



Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin

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

March 23, 2025

Sunday March 30th will be the last Sunday in the Vestry. We will be moving back into the main church for Sunday April 6th.

Third Sunday of Lent

The **First Reading** is taken from the book of *Exodus*, 3:1-8, 13-15. The story of the salvation of God's people continues during this Lenten season. Today we hear of Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians*, 10:1-6, 10-12. St. Paul establishes a parallel between the situation of the Israelites in the desert and the Corinthians. "Paul wants to remind us that we are not saved merely because we happen to have been the recipients of God's free grace. We have to demonstrate that we are willing recipients of that free gift. The children of Israel received it, but they proved to be unworthy of it, and so they were not saved." (Origin (ca. A.D. 240, *Commentary on First Corinthians* 4, 45, 205)

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke*, 13:1-9. Our Lord stresses that we need to produce plenty of fruit (cf. Lk 8:11-15) in keeping with the graces we have received (cf. Lk 12:48). But he also tells us that God waits patiently for this fruit to appear; he does not want the death of the sinner; he wants him to be converted and to live (Ezek 33:11) and, as St Peter teaches, he is "forebearing towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance" (2 Pet 3:9). But God's clemency should not lead us to neglect our duties and become lazy and comfort-seeking, living sterile lives. He is merciful, but he is also just and he will punish failure to respond to his grace.

"There is one case that we should be especially sorry about — that of Christians who could do more and don't; Christians who could live all the consequences of their vocation as children of God, but refuse to do so through lack of generosity. We are partly to blame, for the grace of faith has not been given us to hide but to share with others (cf. Mt 5:151). We cannot forget that the happiness of these people, in this life and in the next, is at stake. The Christian life is a divine wonder with immediate promises of satisfaction and serenity — but on condition that we know how to recognize the gift of God (cf. Jn 4:10) and be generous, not counting the cost" (J. Escriva, *Christ is passing by*, 147).

—*The Navarre Bible, St. Luke*

Meditation for the Third Sunday of Lent

The Church begins the second phase of Lent—an extended meditation on Baptism—with one of the key gospel passages that were taught to the catechumens of the early Church as they prepared to receive the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist. Today's story of Jesus and the Samaritan woman, the longest dialogue in the four gospels, is such an important moment in the Forty Days that, although other gospel passages are appointed for this Sunday in years B and C of the Lectionary cycle, the Church asks that, in those years, this Gospel of "living water" be read on one weekday of the following week. Those who will be called to renew their baptismal promises at the Easter Vigil, as well as those being baptized or received into the full communion of the Catholic Church, are being addressed by the Lord in a special way today through his dialogue with the foreigner from whom he asks a drink of water: a conversation that teaches the entire Church something very important about prayer.

—George Weigel, *Roman Pilgrimage: the Station Churches*

If you have a notice for the bulletin, you can email louisecampbel@gmail.com

If you would like to donate to the parish, but do not have an envelope you can e-transfer to sacredheartjohnstown@gmail.com. A receipt will be provided.

Collection
March 16, 2025

Envelopes	\$190.10
GST	\$614.01
	\$804.11

Notices:

1: St. Patrick's Day Supper:
Thank-you to all who worked at and attended our St. Patrick's Day Irish Stew Dinner. It was good to see our friends and neighbors. Especially we want to thank our cooks, bakers and hall setter-uppers for all their hard work to make this gathering a success

2: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft Group This group meets every Thursday, at 1:00 pm. This is an informal group. Bring your own project and create with kindred spirits. A sewing machine is available, plus help, for anyone who wants to sew, quilt or knit. Everyone welcome. Location: District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands. Last sewing day will be Thursday April 10th.

3: Wednesday Morning Coffee get together Wednesday March 26th, 9:00 – 11:30 am, at the District 10, Red Islands Fire Hall. Drop in and visit with your friends and neighbours. Cards, games and puzzles are available. Everyone is welcome.

4: Gaelic Classes: An 8-week session of beginner Gaelic classes starting Wednesday, March 26. \$40
Contact Cathy for more details at 902-217-2088

5: 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.

6: Jubilee Pilgrim's Way March 19 – December 28, 2025

Our Diocesan Pilgrim's Way for the Jubilee Year includes parishes, shrines, and sacred celebrations honouring namesake saints, cultures, and traditions woven into the rich tapestry of our diocese.

The Way begins with the Feast of St. Joseph, Patron of Canada, and ends with the Jubilee closing Mass at St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish.

Passports are being prepared. Map now available online:

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/pilgrims-way/>

We are invited to visit any of our diocesan sites on or around their special dates, or at any time throughout the year. Events for each site will be posted online and shared via bulletin notices as details are available. Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine is listed. The map is included with the bulletin this week

7: Chair Yoga 55+ Chair yoga is a great way for older adults to get the wonderful health benefits of yoga. It also makes yoga accessible to more people. Staying seated while doing yoga means that even frail seniors or those who aren't flexible can safely do the exercises. The benefits of chair yoga for older adults include loosening and stretching painful muscles, reducing chronic pain, decreasing stress, and improving circulation. It also reduces anxiety, helps lower blood pressure, protects joints, builds strength and balance. Instructor: Lynne Doucette **Red Islands Fire Hall, Red Islands Wednesdays, for 10 weeks, beginning April 9 1:00 pm - 2:15 pm, Fee: \$30**

8: Gentle Yoga 55+ For seniors who are looking for a safe, effective way to enhance their physical health and overall wellness, the stretching, breathing, and meditation practices of yoga can be a great solution. In fact, as you will see, doing yoga regularly can result in a host of benefits for older adults, from greater flexibility and improved balance to lower stress and better sleep. Instructor: Lynne Doucette **Red Islands Fridays, for 10 weeks, beginning April 11 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, Fee: \$30**

9: Fish Cake Supper - Friday April 18th, 4:00 pm Eat In or Take Out - Fish Cakes, Homemade Beans, Biscuits, Cost \$12.00, Johnstown Parish Hall. If you would like to donate a package of salted cod bits, or would like to order a meal please contact the following: Louise: 902-535-3107 Barbara: 902-828-2079 Rita: 902-631-0209 Edie: 902-322-6543 or email louisecampbel@gmail.com

10: Holy Week Celebrations

Chrism Mass Monday, April 14, 2025, at 3:00 pm Celebrated at St. Ninian Cathedral

Note: Parishioners of all parishes are welcome to join all Holy Week celebrations. Following the instructions on the Sacred Triduum from the Clergy Days (November 2023), and with the bishop's permission that emphasized that the Sacred Triduum is one liturgy and should be celebrated in one parish church, the following schedule is close to the ideal.

This year the Sacred Triduum will be held at Holy Guardian Angels Church.

Thursday of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday)

Thursday, April 17, 2025 HGA 4:00 PM

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

Friday, April 18, 2025 HGA 3:00 PM

Note:

Holy Mass is not permitted on Good Friday or Holy Saturday. The Good Friday service consists of three parts: The Liturgy of the Word with Intercessions, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. There should be no physical contact with the Cross, but veneration may be expressed by a reverent bow or a genuflection.

The Resurrection of the Lord

At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Saturday, April 19, 2025 HGA 8:00 PM

Easter Sunday Sunday, April 20, 2025

Sacred Heart 9:00 AM

St. Peters 11:00 AM