



**Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin**

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

July 30, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *First Book of Kings 3:5, 7-12*. God gives Solomon a choice of gifts. Solomon asks God for "an understanding mind," so that he could always do what was just and best for his subjects. God rewards him with the gift of wisdom making him the wisest man that ever lived. —*The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:28-30*. The theme of this reading concerns the graciousness and mercy of God at work in calling men to himself, justifying them, and glorifying them as well. The point of the reading is the eternal mystery of the ineffable love of God for man, even before man existed. —*A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary — A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 13:44-52. The lesson of these two parables is as true for us today, as it was for those Palestinians to whom Christ spoke. All Christians are called on to imitate the two wise men, and surrender all their earthly possessions if necessary in order to gain eternal life. Does this "giving all" mean that we are all expected to abandon the world and take on the religious vows of poverty, chastity and obedience? There are many who do just this. But it is not the only way, nor the normal way, to purchase the eternal treasure.

Heaven is within the reach of all, who follow the ordinary vocations of life and partake of this world's joys and pleasures within the framework of God's commandments, but never lose sight of the goal toward which they are moving.

Keeping within the framework of God's commandments is the difficulty. We need not have a vow of obedience, but we must obey all legitimate authority. We may possess the goods of this world, but only such goods as we lawfully and justly acquire. Nor may we withhold all of these from a fellow man who is in need. We do not have to take a vow of chastity, but yet we must be chaste, we must use the gifts and the pleasure of sex only within the limits set down by God's wise laws.

All of this is not easy for human nature. But we are not relying on weak human nature, we have within our reach in the Church all the spiritual and supernatural aids we need. Our twentieth century, it is true, is so engrossed in chasing after the earthly comforts and pleasures of the body, and so devoid of any spiritual or other-worldly outlook, that even those who know and believe that there is an eternity after death, find it hard to allow their faith and convictions to govern and direct their daily actions. Yet, the evil example of others will never justify our wrong-doing. The commandments of God are still binding, even though they are openly and flagrantly violated by individuals and whole nations today.

Remember this: we shall not be asked at the judgment, "What did your neighbor do?", but "what did you do?" If we lose the pearl of great price in the eternity of happiness God has offered to us-it will not be the fault of others. The fault will be ours and ours only. We refused to pay the price. We did not think it worth the "paltry all" which we possessed in this life.

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

Collection

July 23rd

Envelopes	\$205.00
Loose	\$26.00
Cemetery Fund	\$20.00
Cemetery Fund I/M of Brian and Darryl MacNeil	\$50.00
	\$301.00

NOTICES:

1: The Johnstown Market will be held on Sunday July 30th, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.

2: Pancake Breakfast: Our first Pancake and Sausage Breakfast will be held on Sunday July 30th, following Mass, at 10:00 am. Pancakes, Sausages, Eggs, Biscuits and Tea: Cost \$12.00

3: Musique Royale Concert in Sacred Heart Church - Duo Oriana - How Like A Golden Dream - Sinéad White, soprano; & Jonathan Stuchbery, lutenist– Wednesday August 9th, 7:00 pm \$25 at the door (\$20 advance by emailing louisecampbel@gmail.com, just to put your name on the list. Payment will be at the door.).

Musique Royale invites you to hear Duo Oriana performing music from their new album “How Like A Golden Dream” on tour in historic venues across Nova Scotia part of our 38th Summer Festival. In this album, the luminous voice of soprano Sinéad White illuminates the long shadows of dusk and night. Lutenist Jonathan Stuchbery adds energizing precision and with both lute and theorbo, he serves White with silvery gusts of harmonic colours. The repertoire on How Like a Golden Dream traverses the sacred and the secular; 17th-century hymns and antiphons from the Office of Hours, sung at Vespers and Compline in monasteries and Irish folk songs influenced by Celtic missionaries.

4: Looking for 1 rooms to host the Musique Royale musicians on Wednesday August 9th. If you can host, please let me know.

5: Pastoral Airs 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!

6: The 90th 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. We will also be looking for volunteers that evening.

7: The 90th Annual Milling Frolic will be held on Friday August 18th, 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

8: 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. Please include your envelope number. If you do not currently have a church envelope, please include your civic address. Receipts will be issued.

9: Summer Schedule

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

- **Sunday August 13th – Cemetery Mass – 9:30 am**
- **Sunday August 13th – Pancake Breakfast – 10:30 am**
- **Friday August 18th – 90th Annual Milling Frolic – 7:00 – 12:00 am – Music for square dance by Kenneth MacKenzie, Shelly Campbell and Mac Morin**
- **Sunday September 3rd – Pancake Breakfast – 10:00 am**