



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

No Mass, in  
Johnstown, on  
Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Fr.  
Yake is away

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles*, 5:27-32, 40b-41. The Apostles' failure to obey the Sanhedrin is obviously not due to pride or to their not knowing their place; the Sanhedrin is imposing a ruling which would have them go against God's law and their own conscience.

The **Second Reading** is from the Book of *Revelation*, 5:11-14. The host of angels around the throne act as a kind of guard of honor proclaiming the sublime perfection of Christ the Lamb; they list seven attributes which all point to the fact that he has everything that belongs to the Godhead.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John*, 21:1-19, The primary purpose in recounting this appearance of the Risen Christ to his Apostles, was to stress the actual conferring of the Primacy on Peter. From this very first meeting with Christ at the Jordan (Jn. 1:42) the Savior had told him that his name Simon bar-Jonah would be changed to Cephas, which means Rock. Some year or so later, at Caesarea Philippi, this change took place when Christ said to Simon, "You are (Peter) Rock. and upon this Rock I will build my Church . . . and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 16:18-19).

This promise, that Simon would be the foundation, the source of strength and unity, in the new Christian community, was made factual on the occasion described here by John. Christ uses a new metaphor—Simon (Peter) is to be the new shepherd—he would take the place of Christ, as head and director of the Christian flock. He would provide protection and pasturage for Christ's sheep and lambs. He would, in other words, be the keeper and head of Christ's Church.

That this position of authority was recognized by his fellow Apostles and by the first Christians, is evident in almost every page of the Acts—the book which describes the infant Church. It was Peter who presided at the election of Matthias, who succeeded Judas in the apostolic college (Acts 1:15-26); he gave the first Christian sermon after the descent of the Holy Spirit (2: 14-40); he worked the first recorded miracle wrought by any Apostle (3:1-11); he pronounced sentence on Ananiah and Sapphira (5:1-11); it was he who received the first Gentile convert into the Church (11:1-18) and it was he who defended Paul's action at the Council of Jerusalem (15:6-11).

In face of such evidence no serious historian can doubt but that the other Apostles and the first Christians saw in Peter the living head of the Church, the representative of Christ. The Church in the succeeding generations and centuries saw the successor of Peter, and the living representative of Christ in the occupant of the See of Rome, the bishopric held by Peter, when he was martyred for the faith. History is witness to this.

There were Christians who refused obedience to him, but not one of them claimed for himself the privilege of Peter and his successors. That the Church, the society founded by Christ to bring salvation to the world, should need a visible Head on earth, needs no further (and has not stronger) proof than that Christ himself saw it as necessary and arranged it accordingly. The power of the keys, given to Peter, were more necessary in the second and succeeding generations than in Peter's day, when the other Apostles were still alive. When Christ laid the foundation of his Church on a Rock. it was to be a Rock that would last as long as the Church. Peter died, but Peter's office will last until the last man goes to heaven. The Sheep and the Lambs of the twentieth and thirtieth centuries have as much need of pasturage and protection as, if not more than, those of the first century. Christ, our Savior and our Good Shepherd, provided for all time.

—Excepted from *The Sunday Readings*, Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection  
April 27, 2025  
No Collection

Notices:

**1: Sunday May 4** – No Mass in Johnstown or LÁrdoise, Fr. Yake will be away. Mass in St. Peters 5:30 on Saturday, River Bourgeois 4:00 pm on Saturday will still take place. There is also a 9:00 am Mass in Big Pond on Sunday morning

**2: 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.

**3: “You are invited to a concert featuring the Cape Breton Chordsmen,** including the Class Act Quartet and the Mixed Voice Acapella Group – The Accidentals on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. at St. Mary’s Church, East Bay. Admission: Donations at the Door.”

**4: Heavy Garbage Collection Schedule:**  
Waste should be placed curbside by 8am on Monday of the scheduled collection week for the area. Items placed at the curb after collection has started in the are may not be collected.

**Week 3 (May 19 – 25)**  
**Johnstown, Loch Lomond to St. Peters**  
Please see: <https://www.richmondcounty.ca/news-and-announcements/> for items that are allowed/not allowed

**5: Public Notice**  
**May 1, 2025**

The Municipality of the County of Richmond is proud to support the launch of the **Voluntary Vulnerable Persons Registry (VVPR)**.  
The VVPR is a voluntary, self-referral list of individuals who may require support during emergency situations. It provides important information to Emergency Management staff, volunteers, and first responders to help appropriately respond to resident needs in situations such as sustained power outages, severe storms, and more.

**Who should consider registering?**

Individuals who reside in Richmond County who experience severe difficulty with any of the following :

- Mobility
- Vision loss
- Hearing loss
- Developmental disabilities
- Cognitive impairment
- Mental health conditions
- Persons who require electricity for life-saving equipment such as oxygen and dialysis

**Registration is now open.**

To register or learn more about the program, please visit <https://www.richmondcounty.ca/voluntary-vulnerable-person-registry.html>

**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 6 <sup>th</sup> , Our Lady of Guadalupe Outdoor Mass – 2:00 pm -Richmond County Men’s choir will be singing. Please bring your own chair.
Sunday July 6 <sup>th</sup> – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Saturday July 19 <sup>th</sup> – Cold Plate Supper
Sunday August 10 <sup>th</sup> – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am
Sunday August 10 <sup>th</sup> – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am
Friday August 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 93 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance