



**Masks are
mandatory in
the Church**

Bulletin

**Sacred Heart Parish
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00**

**Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
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November 14th, 2020

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

they want no limits set to their freedom to follow their own earthly inclinations. Their pride in their own self-exalted dignity will not let them bow the head to any deity or divine authority which does not conform to their standards. Like the Pharisees they keep on trying to convince themselves that Christianity is not true, that Christ will not reign, that there will be no day of reckoning.

Yet with all their efforts to get rid of Christ and God, the small inner voice of conscience is not completely silenced. It has the nasty habit of reminding them of their folly. They have their troubled moments when the epicurean motto "eat, drink, sleep and be merry" does not somehow ring true.

For the followers of Christ who are sincere in their efforts, the parable has a message of encouragement and consolation. At times the road we have to travel seems strewn with obstacles, our battles seem never-ending, yet God has provided each one of us with the necessary helps to ensure the final victory. These helps are given according to each one's need. Those servants in the parable who received five and two talents used them faithfully and successfully. He who received one talent needed only one, and could have succeeded with it had he been a faithful servant.

Eternal happiness is the divine reward for an earthly service faithfully rendered. The false excuse of the third servant is repeated in many forms among us still "*God is too austere, he could not expect me to make such sacrifices. I have to provide for myself; his promises and threats may be only empty words. He may never return to demand a reckoning, to settle accounts with us.*" These and all other such excuses are proved false in this parable.

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31. The verses chosen for today are taken from the last half of the last chapter of the book and are a hymn in praise of the ideal wife. The author saw to it that the part that a wise, prudent and industrious wife plays in a man's life, and hence in the life of the nation, deserved to be stressed and admired.

The **second reading** is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 5:1-6. In this reading St. Paul continues his discussion of the parousia. He tells his Thessalonian converts that they know as much as he does about the time of that second coming. He had already told them in his preaching that our Lord had said that it would be unexpected. However, this need not frighten them, they would be prepared because they were living their Christian faith every day.

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21. The lesson of this parable, like all the teaching of the gospel, is as applicable to us today as it was to the first generation of Christians. In its relation to Christ and to his divine Father our world today is very similar to first century Palestine. Christ and God have opponents and followers. Their opponents today have the very same reasons that moved the Pharisees and leaders of the people in Christ's day. They want their messianic kingdom here on earth, a kingdom of pleasure and plenty;

God is a kind Father who has our eternal interests at heart. He does expect us to make the necessary sacrifices. He showed us the way on Calvary. When working for God we are really providing for our own future; his external glory and our eternal salvation are the fruits of the same labor. He will certainly return to settle accounts—it will then be too late to make any changes. Let us be wise and make the changes now while we have time and then our books will be in order on the day of reckoning. Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Development and Peace was established in 1967 by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops in response to Pope Paul VI's encyclical letter *Populorum Progressio*. This founding principle exists today and states that D & P must strive towards a more perfect justice among all human beings.

We believe that Canadians of all religious beliefs have a responsibility to help the world's poor and disadvantaged, either by urging governments, corporations and others to implement change, or by donating time or money to support development efforts which can be done at www.devp.org.

Share Lent is the annual fundraising campaign of Development and Peace. Because of the Pandemic, this did not take place; however, our Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick has designated November 14/15th weekend to be a time when we, can ensure that the good work being done by Development & Peace will still go on in communities of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Please consider supporting this collection or go to the website at www.devp.org and participate with your support. Feel free to use your own envelope and deposit your contribution in the weekly collection basket with your name and envelope collection number. On behalf of Development & Peace I thank you

Collection: November 14th, 2020

Envelopes	\$250.00
Loose	\$60.00
Donation	\$100.00
Donation I/M of Lexina Campbell	\$50.00
	\$460.00

Notices:

1: AGM: The Annual General Meeting of the Johnstown community Development Co-operative will take place on Sunday, November 15, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at the Johnstown Parish Hall, Johnstown, NS.
Betty MacNeil, Secretary, JCDC Ltd.

2: AGM: The annual general meeting of the Bras d'Or Lakers will take place on Sunday, November 22, 2020 at 3:00 PM at the Johnstown Parish Hall. Face masks will be required to enter the building and social distancing and sanitation practices will be in place. Chairs will be spaced six feet apart, and there will be ample seating available.

3: Christmas Toy Drop-off - Bras d'Or Lakers Seniors

It has been a quiet year for our club. But we will end this year on a positive note, with our annual donation of new toys or new children's clothing to be distributed to needy families by the St. Peters Food Bank.

This year we need to deliver the gifts to the food bank on Monday morning, November 30th. To that end we will be at the Johnstown parish hall on Saturday, November 28th, between 4:30 PM and 5:30 PM (approximately) to receive the donated gifts.

As usual, the toys or children's clothing need to be new and unwrapped. If you are unable to deliver your gift personally that day, please consider having someone else drop it off for you.

Unfortunately, we can't have a reception this year because of Covid 19 restrictions. However the families who receive the gifts at Christmas will be just as grateful.

4: Christmas Bake Sale: Sacred Heart Ladies Group will be hosting a Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday December 6th. Come and do some Christmas Baking without the hassle. We will also be looking for donations to the Bake Sale, so if you have time to help bake that will be greatly appreciated. Time: 12pm – 2pm. This will be our last event for the year.

5: A COVID CHRISTMAS: Christmas is typically a homecoming event as much as it is a high religious feast so family members will gather to celebrate their faith in God and each other. This Christmas, however, is somewhat different due to COVID-19 restrictions that have limited available space in churches. Christmas Mass at Sacred Heart is scheduled for Thursday, December 24th 6:00pm. Those wishing to attend this Mass must pre-register and include any visiting family members. Because we may not be able to accommodate everyone with self-distancing registration has to be on a "first-come, first-served" basis. We hope that this procedure will work; we do not want to limit each family as to the number of persons they may add. To register please call 535-3107, email louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com or leave a note in your collection envelopes.

6: Winter 2021: Due to Covid19 self-distancing regulations we will not be able to have mass in the Guadalupe Chapel (vestry) this winter. At a recent parish council meeting it was suggested that we move to the Parish Hall for January – March. We decided to check with our regular church goers to see if they would prefer to stay in the Church (Main church) or move over to the hall. You can leave a note in your envelopes as to your preference. This decision will not need to be made until January, but the sooner we know the better.

7: Christmas/New Year's Schedule:

Christmas Eve: Thursday, Dec 24, 2020:

L'Ardoise: 4:00 pm – Sacred Heart: 6:00 pm

Potlotek: 12:00 am Celebrated by Rev Duncan Maclsaac

Christmas Day: Friday Dec 25, 2020

River Bourgeois: 9:00 am – St. Peters: 10:30 am

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God: Thursday, Dec. 31, 2020 - Holy Day of Obligation

River Bourgeois: 5: 30 pm

St. Peters: 7:00 pm

The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God: Friday, Jan. 1, 2021 - Holy Day of Obligation World Day of Peace

New Year's Day

L'Ardoise: 9:00 am – Sacred Heart: 11:00 am