



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00

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**Masks are
mandatory in the
church**

August 28, 2021 **Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8 in which the chosen people are urged to carry out the laws God gave them. If they do, they will give good example to the pagan peoples among whom they live, and will make these pagans see how good God is to His chosen people.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27. St. James exhorts us to be Christians in practice, not in theory; to "do", to live according to the law laid down for us.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23. When Christ came on earth the Scribes and Pharisees were the religious leaders of the Jews. The Scribes, so called because of their knowledge of the Mosaic Law and the traditions added on to it, were the elite among the Pharisees who prided themselves on their strict, rigorous observance of the Law and the human traditions. The Pharisees had no time or no understanding for their fellow-Jews who often violated the scribal traditions — and even the Law of Moses itself sometimes. For this reason they kept themselves apart from the ordinary people and developed a proud superiority complex. They performed many acts of virtue but their pride and sense of self-sufficiency vitiated their good deeds (see the description of the Pharisee and the tax-gatherer in the temple, in Lk. 18: 10-14). The opposition of the Pharisees and Scribes to Jesus began very early in his public life. It grew in strength daily until, with the help of the Sadducees, their arch-opponents, they finally nailed him to the cross.

In today's encounter with the Pharisees, Jesus tells them that they are hypocrites: "they honor God with their lips but their heart is far from God"; they obey the Law and the traditions, not to please God, but to be seen and admired by men; their motive, self-glorification, vitiates every otherwise good act they perform. Christ then addresses the people — the crowds who most likely had overheard his dialog with the Pharisees — and he tells them that it is not legal or cultic uncleanness that matters, but cleanliness of the heart before God. Eating with unwashed hands, or using unwashed vessels for drinking, does not defile a man, this does not make him less worthy before God. It is not from things outside him that a man incurs defilement but from his own innermost self. Every serious sin against God and neighbor has its beginning within a man, in his intellect and will; the evil design is the forerunner and instigator of the evil deed.

The Pharisees should have known all this. They did know it. They knew very well that before a man breaks any of the commandments of God he must first plan and decide to break it; it was not their theology that was defective but their practice. They despised their neighbors and called fellowmen "sinners," because through ignorance they violated many of the man-made precepts the Pharisees had added to the Law of Moses. There were also fellow-Jews of theirs who violated the law itself, but it was not their right to judge or condemn much less excommunicate them, as they so often did in practice.

Christ condemned the Pharisees by word and deed. He was merciful, kind and understanding to all sinners. He forgave sin and promised forgiveness to all who would repent of their past misdeeds. Not only that: for he left to his followers for all time his sacrament

of mercy and forgiveness, by means of which they could have their sins forgiven by his minister, acting in his name. Should we ever forget all he has done for us and disobey in a serious way any of his commandments, let us remember that we are not excluded from his company as the sinners were excluded by the Pharisees: we have banged the door on ourselves but he has given us the key with which to reopen it. Let us never be so foolish as to fail to use that key.

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

Old Calendar: Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

And he called the people to him again, and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a man which by going into him can defile him; but the things which come out of a man are what defile him." For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, fornication, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a man (Mark 7:14-15, 21-23)."

Today is the feast of the **Passion of St. John the Baptist** which is superseded by the Sunday Liturgy.

**Collection:
August 14/21**

Envelopes	\$330.00
Loose	\$70.00
Shine Fund I/M of Betty Benoit	\$25.00
Left at Shrine	\$26.40
	\$451.40

Notices:

1: Bake Sale – Sunday September 5th – Time 10am – 12pm – Please donate baked good for the sale

2: Celebration of Life. A Celebration of Life for the late Valerie Cormier will be held on Sunday September 5th

- 2:00 pm Service at Sacred Heart Church
- Following the Church service, lunch at the Johnstown Parish hall with a video display. Covid19 precautions will be in place

3: Gentle Yoga for Seniors with Helen Slade

Johnstown Parish Hall

Mondays, for 8 weeks, beginning September 27

10:00 - 11:30 am

4: Christmas Bingo – November

5: 12th Annual Boat Poker Run

Saturday, September 4, 2021 rain/wind date Sept. 5th or 11th

Registration at 10:00 AM at River Bourgeois floating dock

Hamburgers, hot dogs, pop/water available

All cards must be turned in by 2:30 PM

Prizes: 1st \$300; 2nd \$200; 3rd \$100

All Covid-19 protocols will be followed. For more information contact Peter

Baccardax 535-3182

In the Diocese

Restoration Project Update: St. Ninian Cathedral

The cathedral walls contain a unique and prized collection of murals painted by Ozias Leduc in 1902. Since 2012, anonymous donations have funded restoration of seven saints in the nave, and the two angels over the sanctuary's arches. This summer, Michelle Gallinger and her team are working on four more saints: Saint James the Lesser, Saint Simon, Saint Thaddeus, and Saint Thomas. Removing layers of paint, plaster and time are a painstaking and expensive task, but the reward is a priceless collection of sacred art and a piece of our history in a condition and space we can all enjoy. To learn more and support the restoration:

<https://saintninian.ca/restoration-project>

Season of Creation begins Sept. 1 on the World Day of Prayer for Care of our Common Home

In his encyclical Laudato Si, Pope Francis connects our relationship with animals to our relationships with each other: " ... when our hearts are authentically open to universal communion, this sense of fraternity excludes nothing and no one. It follows that our indifference or cruelty towards fellow creatures of this world sooner or later affects the treatment we mete out to other human beings. We have only one heart and the wretchedness which leads us to mistreat an animal will not be long in showing itself in our relationships with other people."

To learn more about the Season of Creation: <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

September 20 is Federal Election Day

Catholic Conscience is a new online resource with information on both provincial and federal election processes and how to select the candidate for your vote. From the website: "Catholics are called to participate, in accordance with the full measure of talents entrusted to them by God. At a minimum, this means voting wisely after having considered all relevant issues, the positions of each of the candidates and parties, and relevant Church teachings."

Read more on the website: <https://catholicconscience.org/>