



## Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish  
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00

Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei  
(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

November 06, 2021  
Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masks are  
Mandatory in the  
Church

The **First Reading** is taken from the First Book of Kings 17:10-16. In this reading we have one of the many miracles attributed to Elijah, the great prophet who preached in the northern kingdom between 900 and 850 BC.

The **Second Reading** is from St. Paul's Epistle to the Hebrews 9:24-28. This epistle continues with its description of Christ as the high priest of the New Testament and his superiority over those of the Old Testament.

The **Gospel** is from the Gospel of St. Mark 12:38-44. Our Lord's severe condemnation of those Scribes whose exaggerated opinion of their own importance made a mockery of the religion they professed to live, is a serious warning to all his followers not to look for the praise and esteem of their neighbors when doing their good works, but rather to hope for God's praise and esteem in the future world. In another context, he said to his followers: "Because of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven . . . when you give alms do not let your left hand know what your right is doing ... and your Father who sees in secret will reward you . . . when you pray go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father ... who sees in secret and will reward you" (Mt. 6: 1-6).

It is hardly necessary to say that our Lord is not referring to community prayers or services here. What he is condemning is the hypocrisy of the Scribes, who lengthened their

garments and their prayers not in order to give glory to God but to earn the glory of their fellowmen for themselves. Pride was their predominant vice—the vice which caused the fall of angels and of man. It so governed their lives that even their best actions were vitiated by it. There is a strong inclination to pride in every one of us. The reason is that we have great gifts from God and great capabilities: but we are tempted to claim the credit for these gifts and capabilities for ourselves—whereas we owe them all to God's generosity.

A proud Christian is surely a contradiction in terms. A Christian is a follower of Christ whose humility can never be equaled. He was God as well as man. While on earth he emptied himself, as St. Paul puts it, of his divine glory so that he could be like one of us. A follower of Christ should not try to make display of gifts which are not his own, nor try to exalt himself above his neighbor because of something he has which was not given to his neighbor. If Christ wanted to be, and indeed was like the least one among us, we must never try to raise ourselves above our neighbor. Love of neighbor is the second of the two essential commandments—there can be no true love of neighbor where there is pride.

The second incident in today's Gospel story highlights true humility and true charity. The poor widow, forgetful of herself and of her own needs gave her all, her between her outlook on life and on religion, and that of the Scribes in the first that last penny, to help others who were in need. She made this sacrifice without publicity and without seeking the praise of her neighbors. It is this deep contrast

between her outlook on life and on religion, and that of the Scribes in the first that connects the two incidents. While the Scribes sought to earn the respect and praise of their fellow-Jews—as well as all the financial gain they could come by—from the practice of the externals of their religion, this poor widow's religion was practiced in secret and it was to God alone that she looked for any reward that he might deign to give her.

As we saw in today's first reading we can be sure that she was not left without the reward she deserved. The widow of Zarephath was given a temporal reward. The same generous God did not let the similar act of supreme generosity on the part of the widow in Jerusalem go unnoticed. Christ's judgment on the Scribes implies this: They will receive the greater condemnation for their pride, and abuse of religion for their own temporal gain. On the other hand the widow's religion was an act of complete self-renunciation: "she has put in everything she had, her whole living."

We may never be called on to share our last morsel with a starving neighbor but if we are, we must remember that Christ gave his very life for us and has asked us to do likewise, if necessary. It may never be necessary for us to make this supreme act of self-renunciation. If, however, we are sincerely practicing our religion, we must be ever-ready to help a neighbor in need even if this cuts into our hard-earned reserves. The greater the sacrifice, the greater the reward.

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

**Collection:**  
**Oct 30/21**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$280.00</b>
<b>Graveyard</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
	<b>\$480.00</b>

**Notices:**

**1: 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 candle light service of remembrance on the Saturday mass on November 6th. 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/ louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com.

**2: The Annual General Meeting** of the Johnstown Community Development Co-operative will take place on Sunday, November 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Johnstown Parish Hall, Johnstown, NS. Betty MacNeil, Secretary, JCDC Ltd. Proof of vaccination will be required to attend the meeting.

**3: AGM:** The annual general meeting of the Bras d'Or Lakers is scheduled for Saturday, November 13th at 1:30 PM, at the Red Islands Fire Hall. Covid19 precautions will be in place, along with proof of vaccination. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as can attend.

It has been another quiet year for our club because of pandemic limitations on public gatherings; however we have been able to carry on with a few things. Our Thursday after noon craft and sewing sessions with Rita Campbell has continued, and Yoga classes have resumed. We look forward to expanding our activities in the New Year, and we will talk about that at our AGM to get feedback from our membership.

We will be doing our annual Christmas Toy drive again this year in early December. More on that soon, in a separate email.

**4: Christmas Merchandise Bingo:** Sunday November 14: Time: 2:00 pm. No canteen will be provided. Covid19 restrictions will be followed including proof of vaccination. The bingo will be held at the Parish Hall

**5: Christmas Bake Sale:** Sacred Heart Ladies Group will be hosting a Christmas Bake Sale on Sunday December 5th. 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: 10am – 12pm. This will be our last event for the year

**6: St. Mary's Parish Frenchvale Fundraiser:** 4 cords of firewood split and delivered with the CBRM, or \$500.00 cash. Tickets: \$1.00 each available from Cathy Johnston, 902-535-2774. Draw date: December 4th, at St. Mary's Parish.

**Christmas/New Year's Schedule: Johnstown - An update for all parishes will be added later**

**Christmas Eve:** Friday, Dec 24, 2021: 4:00 pm

**Sunday** December 26: 2021 9:00 am

**The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God:** Friday, Dec. 31, 2021 - Holy Day of Obligation – 4:00 pm

**Sunday** January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 – 9:00 am