



## Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

**August 16, 2026**

### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah* 56:1, 6-7. The theme of the prophet here is the call of the Gentiles to the service of the true God on the great day which is to come. The temple of that future messianic age will be a "house of prayer" for all peoples.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans* 11:13-15, 29-32. In this reading Paul admits clearly that in the Christian Church is the fulfillment of all the hopes and promises made to Israel, yet this fulfillment of Judaism is composed of Gentiles as well as Israelites. Paul here calls himself the apostle to the Gentiles but still prays that the Israelite rejection of Jesus may one day be reversed. (Excerpted from *A Celebrant's Guide to the New Sacramentary—A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin)

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew* 15:21-28. There is a lesson, a very necessary one, for all of us in this episode of Christ's public life. It is the necessity of perseverance in our prayers of petition. Prayer is an essential part of our Christian life, and the essential part of prayer is that of adoration and thanksgiving, but prayer of petition has a big part in our daily prayers. We have so many spiritual and temporal needs, needs which we cannot provide by ourselves. Christ himself has told us to ask Him for these needs: "ask and you shall receive."

Do we ask with the fervor and perseverance which prove that we have "great faith"? That faith is the proof which Christ needs before He grants our requests. The Canaanite woman of whom we have just heard is for us an example of that deep-seated faith and trust in Christ's power and Christ's goodness. Even though He ignored her she continued to beseech Him, and when He answered with what seemed a direct refusal, her faith and trust did not waver. She answered His reason for refusal with another statement which showed that the granting of her petition would not in any way interfere with or impede His primary task, His mission to His father's chosen people. This was the proof of great faith which He required. He granted her request.

We must imitate and learn from this pagan mother. Her love for her child made her ready to undergo every hardship or suffering for the restoration to health of her loved one. When we turn to Christ in our needs is our faith in Him as sincere and unwavering as was this woman's? No doubt it often is, and yet we do not get the desired answer. As Christians we know that our particular request may not always be for our good, or for the final good of the person for whom we are praying. In that case, the good God will not grant what would be to our eternal disadvantage. But if our prayer is sincere and persevering, we shall always get an answer, and one which is better than what we asked for

How often do we wonder at or perhaps doubt God's mercy when we see, for example, the young father of a family being taken from his loved and helpless ones, notwithstanding the prayers and tears of his wife and children. Where is God's mercy here? Where is His answer to these sincere prayers? But who are we to question God's mercy? The answer is there and often clear enough: that death brings out in his relatives and neighbors virtues which they would otherwise never have had occasion to practice—virtues that will earn for them eternal life.

It is only when we get to heaven—and getting to heaven is our purpose in life—that we shall see how our prayers, sincere and persevering, were answered by God.  
—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection  
Aug 09, 2026

|                                          |            |
|------------------------------------------|------------|
| Envelopes                                | \$305.00   |
| Envelopes/Cemetery                       | \$100.00   |
| Cemetery Donation I/M of Margie Johnston | \$25.00    |
| Cemetery Donation I/M of Hugh Campbell   | \$65.00    |
| Cemetery Fund Donation                   | \$200.00   |
| Grave                                    | \$100.00   |
| Loose/Goes to the Cemetery Fund          | \$442.25   |
|                                          | \$1,237.25 |

Notices:

**1: 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.

**2: New Reader:** If anyone is interested in becoming a Lector on Sunday’s please let us know.**4: Pancake Lunch;** Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>: 10:00 am at the Johnstown Parish Hall

**3: Milling Frolic:** The Milling Frolic is only week away, Friday August 21<sup>st</sup>. We are once again asking for donations for the Bake Sale, Fancy Booth and Lunch. We will also be looking for people to help, so if you would like to be involved, please let me know. Music for the Milling Frolic Square Dance will be Bradley Murphy and Leanne Aucoin.

**4: Final Call:** After much deliberation, a decision was made that this will be the final Milling Frolic. After about 94 years, everything must come to an end. See you on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

**5: Mass Intentions:** The Mass intentions on Sunday August 23<sup>rd</sup> will be for the late Isabel Johnson & Jessie Savoie.

**6: New hospital rules for Priests** visiting their parishioners “Changes to Hospital Pastoral Care: As of March 2nd, 2026, Nova Scotia Health Authority has changed the process of requesting pastoral care in the hospital. Patients who wish to receive a visit from a priest or receive the sacraments must now ask their assigned nurse to make the request. Priests can only visit after a referral has been made through hospital staff. If you or a loved one would like pastoral care during a hospital stay, please let your nurse know.”

**7: September Pilgrimage 2026:** Join Fr. Andrew Gillies & Group Leader, Rhonda-Lynn Cormier for one of these options, both departing Sept. 15, 2026.  
*Choose Your Journey:* — *Option #1:* Medjugorje only, Sept. 15-23, 2026, Climb Apparition Hill and Cross Mountain, tour UNESCO city, Mostar’s Basilica. *Estimated* Cost: \$3,299.(Halifax-return.) Single supplement: \$350. — OR —  
— *Option #1 & #2:* Full European Pilgrimage, Sept. 15-30, 2026 -15th: Medjugorje -21st: Fly to Lisbon, visit the Eucharistic Miracle Sanctuary in Santarem, Fatima (candlelight procession) -24th: Avila, Spain, shrines & relics of St. Teresa of Jesus & St. John of the Cross. -25th: Lourdes, joining Pope Leo for his Papal Visit to France at Grotto of Massabielle, the baths & places associated with St. Bernadette. -28th: Fly to Rome: Private Mass at Vatican & Papal Audience. *Estimated* Cost: \$6,999.00 (Based on a 10-person minimum; Halifax-return). Single supplement: \$1,075.  
*Included:* Local guides at each location. All flights listed in the itinerary (including Split-Lisbon and Toulouse-Rome for Opt. 2), accommodations, 2 meals daily. Departures from other airports can be arranged. *Contact:* 902-448-3660