



## Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish  
Eucharist Schedule: Saturday 4:00

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

October 30, 2021  
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masks are  
Mandatory in the  
Church

The **First Reading** is taken from Deuteronomy 6:2-6. Moses, having received the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai, set about teaching them to the Israelites.

The **Second Reading** is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews 7:23-28 where he continues to show the superiority of Jesus over the high priests of the Old Testament.

The **Gospel** is from Mark 12:28-34. The personal lesson which comes over loud and clear for every sincere Christian from today's gospel, is that the solid foundation of our Christian religion is love of God and neighbor. As our Lord says: "there is no other commandment greater than these." All the other commandments are expansions of these two and indications of how we are to put these two commandments into daily practice. For example: why am I forbidden to murder my neighbor? Simply because he belongs to God; it was God who gave him his life, and God has commanded me to love and respect him. Taking his life is interfering with God's rights, and disobeying him as well. Likewise, the prohibition of idolatry, refraining from insulting God's name, keeping the Sabbath day holy are the principal ways of indicating how we should love God.

One may ask: how can I love God? He is infinitely perfect, he needs nothing from me, what therefore can I do for him? I can understand loving my neighbor—for a neighbor can need help, advice, encouragement and consolation. I can prove my love by giving these to my neighbor, but God has no such needs. It is quite true that true love is not theoretical but pragmatic, it means doing some good for somebody. While the infinite God has no needs that I can supply, he has claims on my service, on my respect, on my gratitude—claims so basic and so great that I must be ready to suffer persecution and even death rather than deny or dishonor him (Mt. 5: 10; Lk. 6: 23). It was God who gave me existence and every gift that I have. It was God, through the incarnation of his own divine Son, who made me his adopted child and heir to heaven. Everything that I am and have and hope to be, I owe to God's generosity; therefore, he has an unquestionable right to my gratitude, my reverence, my respect—these are the ways in which I can show my love for him.

The keeping of God's commandments, the prayers of thanksgiving, praise and petition which daily we offer, the attendance at Mass and other liturgical functions, these are the means God gives us of showing our love, our recognition of total dependence on him and our gratitude for all he has done and is doing for us. God does not need any of these signs of our submission and reverence and respect, but we need them absolutely, for they are the means he has given us of fulfilling his purpose in creating us—to share his eternal glory with him. To love God then, is not an obligation imposed on us by some demanding superior but a privilege granted us so that we can become worthy of the greater gifts he has in store for us.

Loving our neighbor—and in the Christian code this means all men no matter what may be their color, race or religion—is, according to our divine Lord, another most effective way of proving to God that we love him. Because of our common humanity we should be inclined to help our fellowmen, our neighbors, but the Christian law spiritualizes this natural inclination, by commanding us to help our neighbor because he is God's child. We are all fellow-children of God, members of the one family. Our heavenly Father loves each one of us and wants our salvation. If we love our common Father we will do all we can to help his other children also to attain salvation. It will earn for us God's favor.

If we observe these two commandments we are "fulfilling the whole law and the prophets,"; we are serving God and showing our gratitude to him for all his goodness to us. The Christian who is following Christ in love is already active in the earthly kingdom of God and traveling safely toward God's eternal kingdom of peace and happiness. --Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

**Collection:**  
**Oct 23/21**

<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>
<b>Loose</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
	<b>\$200.00</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.

**3: 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

**4: 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

**5: 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