



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

Mass: 9:00 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053

June 22, 2025

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The First Reading is from *Genesis 14:18-20*. Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. And he blessed Abram, who gave him a tenth of everything.

This incident in the life of Abraham has been chosen for our first reading on the Feast of Corpus Christi, because of the reference to the offering of bread and wine. Abraham was returning victoriously from a battle against four invading kings from the east who had raided eastern Canaan and taken off much booty. He met Melchizedek, the King and chief Priest of Salem, a pagan city at that time (it was later called Jerusalem, and became the capital of Israel), who came out to meet and congratulate him.

The Second Reading is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 11:23-26*. ST. Paul had preached the doctrine of the Blessed Eucharist to his Corinthian converts. The custom of the early Church was the imitate the Last Supper, during which our Lord had his last meal with his disciples, and then instituted the Eucharist. The Christians used to have a community meal (the Agape, meal of love and unity) after which they received the Holy Eucharist. Some abuses concerning the community meal cropped up in Corinth--lack of true charity among the congregation; the rich had abundance, they did not share with the poor; some went so far as to drink too much wine at the community meal and made themselves unworthy of receiving the Lord. Paul corrects these abuses in this letter and then goes on to emphasize once more what the Eucharist really is.

The **Gospel** is from *Luke 9:11-17*. Jesus miraculously feeds over five thousand people. It should not surprise us that Jesus, who miraculously fed over five thousand people out of sheer generosity, to prevent them feeling any pangs of hunger on their return journey home, could and would find a miraculous way to feed his faithful followers on their way to heaven. Many, if not most, of that five thousand had little or no interest in his teaching (he said so next day: see Jn 6:26), but were ready to take all the earthly benefits he would give them. Yet he wanted to prevent them from suffering any undue hardship.

We, his followers, have learned and appreciated his teaching and the supernatural future life which he has earned for us and promised us. We are trying to live Christian lives according to the rules he gave us. We are struggling along towards heaven, each in his own way, fervent at times, careless or cold often, perhaps, but still most anxious not to miss the glorious future he has prepared for us. With this proof of his kindness and generosity in helping this more or less indifferent multitude in the matter of earthly food, it is much easier for us to see him provide generously for the spiritual nourishment of his followers on their journey to their true and lasting home.

That he did so we have the certainty of the centuries-long tradition of generations of Christians, based on his own words recorded in the inspired writings. Christ has arranged to remain with us under the form of food for our spiritual sustenance in the sacred sacrifice of the Mass, in which we can partake of his sacred body and blood, soul and divinity. This is, we can receive the Incarnate Son of God in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

How could he do that is only a small mystery for our finite minds. He was God as well as man. But why he should do this for us unworthy creatures is the

greater mystery by far. Infinite love, greater mystery by far. Infinite love, which we finite beings cannot even begin to understand, is the answer and the explanation. Instead, then, of wasting any time on trying to solve this mystery, which we know to be a fact, let us try to thank him for it and use this gift of his love as often as possible. This will be the greatest proof that we appreciate this divine gift. We know that we are not worthy to receive our divine Lord "under our roof." Perhaps, we are even more unworthy than the pagan Centurion who was first to use these words. But we also know that Jesus can and will make us worthy if we ask him in all sincerity: "to say but the word" and we shall be healed."

"It is not the healthy who need the doctor but the sick," Christ said when accused of being too friendly with sinners (Mt 9:12). We Christians are more often spiritually sick and dead than healthy. However, we have our doctor and he cares for us. It is only by following his advice, and by using the spiritual medical nourishment he prescribes for us, that we can overcome our illnesses and weaknesses and keep on the straight and narrow road to heaven.

—Excerpted from The Sunday Readings, Cycle C, Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection **June 15, 2025**

Envelopes	\$170.00
Loose	\$70.00
Election	\$230.00
Rental	
Shrine	\$45.00
	\$515.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: We are pleased to announce the fourth season of the Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market. This year the Market will operate 10:00 am to 1 pm every SUNDAY from June 29 to September 7th. Interested vendors should call 902-631-0209. Note: vendors do not need to commit to attending every week. Johnstown Landing is located across from the Johnstown Parish Hall.

2: Strawberry Festival: The Outdoor Mass and Strawberry Festival are only 2 weeks away. Sacred Heart Ladies Group are asking for people to bake Biscuits, Bonnach and Oat cakes for the festival. We will also require help to set up and serve on the 6th. If you can help please let us know. We will be at the hall at 9:00 am on Sunday July 6th, to hull the berries and set up. All are welcome to come and help.

