Peter and the apostles answered their inquisitors by stating firmly their faith in Christ, and the lesson ends with reference to their joy at having been found worthy to endure trials for the name of Christ.

—*A Celebrant's Guide to the New Sacramentary, A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of Peter 1:17-21*. St. Peter says that we are sons of God because of his infinite mercy in sending Christ to us as our brother. So we can rightly call God our "Father." But we must behave as true, loyal sons, during our "time of exile" on this earth, for our merciful Father is also the absolutely just God who will judge each one of us "impartially according to our deeds" when we lay down our earthly life. —*A Guide to the Eucharist and Hours—Lent* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 24:13-35*. It is the first day of the week after the great Jewish feast of the Passover and Jerusalem is trying to return to its normal routine. The shopkeepers count their profits and the Temple priests congratulate themselves because they were able to kill the 'Galilean'. For the disciples and those who were 'foreigners' in Jerusalem, it is time to start to return to their own homes and their normal lives.

Curtains were closed and lights were dimmed not only due to the celebration of Jerusalem's solemn festival but also because everyone had hope that the man Jesus '*would be the One to redeem Israel*' (Lk 24:21). The two disciples from Emmaus are to be found, along their journey, talking to '*Jesus in person*', '*but their eyes were prevented from recognising Him*' (Lk 24:16).

Why did the Lord not tell the disciples straight away who He was? Indeed, in the dialogue that the liturgy presents to us today, it almost seems that Jesus did all He could to avoid revealing His true identity. Firstly, He pretended not to know what Cleopas and his companion were discussing and then He went on to '*explain to them the passages throughout scriptures that were about Himself*' (Lk 24:27) but without making direct reference to Himself.

At the end of the journey, 'He made to go on' (Lk 24:28). Jesus didn't want to play games with His disciples, but He sought to educate their hearts, and also ours, so that we won't be '*slow*'! In fact, when faced with the Lord's Presence, we find that the heart quickly '*burns*' upon hearing His words as we are grateful of the fact that we were freed not by '*gold and silver but by the precious blood of Christ*' who is the '*blameless and spotless*' lamb (Cf. 1 Pet 1:19).

The Risen Lord uses so much gentleness with us! He doesn't oblige us to '*believe*' but He offers us the instruments that enable us to judge based on the infallible measure of our own hearts. As St Augustine extraordinarily wrote in the opening of his Confessions '*our heart is restless until it rests in you*' (St. Augustine, Conf. 1,1,1:PL 32,659-661).

There is still one more detail that calls for our attention and raises many questions: why did the eyes of the disciples open to recognise Jesus whilst they were at table with Him? The Eucharistic context is undeniable. The disciples are at table, the Lord is with them; He took the bread and saying the prayer of benediction, broke it. It was during the last action of the breaking of the bread that the companions recognized Jesus. It was not only the action in itself but finally Cleopas and his friends could see, with their own eyes, the hands pierced by the nails of the passion that until that very movement had remained hidden from them during the long journey on the road.

It was in that very moment in which they recognized the presence of the Crucified One, that He '*disappeared from their sight*' whilst their eyes remained fixed on the broken bread, that was left to fall '*onto the altar*'. Is it not the same experience that every one of us can have every Sunday?

So, '*they set out that instant*' (Lk 24:33). They started to understand that death is not the last word on the life of each one of us as we can not be '*held in its power*' (Acts 2:24). This is a sign of great hope that gives us irreprehensible joy! In so much as we journey to Jerusalem—each on his own road, it must often seem long and tiring. However, now with our eyes fully opened it appears that we have the privilege to say to all the world, '*the Lord has indeed risen*' (Lk 24:34).

—From the Congregation for the Clergy

Collection

April 16, 2023

Envelopes	\$350.00
Loose	\$20.00
Good Friday	\$5.00
Donation to Shrine	\$300.00
	\$675.00

NOTICES:

1: Sewing /Crafting: The sewing/crafting afternoon will wrap up for the summer on Thursday April 27th. See you in the fall

2: Gaelic Flag Raising: I am pleased to announce that we have set the date for the Gaelic Awareness Month flag raising/proclamation ceremony. It has been scheduled for May 8, 2023 at 3:30 p.m. We will have Lewis MacKinnon attend and we are welcoming all members of the public to join us. An official invitation will be sent out closer to the event via Facebook/Municipal Website.

We will have Telile Community Television live stream the event and I am hoping to get some photos:) We encourage you to ask others to join us, and if you know of students in your area...invite them too!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Shelley David

Municipal Clerk, Communications Administrator

Municipality of the County of Richmond

3: Gaelic Classes Gaelic beginner conversation classes

Tuesdays, 1:00 pm - 3:30pm, Red Islands Fire Hall

Begins May 2, \$50 for 8 weeks

Contact: Cathy Campbell: 902-217-2088

4: Happy Birthday: A big Happy 90th Birthday to former parishioner Isobel Johnston

5: FLEE MARKET: St. Theresa CWL Saturday, May 6, 2023 9:00am-11:00am At St. Theresa Parish Hall St. Peter's Road, Sydney Admission: \$1.00 Bring your own bags!

6: Musical Tribute to Stuart Calvert: East Coast Meets West End CB Orchestra & CB Chorale & Guests Sat. May 13th, 2:00 p.m. Savoy Theatre \$25 902-842-1577 or online at savoytheatre.com

7: TEA and TALK at Holy Redeemer Convent: Sydney Tuesday, May 16, 2023 1:30 -3:30 pm

An invitation to join with other women to share TEA and TALK at Holy Redeemer Convent, 24 Neville St. Whitney Pier, situated behind the Pier Post Office. This invitation is open to women of all ages. This is an attempt to provide an opportunity for women to join with others to simply share a cup of tea and to experience the joy of being together. For further information phone 902 270 4840 or 902 539 6331.

8: Pastoral Arts Concert: St. Peter's United Church:

Sunday, April 30 – 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. St. Peter's United Church, St. Peter's

Crock-Pot Luck Dinner to follow in hall Free will offering at each.

9: Summer Schedule

Tentative Schedule for summer events at the Johnstown Parish Hall: More information will be provided closer to the event.

- **Sunday July 9th – Strawberry Festival**
- **Sunday July 9th – Shrine Mass**
- **Sunday July 30th – Pancake Breakfast**
- **Sunday August 13th – Cemetery Mass**
- **Sunday August 13th – Pancake Breakfast**
- **Friday August 18th – 90th Annual Milling Frolic**
- **Sunday September 3rd – Pancake Breakfast**