



**Sacred Heart Parish  
Bulletin**

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

**August 13, 2023**

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The **First Reading** is taken from the *First Book of Kings 19:9a, 11-13a* and relates the story of Elijah in the cave and the Lord coming to him in a "still small voice."

**Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 9:1-5* in which St. Paul speaks of the sorrow of heart that he has because the Jews, as a nation, had refused to see Christ as the Messiah who was promised to them by God through their patriarchs and prophets.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 14:22-33*. Our Lord sent His disciples to row across the lake, knowing that they would meet strong, gale-force head-winds and be in danger. He did this because He wanted to strengthen their faith and trust in Himself. He intended to come to them at the right moment, working two miracles — walking on the water and calming the storm. This He did and the result was as He had intended — their faith in Him was strengthened, they declared He was the Messiah, the Chosen of God. Peter, already the recognized leader, and always the most daring among them, showed himself ready to risk drowning in order to prove his trust and confidence in Christ. While he trusted in Christ, all went well, but when his faith weakened he would have been lost were it not for the outstretched helping hand of his master. This was also a very necessary lesson in the education of Peter and his companions.

For us, too, there is a necessary lesson in this incident. It is that we must continue to trust in

Christ and his loving Father, even when God seems to have deserted us. Most of the troubles and trials of our lives are caused by the injustice and lack of charity of our fellowmen. The remainder can be attributed to our own defects and sins or to some weakness in our mental and bodily make-up. But God foresees all these misfortunes, and can prevent them. Instead he lets them take their course, because they can and should be the means of educating us in our knowledge of life's true meaning and they should draw us closer to him.

Christ foresaw the storm and the grave risk His Apostles would run when He sent them off across the lake. But that trial and the grave danger they ran was for their own good, because they learned to realize that He was from God and they could always trust Him. Our trials and our earthly ailments are also foreseen by God and permitted by him (even if inflicted on us by a sinful fellowman) so that they will draw us closer to Him and help us on the road to heaven.

This they will do, if we accept them and bear with them until He comes to our aid. Our troubles in life are like the growing pains of our youth — they are necessary if we are to arrive at our full stature as sons of God. They form, mold and shape our religious character and bring us closer to God — if we allow them to do so. For the lukewarm Christian who rebels against God because of his earthly sufferings, they can do the opposite. He cannot see the purpose and value of suffering because he has never seriously pondered or grasped the real meaning of this life and God's loving plans for him.

As in the first reading today, God may not be in the tornadoes or earthquakes or roaring fires, nor does He cause them perhaps, but He is ever near to His true children when such calamities occur. He has a purpose in every trial or tribulation which crosses the path of our lives, a purpose always to our eternal advantage if only we will see and accept his will in these trials.

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

**Collection**

**August 6th**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$275.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Initial Offering</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
	<b>\$335.00</b>

## NOTICES:

**1: The Johnstown Market** will be held on Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

**2: Cemetery Mass:** The annual Cemetery Mass will take place on Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup>, in the lower graveyard. Time: 9:30 am. Please bring your own chair.

**3: Pancake Breakfast:** Following the 9:30 Cemetery Mass, at the Johnstown Parish Hall \$12.00

**4: Pastoral Arts Concert** St. Mary's Parish Church, Big Pond - Sunday, August 13, 2:00 -4:00 pm. Cost \$10.00 cash only. Our talent includes The Bisson sisters, Jimmy MacNeil, Christie Marie MacNeil, Mae MacNeil, Howie MacDonald, MacMorin, Regina Moss and her guitar gals and Keith MacDonald. A light lunch will be held in the firehall following the concert. Our church is now air conditioned for your comfort. Hope to see you there!

**5: The 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Milling Frolic:** A reminder that we will be looking for **baking for the bake sale** and for the lunch and **items for the Fancy Booth.**

**6: The 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Milling Frolic** will be held on Friday August 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Johnstown Parish Hall. Included in the event will be The Best in Gaelic Singing, Milling, Bingo, Children's Game, Lunch, Fancy Booth, Bake Sale and an all-ages Square Dance: Music for the Dance will be Kenneth MacKenzie, Shelly Campbell and Mac Morin. The event starts at 7:00 pm with the Dance starting at 9:00 pm. The event ends at 12:00 am. Cost: \$7.00

**7: The Sydney Mines Highland Games** in honour of Coal Miners is taking place at 76 Pitt Street on Saturday Aug 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 11 am, concluding with a free outdoor Scottish Concert at 6:30 pm.

Highland Dancing, Bagpipes, Heavy events, tug of war, 5 k run, kids games and free french fries. Everyone welcome, including dogs on leash, please bring your own lawn chair.

**8: Our Lady Seat of Wisdom College** is a faithfully Catholic liberal arts college in Barry's Bay, Ontario, offering a three-year Bachelor of Catholic Studies degree. Small class sizes and a strong academic program set students up for success in the classroom and in all future pursuits. Faculty take their Catholic faith seriously and profess an oath of fidelity to the Magisterium of the Church. A vibrant campus life, men's and women's residence houses, and ample spiritual opportunities create a Catholic culture that forms the whole person. Students build life-long friendships, and often discern their vocations. The tuition is affordable, and financial aid is available. There are still spots available for 2023-2024! Please visit [www.seatofwisdom.ca](http://www.seatofwisdom.ca).

**9: L'Ardoise Legion Barbeque** Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>/23 \$25 per person 12 oz strip loin steak, baked potato, coleslaw, sweets Take out 2-3 pm Eat in 4-6 pm while being entertained by Leona Burkey To book: Contact: Theresa 902-587-2511 or Gail. 902-951-0330 or call the Legion 902-587-2263 Fri & Set evenings

**10: Support:** If you still want to continue supporting Sacred Heart Parish, through your envelopes or just a donation, we are now set up for e-transfer: Please e-transfer to [sacredheartjohnstown@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartjohnstown@gmail.com). Please include your envelope number. If you do not currently have a church envelope, please include your civic address. Receipts will be issued.