



## Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

October 29, 2023

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**New Missals:** The new missals for 2024 are now available in the church. Cost is \$5.00. You can put the \$5.00 in your regular envelope and indicate the \$5.00 is for the missal or have a separate envelope with your number on it.

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Exodus 22:20-26*. These verses cover the Israelites' duties toward strangers (non-Israelites), widows and orphans and the poor in general. They are a practical application of the law of charity in their dealings with their neighbors.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5c-10*. St. Paul continues to praise the Thessalonians, not only for accepting the faith in difficult circumstances, but for the wonderful example their Christian life had already given to most of Greece.

The **Gospel** is from *Matthew 22:34-40*. The Pharisees may not have had evil intentions when asking Christ the question as to the greatest commandment. But they have done us a good service by getting this crystal clear answer from him. In this answer he tells us that the man who loves God and neighbor fulfills all his obligations, and carries out all the duties that God's self-revelation in "the law and the prophets" imposes on him. God revealed himself to us in the Old Testament as our Creator and divine benefactor. He had no need of us, since he is infinitely perfect in himself, but out of his infinite goodness he wished to share his eternal kingdom of happiness with mankind and so he created us. That we should love such a benefactor and be grateful to him is not asking much of us; such love should surely be the spontaneous reaction of a rational being, and yet there were and there are many who fail to acknowledge any such obligation.

No Christian, worthy of the name, can ever be among such thoughtless and thankless people. We have greater proofs of God's love for us than "the law and the prophets" gave to the Israelites. We have the added proofs of God's infinite interest in us brought to us by the Incarnation. We have been raised to the sublime status of adopted sons of God. Where Christians can, and too often do fail, is in their true love of neighbor. Yet Christ says that this commandment is like the first. Love of neighbor is an essential part of our obligations toward God. If we fail in this we fail in our love for God, for we refuse to carry out this sacred duty. If we do not recognize our neighbor as our brother, we do not recognize God as our Father and we do not love him. As St. John puts it: "Anyone who says 'I love God' and hates (does not love) his neighbor is a liar" (1 Jn.3: 20).

Let each one of us ask himself today how seriously he takes this law of fraternal charity and how faithfully he carries it out. Not all of us may be able to give material help to a neighbor in need but the poorest of us can spare a kindly word, an encouraging word, for a neighbor weighed down with cares and troubles. All of us can pray for a neighbor who needs spiritual and temporal help. Most of us can deny ourselves some unnecessary luxuries in order to give a needed loaf of bread to a hungry fellowman, while those who have an abundance of this world's goods need not look far afield to find cases and causes worthy of their Christian charity.

Remember that whatever spiritual or material help is given out of true charity to a neighbor in need, is given to God, and whatever is given to God is soundly invested in heaven, and heaven pays handsome dividends.

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

### Collection October 22, 2023

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$195.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>
<b>Cemetery Fund</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>Donation</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
	<b>\$1,305.00</b>

**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](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.

**Bulletin:** If you want to add a notice to the bulletin, please send an email to [louisecampbel@gmail.com](mailto:louisecampbel@gmail.com)

## Notices:

**1: 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 Islands fire hall. Everyone is welcome to get dressed up and show off your best costume. This event is for adults and children.

**2: Weekly coffee/tea drop-in:** The Bras d'or Lakers 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. Everyone is welcome. Cards, puzzles and games are available, or you can just sit and chat. For more information call Barbara MacIntyre at (902) 577-4766.

**3: 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.**

**4: Annual General Meeting: District 10 Fire Department:** The AGM will take place at the Red Islands Fire Hall, Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

**5: 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 5<sup>th</sup>. 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

**6: Christmas Merchandise Bingo** – Johnstown Parish Hall, Sunday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Time: 2:00 pm. Prizes include a turkey, gift cards and Christmas decoration, and many more. Sponsored by Sacred Heart Ladies Group

**7: Two-day Mission:** On behalf of parishioners from Holy Guardian Angels Parish in L'Ardoise we wish to invite everyone to participate in a two day Mission, starting on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> with Mass @ 7:00 P.M. Our special guest is Father Toochukwu from the Archdiocese of Halifax. On Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> we will again have Mass at 9:00 A.M., followed by individual confession, concluding with an evening address and Adoration. Father "T" as he is affectionately known, reveals his faith and spiritual experiences that have had a profound effect on many. An excellent speaker, he has a great communicative ability to reach out and support us along our faith journey.

**8: Christmas Concert with the Men of the Deeps.** St. Mary's Church, Big Pond. Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>, 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

## 9: Schedule for The Nativity of the Lord and The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

**Saturday, December 23, 2023** - Fourth Sunday of Advent

4:00PM HGA - River Bourgeois

5:30PM SP - St. Peters

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

9:30AM SH - Johnstown

11:00AM HGA – L'Ardoise

**The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)**

8:00PM SP & SJB at SP

**Monday, December 25, 2023 (Christmas Day)**

9:30AM SH

11:00AM HGA

**Saturday, December 30, 2023**

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

4:00PM SJB

5:30PM SP

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

9:30AM SH

11:00AM HGA

**The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (New Year's Eve)**

8:00PM SP & SJB at SJB

**Monday, January 1, 2024 (New Year's Day)**

9:30AM SH

11:00AM HGA