



Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish

Mass: 4:00 pm – Saturdays
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

January 29, 2022
 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the book of Jeremiah (Jer 1:4-5, 17-19). Jeremiah is the second of the four great prophets of Israel; a contemporary of Zephaniah, Nahum, and Habakkuk. He was born in the last part of the reign of Manasseh, about 645 years before the birth of Jesus and almost a century after Isaiah. Today's reading comes from the prologue which gives an account of Jeremiah's calling. It is a dialog between Yahweh and Jeremiah.

The **Second Reading**, taken from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians (1 Cor 12:31-13:13), continues last week's comparison of the Church to the human body. Each part of the body is no greater than any other part; rather, all work together to serve the common good. The second reading also discusses the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel reading is taken from St. Luke (Lk 4:21-30). This rejection of Jesus by his own townfolk must have sincerely grieved him. But it was only the beginning of similar rejections. Their attempt to murder him was an indication of what was yet to come. "To his own he came but his own did not accept him" as St. John says (1:11). The reason was that the Messiah they were looking for was a political leader who would make Israel a political power not only among the nations but over the other nations. Nearly all the messianic prophecies had references to the universality of the messianic kingdom—this universality they interpreted in a political, worldly sense. Their interest in things spiritual was then at a very low ebb and therefore the message of Christ had little interest for them. They did not want a spiritual kingdom.

For seventeen centuries they had been God's Chosen People, and they were proud of their superiority over the sinful Gentiles who did not know the true God. That very pride of theirs was their undoing. The Gentiles were God's children too, and they also were to share in the new kingdom which the Messiah would establish, but the very thought of this was abhorrent to the vast majority of the Jews.

In spite of all their opposition, however, Jesus spent his public life amongst them. He gave them the first offer of entering the new kingdom. They could still continue to be God's Chosen People together with, and alongside, the other nations of the earth. They refused. And their refusal went so far as to call in the aid of the hated Gentiles to crucify the One—their own fellow Jew—who had come to bring them the message of the true kingdom and the offer of being its first citizens.

There were exceptions, of course, and honorable exceptions at that. Christ founded his Church, the new kingdom of God on the Apostles, who were Jews, and through their noble sacrifices and efforts, the kingdom spread to all the Gentile nations of the earth. Because of their sacrifices, we are Christians, members of Christ's kingdom on earth and heirs to his eternal kingdom in heaven. Through our Christian teaching we have learned that our life on this earth is but a period of preparation, a period during which we can earn the true life as citizens of his eternal kingdom. How often do we, like the Jews of Christ's day, forget this and bend all our efforts to building for ourselves a kingdom of power or wealth in this world, a kingdom which we will have to leave so soon?

We would not, of course, openly deny Christ, much less try, like his neighbors in Nazareth, to throw him to his death over a cliff: but how often in our private actions, and in our dealings with our neighbors, do we push him and his doctrine quietly aside and act as if we knew him not. In this we are no better than Christ's neighbors of Nazareth and we grieve his loving heart as much as they did on that sad day. Am I one of those (each one of us can ask himself)? Do I really love Christ or, to put it in a more personal way, do I really love myself? If I do, I will not risk losing my place in the eternal kingdom for the sake of some paltry pleasure or gain in this present life which will end for me so very soon.

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

Collections:

Jan 22, 2022

| | |
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| Envelopes | \$215.00 |
| Jan 1st | \$25.00 |
| Initial Offering | \$5.00 |
| Donation | \$50.00 |
| | \$295.00 |

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: The Synod

Listening with the Ear of the Heart

On Jan. 24 (The Feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron of the Catholic press) Pope Francis announced the theme of this year's message for World Communications Day on May 29.

“Listening with the ear of the heart,” invites us to reflect that listening involves more than simply the sense of hearing. Pope Francis, quoting St Paul, noted that “faith comes through hearing.”

Now through May 2022, our diocese is engaged in the Synod journey, inviting you as individuals and groups to share your experiences, opinions, and thoughts on the church past, present and future. Information gathered during this time will be compiled into a 10-page report that will become part of a submission by Canada to the Synod of Bishops meeting in Rome in 2023.

Join the journey!

#ListeningChurch

Pray Connect Share Your Story

www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch

3: 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