



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

August 30, 2026

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Jeremiah* 20:7-9 in which we hear Jeremiah giving voice to this internal anguish of mind; he hates what he has to say to his people, yet he is compelled by God to say it.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans* 12:1-2 in which he tells the Roman Christians (converts, for the most part, from paganism) that they must prove themselves worthy of this great favor, they must live truly Christian lives.

The **Gospel** is from *Matthew* 16:21-27. From all eternity this was God's plan for mankind. But because sin had entered into the world before the Incarnation took place, the Son of God in his human nature had to suffer the violent death of the cross at the hands of sinners. In this very suffering he became the Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world, as the second-Isaiah had foretold in his "suffering servant" prophecies (Is. 53: 1-7; 42: 1-9 etc). His death, because he was God as well as man, was a sacrifice, an atonement, of infinite value, and therefore obtained forgiveness from the Father for all the sins of the human race.

In foretelling his sufferings and death, which took place some months later, Christ intended to prepare his disciples and other followers for what he knew would be for them a severe crisis of faith. He also took occasion from it to remind his disciples, and all others who would follow him, of what their attitude to suffering and death should be. He told them, and us too, that we must be ever ready to accept sufferings in this life, and even an untimely death if that should be demanded of us, rather than deny our Christian faith.

To prove their loyalty to their faith in Christ thousands of Christians in the early Church, and thousands more during persecutions in later centuries, gladly took him at his word and went joyfully to their martyrdom. It is to be hoped that, aided by God's grace, we would all be ready to imitate their example, if called on to prove our fidelity to Christ and our Christian faith. But at the moment what Christ expects and asks of us is that we should bear the sufferings and hardships of daily life cheerfully and gladly for his sake.

This daily carrying of our Christian cross can be, and is for many, a prolonged martyrdom. Poverty, ill-health, cruelty and hardheartedness met with in the home and in one's neighbors, are heavy crosses which only a truly Christian shoulder can bear. But, if we were offered health, happiness, peace, wealth and power for the next fifty or seventy years on this earth, in exchange for an eternal heaven after death, what rational one among us would accept that offer?

Christians know that this life is a period of training, which makes us ready hereafter to receive the eternal reward which Christ has won for us. Every trainee knows that one must endure certain hardships and sufferings in order to merit graduation into one's chosen profession or trade. On our Christian graduation day we shall, please God, hear the welcome words : "Well done good and faithful servant; because you have been faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater, come and join in your Master's happiness" (Mt. 25: 21). May God grant that every one of us will hear these words of welcome.

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

Collection
Aug 23, 2026

Envelopes	\$515.00
Loose	\$30.00
Donations	\$210.00
Grave	\$100.00
	\$855.00

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: Milling Frolic Update: We realized a profit of \$3636.66 from the Milling Frolic, again thanks to all who helped with this event.

3: Mass Intentions: The Mass intentions on Sunday August 30th will be for Tom Brady on his 100th birthday (Aug. 15)

4: Mass Intentions: The Mass intentions on Sunday September 6th will be for Martin, Elaine, and Alvin MacNeil

5: Funeral Mass: The Funeral Mass for Peggy Ouellette will be held on Friday September 4th, at 11:00 am.

6: The Cape Breton Chorale will be holding auditions for Season 53 at the end of August. Audition dates are August 28,29 and 30th. Full details and booking information may be found on our website at capebretonchorale.com

7: Our 1st Ultreya of the season will be held at Our Lady of Fatima on September 24th at 6:30. This season we hope to hold our Ultreyas at different churches in our area. Hope to see you in September. We have a Men’s weekend starting on September 24th and a Women’s weekend October 1st -4th. All weekends are held at Camp MacLeod in Albert Bridge. For more info contact Karen or Kevin Macsween 902-317-5425 or Arlene Edwards 902-577-4214

8: Sunrise Service for Peace
(On the solemn 87th anniversary of the invasion of Poland and the start of World War II)
St. Mary’s Polish Church, Whitney Pier
6:20 in the morning on Tuesday, September 1
Release of doves (with thanks to Bill Laurie/Pier Community Funeral Home).
Refreshments and light breakfast to follow.
All welcome!