



## Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

**April 26, 2026**

### **Fourth Sunday of Easter (Good Shepherd Sunday)**

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 36-41* and if taken together with that of the following Sunday provides an alternative theme in exploring the preaching of the early Church in the persons of Paul and Barnabas. The mission first to the Jews is now to be placed second to the mission to the Gentiles,—a theme which the reading for next Sunday also explores with the warning of the preachers that those who follow the Lord will necessarily have to endure trial and sufferings. —*A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary—Cycle A* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of Peter 2:20-25*. In these verses today, St. Peter is giving advice to Christians who were slaves. He tells them to be submissive to their masters with all respect.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John 10:1-10*. One of the oldest paintings of Christ, in the Roman catacombs, represents Christ as carrying the injured, straying sheep gently on His shoulders back to the sheepfold. This is an image of Christ which has always appealed to Christians. We have Christ as our shepherd—He tells us so himself in today's gospel—and we do not resent being called sheep in this context. There is something guileless about a sheep, and at the same time a lot of foolishness! But with Christ as our shepherd and the "good shepherd" who is sincerely interested in the true welfare of His flock we have reason to rejoice.

The leaders of the Jews, the Pharisees and Sadducees, were false shepherds who tried to prevent the people from following Jesus, but they failed. They then killed the shepherd but in vain. He rose from the dead and His flock increased by the thousands and will keep increasing until time ends. We surely are fortunate to belong to the sheepfold of Christ—His Church.

We surely are blessed to have the Son of God as our Shepherd, who came among us in order to lead us to heaven. Do we fully appreciate our privileged position? Do we always live up to our heavenly vocation? We know His voice, we know what He asks of us, but do we always listen to that voice, do we always do what He asks of us?

There are many among us today who foolishly think they need no shepherd. They think they know all the facts of life while they are in total ignorance of the most basic fact of all, namely, the very purpose of life. Not that the thought of it does not arise disturbingly before their minds time and time again. But they try to smother that thought and ease their consciences by immersing themselves deeper and deeper in the affairs and the passing pleasures of this temporary life. Alas for them, a day of reckoning lies ahead, a day that is much nearer than they would like to believe. What will be their fate when they meet Christ the Judge, whom they had refused to follow and acknowledge during their days on earth?

This is a misfortune that could happen to any one of us, unless we think often of our purpose and our end in life. We have a few short years, but short though they be, we can earn for ourselves an eternity of happiness during this life. Let the straying sheep boast of their false freedom and of the passing joys they may get in this life—this freedom and these joys are mixed with much sorrow, and will end very soon. We know that if we follow the shepherd of our souls, we are on the way to the true life, the perfect life, the unending life which will have no admixture of sorrow, regret or pain. Where Christ is, there perfect happiness is, and there with God's grace we hope and trust to be.

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

## Collection

April 19, 2026

Envelopes	\$135.00
Loose	\$220.00
Donation for the Vestry roof	\$20,520.00
	\$20,875.00

## Notices:

**1: Gaelic Flag Raising & Cape Breton Meal.** Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:00 pm. District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands. Flag raising and community celebration of Gaelic Awareness Moth followed by a Cape Breton meal – Maragan, sneap’s, buntata, featuring the maragan recipe of Theresa Cash, Irish Cove. Donations welcome to support Gaelic instruction in the area.

**2: Gaelic Workshop and Lunch:** Red Islands Fire Hall – Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. All are welcome to join a Gaelic Workshop with guest Stacey MacLean. \$30.00 per person/lunch included. Contact Cathy Campbell for registration 902-217-2088 ceiteagcaimbeul@gmail.com

**3: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer’s Market:** Another summer on the way. Looking forward to Sundays at the Johnstown Landing Artisan & Farmers Market. The markets run from June 28 - September 6, 2026. Every Sunday 10 am - 1 pm. We welcome new vendors. Send us a message or call 902-631-0209.

**5: Sunflower Treasurers:** Support Cape Breton Hospice by donating and/or purchasing pre-loved possessions including kitchen ware, jewelry, china, art work and much much more at the NSCC Waterfront Campus, Building B.

Donations: May 7,8, & 9 from Noon to 4:00

Sale Days: May 15, 16 & 17 (For information call 902-562-0662)

**6: 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 18 – 24) Johnstown, Loch Lomond to St. Peters Please see:

<https://www.richmondcounty.ca/news-and-announcements/> for items that are allowed/not allowed

## 7: APRIL 25/26 IS VOCATIONS SUNDAY

This weekend we observe the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and you are invited to support the Antigonish Diocesan Society in its work to financially support priestly formation by making a contribution. Donations can be made in the special envelope provided in your parish envelopes, or by cheque mailed directly to The Antigonish Diocesan Society, 20 East Main Street, Antigonish, NS, B2G 2E9. An option for electronic contributions will be available later this spring. Donations are tax deductible, and are accepted year-round. Please also consider the ADS when planning your estate.

**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 12<sup>th</sup>, Our Lady of Guadalupe Outdoor Mass – 2:00 pm -Please bring your own chair

Sunday July 12<sup>th</sup> – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup> – Cold Plate Supper

Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup> – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am

Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup> – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am

Friday August 21<sup>st</sup> – 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance