



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

May 03, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7* and continues the description of the missionary preaching and missionary activity of Paul and Barnabas. For those who follow the reign of God as inaugurated in Christ, these apostles can promise nothing for sure but trials and hardships. And yet, the paradox of suffering and yet being joyful in the Holy Spirit is here expressed as it was in the ending of the readings from Acts last week. —*A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary - A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Peter 2:4-9* in which he reminds the new converts to Christianity, that they must be holy, for they are the living stones out of which the new spiritual temple of God is formed. The cornerstone, the base and binding force of this temple, is the risen Christ. . Because of Him, and through Him, they are able to offer sacrifices which are acceptable to God.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John 14:1-12*. We may well wonder at the slowness of the Apostles in seeing in Christ nothing more than a man—a great man, a man with power from God, yes, but still a mere man. That He was the Messiah, they were convinced, but their idea of the Messiah was wrong. They thought He would free Israel from foreign domination (Lk. 24:21), and set up a new kingdom of God—a prosperous, earthly kingdom with God guaranteeing peace and plenty for all. If,

therefore, He allowed His enemies to put Him to death, all their hopes would be dashed to the ground. Hence, the mention of His impending death at the Last Supper filled them with dismay and despair.

But we must not judge them too harshly. Christ had indeed often claimed to be God, but His words fell on deaf ears. It was only after His resurrection that they began to understand that He had spoken literally—it was only then they believed He was indeed the Son of God, in human nature.

For us today, the Incarnation is still a mystery, but it is not the "how" that should trouble us, we know that with God all things are possible. It is rather the "why" that should cause us amazement. Why should God go to that length for our sake — mere creatures, and sinful, ungrateful creatures at that? The infinite goodness and the infinite love of God are the answer, but still an answer which is mysterious to us. For we, with our limited capacity for love, can form no idea of infinite love.

God created us "in His own image and likeness" (a very limited likeness, granted) and intended, because of the spiritual faculties He gave us, which enable us to see and enjoy truth and beauty, to give us a share in His eternal life and glory. To do this, the Incarnation of the second Person of the Holy Trinity was God's plan. There must have been other ways of doing this, but God, we can be sure, chose the best way. Even with our limited intelligence, we ourselves can see what a perfect way this was for proving to us the infinite love, goodness and compassion of our Creator.

Sin entered the world of man, as God had foreseen, but notwithstanding this ingratitude on our part, God's Son came in our lowly, human nature and suffered, even though sinless, all the effects of men's sins. He suffered in our name, and because He was God, His sufferings in His human nature made infinite atonement for the sins of all mankind.

His Incarnation had made us His brothers and co-heirs to heaven. His death on the cross wiped out, and gave us the means of wiping out, our sins, so that we would be capable of possessing our inheritance.

Knowing the story of the Incarnation therefore, we know of the love and kindness of God toward us. We need not ask, with Philip, "show us the Father," we have seen Him in His riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! "How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable are His ways!" (Rom. 11:33).

"What return can I make to the Lord?" All the mortifications and good works of all the holy men and women that ever lived, or will live, would not be adequate a return to God for the miracle of love He has shown toward us. But He accepts the widow's mite, the little acts of love, the little proofs of gratitude, the willing acceptance of the crosses He sends us, to purify us. In one word, all He asks in return is that we try to live our Christian life day after day, ever thanking Him for the gift of Christ and the Christian faith.

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

Collection

April 26, 2026

Envelopes	\$315.00
Good Friday	\$5.00
Missals	\$10.00
	\$330.00

Notices:

1: Thank you: Thank you to the person/people who fixed the railing on the church driveway.

2: Gaelic Flag Raising & Cape Breton Meal. Saturday May 2nd, 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.

3: Gaelic Workshop and Lunch: Red Islands Fire Hall – Saturday May 2nd 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

4: 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: A Devotion for the Month of May The month of May is traditionally dedicated to honouring the Blessed Virgin Mary. This tradition informally began in the Middle Ages to counteract secular customs that were arising during that time. A more structured dedication began to develop in the 18th century and was fully established by the end of the 19th century. The Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy from 2002 from the Congregation of Divine Worship provides wonderful guidance on personal devotion and popular piety above all emphasizing that the faithful should be made conscious of the preeminence of the Liturgy over any other possible form of legitimate Christian prayer. While sacramental actions are necessary to life in Christ, the various forms of popular piety are properly optional. Such is clearly proven by the Church’s precept which obliges attendance at Sunday Mass. No such obligation, however, has obtained with regard to pious exercises, notwithstanding their worthiness or their widespread diffusion.

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

Sunday July 12th – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday July 26th – Cold Plate Supper

Sunday August 9th – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am

Sunday August 9th – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am

Friday August 21st – 94th Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance