



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

October 15, 2023

Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 25:6-10a*. In today's reading Isaiah describes under the image of a great banquet, the blessings, the contentment and happiness that the messianic kingdom will bring.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20*. The Philippians were the only converts from whom St. Paul accepted any financial help. He is thanking them here for some such assistance which he must surely have needed for he was in prison when he wrote this letter. He assures them that God will reward them for the charitable aid given him.

The **Gospel** is taken from *Matthew 22:1-14*. How foolish the Pharisees were in not listening to our Lord's warnings. He gave them every opportunity to turn away from the false path which their pride had chosen for them. His divine heart was ever ready to embrace them if only they would say "mea culpa." "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets, and stone them that are sent to you, how often would I have gathered together your children, as the hen does her chickens under her wings, and you would not" (Mt. 23:37)? "God created us without our cooperation," says St. Augustine. "but he cannot save us unless we cooperate."

We too could make the Pharisees' mistake. We have the invitation to the wedding feast; in fact, we are already in the banquet hall, since our baptism; but are we wearing the wedding garment of virtue and grace? If not, we are no better off than those who rejected the invitation. The king may come in at any moment and cast out those who are not properly dressed. Being a member of the Church on earth is a wonderful privilege, and a sure guarantee that we will reach heaven, if we do what is expected of us. But the same obstacles which prevented the Pharisees from entering the kingdom—love of this world, its wealth and its pleasures—can impede us too, unless we are on our guard. The world with its allurements is very close to us; heaven seems very far away. Thus we must be prepared to do violence to our ordinary inclinations, to go against them whenever and wherever "the things that are Caesar's" tend to blot out or make us forget "the things that are God's."

This implies a daily carrying of the cross, a daily struggle against our evil inclinations, a daily endeavor to acquire true love of God and neighbor. This may sound superhuman, but Christ did not ask anyone to do the impossible. He led the way, and millions have followed him to eternal glory. He has called us too and has placed within our easy reach in his Church all the grace we need. If we fail to use these divine helps, if we are found without the wedding garment, we will have no one to blame but ourselves. We have been called with the many. We can be among the "chosen."

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

Collection October 08, 2023

Envelopes	\$275.00
Donation	\$25.00
Cemetery Fund I/M of Stan Campbell	\$100.00
Shrine	\$35.00
	\$435.00

Support: If you want to support 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.

Bulletin: If you want to add a notice to the bulletin please send an email to louisecampbel@gmail.com

NOTICES:

1: Johnstown Sewing/handicraft

The weekly Johnstown sewing/knitting/ needlework group will start up again on Thursday, October 5 at 1:00 pm, at the District 10 Firehall, Red Islands. For further information: Rita Campbell, 902-631-0209

2: Celebration of Life: A Celebration of Life will be held on Wednesday October 18th, at the Johnstown Parish Hall for the Late Mary Jessie Savoie. Time 12:00 pm. All are welcome. A lunch will be provided.

3: L'Arche Cape Breton Benefit Concert St. Peter's Lions' Club Sunday, October 15, 2023. Featuring David Stone, Jason MacDonald, Tommy & Shelly Samson, Mannie Bourgeois, Evelyn Mac Rae, Tyrone David, Wayne Bona, Jack Mac Queen & Pamela & Gerard Sampson. Freewill offering at door, 50/50 tickets available.

4: Human Trafficking Prevention Education Event:

Join your CWL as we host a one-hour virtual presentation by the **JOY SMITH Foundation**, Canada's leading authority on human trafficking prevention, intervention, and support for survivors.

When: Tuesday October 17th from 4-5 PM

Where: St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish

Why: Human Trafficking can happen to anyone.

*Within 1 km of you someone is being lured into sex trafficking.

* 13 years old is the average age of entry into Sex trafficking.

*93% of Canadian human trafficking victims are born in Canada.

Education is our greatest weapon as we work together to end this horrific crime.

This event is open to everyone. Please come and join us.

5: TEA AND TALK Sydney Tuesday, Oct. 17, 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.

6: Mass for Shut Ins will soon begin its 61st season. Starting October 15, Mass for Shut Ins will air Sunday mornings on the CTV channel. We would like to encourage all parishes and individuals to join us for the taping of the Masses every Saturday morning at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish in Sydney, at 10:00am.

Contact coordinator, Nick Vince, at nick@dioceseofantigonish.ca for scheduling details or for donations.

7: Halloween party: A Halloween party will be held on Sunday Oct 29 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the District 10 Red Island fire hall. Everyone is welcome to get dressed up and show off your best costume. This event is for adults and children.

8: Weekly coffee/tea drop-in: The Bras d'or Lakers Seniors Club is sponsoring a weekly coffee/tea drop in at the District 10 Red Islands Fire Hall, starting on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, from 9:00 to 11:30 AM. Come for a hot drink and see your friends and neighbours. Cards, puzzles and games are available.

For more information call Barbara MacIntyre at (902) 577-4766.

9: The Annual General Meeting of the Johnstown Community Development Co-operative will take place on Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Johnstown Parish Hall, Johnstown, NS.

Please Note: This meeting is open to the public. The business of the Cooperative will be conducted from 7:00 – 7:30. Following this, an Information Session/Question & Answer period on the Irish Cove Walking Trail Project will be held to update the public on our progress to date and to solicit community input as we move forward. We appreciate your participation in this important initiative.

10: In remembrance of our loved ones: November is the month of remembering those who have died. It is customary in our parish to remember our loved ones who have died since November of the previous year. Consequently, there will be a candlelight service of remembrance at the Sunday mass on November 5th. As the names are read, a family member will be invited to come to the candle stand to light a candle. Those to be remembered can include parishioners who have died during the year, relatives of parishioners whose burials took place in other parishes or relatives of people who were buried in Johnstown. Please call or email Louise at 902-535-3107/ louisecampbel@gmail.com

11: Christmas Concert with the Men of the Deeps. St. Mary's Church, Big Pond. Sunday November 19th, 2023, 2:00 PM. Doors open 1:00 pm. Tickets \$30.00. Proceeds to the Building Fund. Tickets can be purchased at East Bay Country Market, Gillis Building Supplies, St. Peters Home Hardware, Steffs Celtic Gifts, St. Peters or by calling the following: Anne MacPherson 902-828-2301, Mary MacInnis 902-574-1110 Josephine MacNeil 902-828-2279