3: Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine help: The steps and platform at the Shrine need work. Hopefully we can get someone to fix the steps and platform before the July 6th mass. If anyone knows of a person or people who could work on this please let me know ASAP.

4: Cold Plate Supper: The cold plate dinner will take place on Saturday July 19th, at 5:00pm. This will be a takeout or eat in. For this event we would like you to preorder your meal so that we will have an idea of the numbers. The meal will consist of ham, salads, rolls and dessert.

5: Our Diocesan Pilgrim's Way for the Jubilee Year includes parishes, shrines, and sacred celebrations honouring namesake saints, cultures, and traditions.

Upcoming Events:

June 22

Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ

St. Margaret of Scotland, Broad Cove

The celebration will start at Stella Maris Church, Inverness at 9.30 am with the adoration of the blessed sacrament.

The sacrament will then be taken by a vehicle to the Broad Cove church site. Participants will drive from Stella Maris Church to St. Margaret's Church. A walkabout will occur from the Broad Cove Glebe House to the front of the church. An adoration will occur outside the church with an incense ceremony. Mass will follow inside the church at 11.30 am.

June 24

Nativity of St. John the Baptist

St. John the Baptist Church, New Glasgow

Holy Mass at 9 am

June 29

Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul

St. Peter Church, Port Hood

Holy Mass at 10 am, followed by confession, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, ending with Benediction and Holy Mass at 3 pm.

Reception to follow in the hall. Veneration of the Holy Relic of St. Peter throughout the day.

6: Schedule of Events that will take place at the Johnstown Parish Hall this summer: More information will be provided as the event get closer

Sunday July 6th, Our Lady of Guadalupe Outdoor Mass – 2:00 pm -Richmond County Men's choir will be singing. Please bring your own chair.

Sunday July 6th – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday July 19th – Cold Plate Supper – 5:00 pm

Sunday August 10th – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am

Sunday August 10th – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am

Friday August 22nd – 93rd Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance: Music for the dance will be provided by Keith, Kyle and Colin MacDonald

7: The Knights of Columbus have initiated prayer to the Sacred Heart for the intention a **Pope Leo XIV: Lifting up our Holy Father to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.** We read, 350 years ago this June, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque received the last of several private revelations from Jesus, in which he reminded her repeatedly of his boundless love for all. Following her visions, devotion to Jesus' Sacred Heart gained popularity throughout the Church, and images of the Sacred Heart remain beloved by Catholics around the world.

To commemorate this anniversary and to lift up our new Holy Father and his intentions in prayer, we invite you to join us in a worldwide novena to the Sacred Heart beginning June 19 — the anniversary of Pope Leo XIV's ordination to the priesthood — and end June 27, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

Through the travelling Pilgrim Icon of the Sacred Heart, an icon depicting the most famous image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, painted in 1767 by Pompeo Batoni, and now venerated in the Church of the Gesù in Rome.

The reproduction bears the blessing of Pope Francis, through the Papal Almoner, and is one of more than 300 icons traveling across the world, from Knights' council to council, for veneration and use in prayer services. Our council of the Knights of Columbus, Fr/Pere Vincent De Paul Council, has the icon for the next two weeks. A later announcement will indicate when the icon will be available and present for our prayer.

Here is the Novena prayer that can be prayed even if begun late. Novena to the Sacred Heart for Pope Leo XIV Thursday, June 19 – Friday, June 27, 2025 I. For the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV O my Jesus, you have said: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you

I. **For the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV**

O my Jesus, you have said: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Behold I knock, I seek and ask that you bless the ministry of Pope Leo XIV and give him the grace to embody Christ's love and wisdom as he shepherds your flock, the Church. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be. O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

II. **For the Holy Father's Prayer Intentions**

O my Jesus, you have said: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you." Behold, in your name, I ask the Father for the grace that the world might grow in compassion, and that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his heart, learn to have compassion on the world. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be. O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you.

III. **For Our Personal Intentions**

O my Jesus, you have said: "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Encouraged by your infallible words I now ask for the grace that (add your own personal intentions here). Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in you. O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the graces which we ask of you, through the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, your tender Mother and ours. Amen.

(Adapted from the original prayer of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque. This novena marks the conclusion of the jubilee of the 350th anniversary of the apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, beginning on the anniversary of Pope Leo's ordination (June 19) and concluding on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (June 27).

"In our frailty, we discover that Christ himself is the Good Samaritan who heals our wounds and restores our hope. Let us turn, then, to the Sacred Heart, model of true humanity, and ask him to make our heart ever more like his."

– Pope Leo XIV, General Audience of 28 May 2025