



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The **First Reading** is taken from *Acts 14:21-27*. Last week we heard of St. Paul's experiences at Antioch in Pisidia during his first missionary journey. Their visit had ended on a sour note as Paul and Barnabas were expelled. The reading ended with "the two shook the dust from their feet in protest and went on to Iconium. Their disciples knew only how to be filled with joy and the Holy Spirit." Today we hear of the conclusion of this first missionary journey where Paul and Barnabas retrace their steps back through Antioch in Pisidia on their way back to Antioch in Syria where they had begun their journey.

The **Second Reading** is from the Book of *Revelation 21:1-5a*. For the past three weeks we have had as our second reading an account of John's privileged vision of the heavenly liturgy where he has seen the eternal sacrifice being offered to God the Father by His Son, The New and Eternal High priest and sacrifice. We have heard also the prayers being offered by the faithful. We now go to the end of John's account as he describes the Heavenly Jerusalem. It was Jesus' mission to go to the earthly Jerusalem to offer His sacrifice — this shows us the path that we must follow to reach the Heavenly Jerusalem so that we can dwell with Him there forever.

The **Gospel** is from *John 13:31-33a, 34-35*. We are disciples, followers of Christ, but how many of us would pass the test that Christ himself lays down for deciding who are his true followers? The word "charity" unfortunately has come to have a very restricted meaning in our present-day vocabulary. It signifies giving an alms, a gift of money to a needy person. This is but a very small part of the true charity, true love

of neighbor which Christ made the distinguishing mark of the true Christian. He who truly loves his neighbor must be interested, first and foremost, in those things which concern that neighbor's most important purpose in life, his eternal salvation.

Here is where so many good Christians fail in true charity. Effective interest in missionary activity is a case in point. Practical help in parochial matters, taking part in the various societies which are intended to build up and strengthen the faith and the devotion of the members of the parish is another obligation of true charity. So many seem to think it is no concern of theirs but it is. Advising and encouraging, with true Christian kindness, a neighbor who is beginning to grow lax in his attendance to his Christian duties, or who is forming habits or alliances which, if unchecked, will bring misery and suffering to his family, and scandal to the neighborhood, and even the possibility of his own eternal destruction, is also an exercise of real Christian charity.

There are thousands of broken homes today which would not be broken if there was true charity in those homes not only in the heart of the offender but in the hearts of the offended. There are thousands in jails and in hospitals of rehabilitation today who would not be there if their families and neighbors fulfilled their obligation of Christian charity. There are many, far too many, lapsed Catholics in the world today, who would not have lapsed had true charity been practised by their relatives and neighbors. And, last but not least, there are millions of people who have remained outside the Church of Christ because the hallmark of charity which Christ said was its distinguishing mark was tarnished or invisible. Each one of us could, with great profit, spend a few moments today looking into ourselves and comparing our thoughts and our words and our actions with the thoughts, words and actions of love which Christ expects from his followers.

It is never too late to mend. Begin today to take a true Christian interest in the spiritual fate of your family and neighbors. Where words have already failed perhaps, try prayer and example. The grace of God will cooperate with your sincere, charitable effort.

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

Collection May 11, 2025

Envelopes	\$340.00
Loose	\$45.00
	\$385.00

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: COMFORT TEA ... Come For Tea - May 21, 2025: We all experience many types of losses throughout our lives. To promote awareness of the impact of grief, you are invited to join us for a beverage and sweets. You may bring a friend, photo, memento, or memory to share or just be with others who understand. 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm on Wednesday, May 21st, 2025 at the Johnstown Parish Hall, 15290 Highway 4, Johnstown, N.S. Sponsored by the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society and Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association Healing Pathways. All are welcome.

3: Funeral Service: The funeral service for George MacCuish will be held on Friday May 23rd, at 2:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church. Reception to follow in the hall.

3: Gaelic Workshop Saturday, May 31 10 - 3 Red Islands Firehall Instructor: Stacie MacLean Beginner to Intermediate level \$10 We will be making the mid-day meal as part of the class.

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: Rev. Jake Andrea died on Friday, May 9, 2025, at the Northside General Hospital, North Sydney. He was 87 years old, in his 61st year of priesthood.

6: Rev. Stanley MacDonald died on Sunday, May 11, 2025, at St. Martha Hospital, Antigonish. He was 92 years old and in his 66th year of priesthood.

7: Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine, as you know is always open unless there is painting or repairs underway during the month of May.

The Gift Shop will be opening on May 18, 2025 The shop hours are 10am to 4pm

7 Days per week starting on May 18, Sunday.

Work being done here at the Shrine has been enabled by generous contributions by many of you. Every project we do is a step closer to getting identified projects done in order of priority.

Sincere thanks and we look forward to seeing you this season.

Board & Management

Mother of Sorrows

Pioneer Shrine

8: 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

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