



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish

Mass: 4:00 pm – Saturdays

Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei

(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

January 22, 2022

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday of the Word of God

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of Nehemiah, 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10. Nehemiah and Ezra lived in the time when the people of Israel had been returned to their land after the years of the Babylonian Captivity and it was a time of rebuilding. The people had lost their connections to their faith.

The **Second Reading** is from the first Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians, 12:12-30 and refers to the Mystical Body of Christ. St. Paul concludes his description of the different parts of the body by applying it to the Church, where variety of functions does not detract from unity.

The **Gospel** is from St. Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21. In the first four verses of St. Luke's Gospel which have been read to you today, you will find reason to be grateful to him. He went to a lot of trouble in order to put in a permanent form, in a written record, the essential facts concerning Christ, his words and his works, so that we "would understand (like Theophilus) the certainty of the faith in which we have been instructed."

But while we must be grateful to St. Luke, we owe a bigger debt of gratitude still to the all-good, all-wise God who moved Luke and the other Evangelists to preserve for us in writing the essential truths of the Christian faith that has been handed down to us. The Apostles were companions of Christ. They witnessed his works and his words; they remembered most of his doings and his sayings, and what they might have forgotten the Holy Spirit recalled to their memory on that first

Pentecost day in Jerusalem. The first two generations of Christians received the facts of the faith from these eye-witnesses and the miracles so frequent in the infant Church were confirmation of the truth of their teaching.

But God in his wisdom provided for the many generations to come who would not have this evident confirmation of their faith. He established a teaching body in his Church which would safeguard the purity of the Christian truths, for "he himself would be with it all days," and he gave us a written record of the facts of the faith in the Gospels and the other writings of the New Testament.

How can we ever thank God sufficiently for his thoughtfulness in our regard? We Christians of today can be as certain, as assured, of the truth of the faith that we are trying to practice as was St. Luke who was converted by St. Paul. We have a living, teaching Magisterium in the Church, which authentically preserves and interprets for us the true facts of Christ's teaching and works as written down for us by a first-generation Christian under the impulse and guidance of God's Holy Spirit. If we needed further proof of the priceless value of our New Testament Books, the virulent attacks on their authenticity, on their objectivity, and on their veracity, by enemies of the faith down to and including our own day, should be sufficient.

But they have stood the test of time and the onslaughts of biased, prejudiced criticism, for they are the word of truth, which is eternal, and comes from God.

We have a priceless gift of God in the inspired Books of the Bible. Let us show true appreciation for that gift by using it to build up a better knowledge of the Christian faith which it teaches us. There should be a Bible, or at least the New Testament, in every Christian home. It should not be an ornament on a shelf, but a fountain and source from which we can draw strength and refreshment in the daily practice of our Christian faith. Almost two thousand years ago, God's infinite goodness provided this source of strength, the "fountain of living water," for us Christians of this century. Are we grateful for his thoughtfulness? Are we nourishing our faith at this blessed fountain of his infinite wisdom and love?

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

Collections:

Jan 15, 2022

No collection – no mass due to the weather

Notices:

If you have a notice for the bulletin please sent to louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com

1: Skating Party – Outdoor Pond behind District 10 Volunteer Fire Department Hall, Red Islands
Saturday, February 12, 2:00 - 4:00 pm Sponsored by: District 10 Volunteer Fire Dept.
Contact: Debbie Johnston, 902-304-0558
grammiedebbie1998@hotmail.com

2: BREAKING DOWN WALLS: YOUNG PEOPLE, FAITH, AND MENTAL HEALTH

Young people from all around Atlantic Canada are invited to join a special Facebook Live Event addressing issues around young people and their mental health on Wednesday, January 26th at 7:00 pm (AST). Special guests for this Bell Let's Talk event will include Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick, Bishop of Antigonish; Joe Townsend, Community CARES Youth Outreach (Sydney Mines); Paige Cox, Author of "The Berlin Project: Breaking Down Walls," and John Ratchford, Faith Witness. Anyone can join the session through the website for the Diocese of Antigonish (www.antigonishdiocese.com/) or their Facebook Page (<http://www.facebook.com/antigonishdiocese>). This event is a collaborative effort, hosted by the Diocese of Antigonish and sponsored by the Atlantic Association of Catholic Youth Ministers. For more information, please contact (Diocesan Youth Coordinator, Norma Blinkhorn) at 902 202 2972 or email norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca.

3: The Synod

#ListeningChurch

Pray Connect Share Your Story

The Synod is an invitation from Pope Francis for us to journey together in conversation about our faith, our church, and the future. We are invited to engage as parishes, families, individuals and community groups - reflecting, discussing, and sharing our experiences, thoughts and views. Our website has information, including the Synod questions, to help launch your journey.
www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch

4: Seniors Care Grant

Trevor Boudreau, MLA for Richmond

Update: Here's the link to apply online or to print forms. If you require a hard copy, please contact our office - see contact information below.

<https://beta.novascotia.ca/apply-help-household-costs...>

Beginning December 1, 2021, Service Nova Scotia & Internal Services will deliver a new grant program on behalf of the Department of Seniors and Long-term Care.

The Seniors Care Grant will be an annual reimbursement program of up to \$500 to help cover the costs of household services. It can be used to reimburse costs for such things as snow removal, home repairs, lawn care, grocery delivery, and more. It is available to homeowners and renters.

The applicant must meet the following criteria to be eligible for the program:

- They must still reside in their home
- The property or lease agreement must be in their name or include their name
- They are 65 years of age or over
- They have an annual household net income of \$37,500 or less

Applicants can submit online or by paper. Paper applications will be accepted by mail or fax to the Business Registration Unit, or drop-off at any Access Nova Scotia location.

MLA offices will be provided with blank applications to handout to seniors upon request. Applicants have until May 31, 2022, to apply for the grant.

The Seniors Care Grant website will be available December 1 for more information and to accept online applications. www.novascotia.ca/seniors-care-grant

Should you have any questions about the program, please contact my office at 902-535-2297 or send us an email at info@trevorboudreau.ca.

Please share with any Seniors you know who could benefit and who are not on Facebook.

Thanks,
Trevor