



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

October 11, 2026

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 25:6-10a*. In today's reading Isaiah describes under the image of a great banquet, the blessings, the contentment and happiness that the messianic kingdom will bring.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20*. The Philippians were the only converts from whom St. Paul accepted any financial help. He is thanking them here for some such assistance which he must surely have needed for he was in prison when he wrote this letter. He assures them that God will reward them for the charitable aid given him.

The **Gospel** is taken from *Matthew 22:1-14*. How foolish the Pharisees were in not listening to our Lord's warnings. He gave them every opportunity to turn away from the false path which their pride had chosen for them. His divine heart was ever ready to embrace them if only they would say "mea culpa." "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets, and stone them that are sent to you, how often would I have gathered together your children, as the hen does her chickens under her wings, and you would not" (Mt. 23:37)? "God created us without our cooperation," says St. Augustine. "but he cannot save us unless we cooperate."

We too could make the Pharisees' mistake. We have the invitation to the wedding feast; in fact, we are already in the banquet hall, since our baptism; but are we wearing the wedding garment of virtue and grace? If not, we are no better off than those who rejected the invitation. The king may come in at any moment and cast out those who are not properly dressed. Being a member of the Church on earth is a wonderful privilege, and a sure guarantee that we will reach heaven, if we do what is expected of us. But the same obstacles which prevented the Pharisees from entering the kingdom—love of this world, its wealth and its pleasures—can impede us too, unless we are on our guard. The world with its allurements is very close to us; heaven seems very far away. Thus we must be prepared to do violence to our ordinary inclinations, to go against them whenever and wherever "the things that are Caesar's" tend to blot out or make us forget "the things that are God's."

This implies a daily carrying of the cross, a daily struggle against our evil inclinations, a daily endeavor to acquire true love of God and neighbor. This may sound superhuman, but Christ did not ask anyone to do the impossible. He led the way, and millions have followed him to eternal glory. He has called us too and has placed within our easy reach in his Church all the grace we need. If we fail to use these divine helps, if we are found without the wedding garment, we will have no one to blame but ourselves. We have been called with the many. We can be among the "chosen."

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

Collection  
October 4, 2026

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Envelopes | \$245.00 |
| Loose     | \$10.00  |
|           | \$255.00 |

## Notices:

**1: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft** group will meet every Thursday at 1 pm, starting October 8th. Bring a project or idea and sew, knit and/or craft with others. Everyone welcome. Location: District 10 Fire Department, Red Islands. Contact: Rita Campbell 902 631 0209

**2: Weekly Wednesday morning coffee** starts again on October 14, 2026, at the Red Islands District 10 Fire Hall: 9:00 am – 11:30 am. Everyone is welcome.

**3: Big Pond Fire Dept Community Centre Fall Market** Saturday October 24th, from 10:00pm – 2:00pm. This year we have lots of makers, bakers and other creators with so much to offer! Admission \$2.00, children 12 and under free.

**4: COMFORT TEA ... Come For Tea – October 27, 2026:** 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 – 3:30 pm on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at the Riverdale Community Center, 106 Vince McCarthy Drive, Lower River Inhabitants, N.S. Hosted by the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society. All are welcome.

**5: Preserving Faces and Voices:** The Human Person in the Age of AI with Dr. David Deane, Atlantic School of Theology

Thursday, October 29, 6:30 - 8:00 pm St. Ninian Place, Antigonish

Presented by Vicar of the Founder Lecture Series, St. Francis Xavier University

A discussion on *Magnifica Humanitas*, the encyclical of Pope Leo XIV ... a vital conversation for all of us as humanity faces a choice: “to construct a new Tower of Babel or to build the city in which God and humanity dwell together.”

Admission Free. Light Refreshments. All Welcome.

**6: Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup>.** Calling all witches, warlocks, wizards and other Halloween creatures to the Johnstown Parish Hall Saturday October 31<sup>st</sup> Time: 2pm

First will be a witch’s dance and chant, followed by spooky games and snacks. So if it is your first Halloween or your 100th, please come and enjoy. Dress up is welcome but not required All are welcome

**7: In remembrance of our loved ones:** November is the month of remembering those who have died. It is customary in our parish to remember our loved ones who have died since November of the previous year. Consequently, there will be a candlelight service of remembrance at the Sunday mass on November 1st. As the names are read, a family member will be invited to come to the stand to light a candle. Those to be remembered can include parishioners who have died during the year, relatives of parishioners whose burials took place in other parishes or relatives of people who were buried in Johnstown. Please call or email Louise at 902-535-3107/ louisecampbel@gmail.com

**8: Christmas Bingo:** Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Johnstown Hall. Lots of great prizes, door prizes and a canteen. See you there.

**9: First Nations Celebration 2027** The First Nations Celebration at Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre 2027 will take place on June 18, 19 and 20, 2027. We hope to see many of you at this unique event, a wonderful celebration centred on sharing and celebrating the cultures of the First Nations. Further information regarding the detailed program, accommodations, activities, and general organization will be provided very soon.

**10: Life Chain** – Sunday Oct. 4 Thank you to those who participated in our Life Chain prayer vigil. Nineteen persons and one priest participated in this all-important activity to witness to the value of life as the priority of our time. This was our first experience at St. Peter’s, and we did very well when you consider that sixty-two persons and one priest participated in all of Halifax. According to those who blew their horns the majority were pro-life, and we felt very supported throughout that hour.

**11: Father Greg MacLeod Lecture** Series Ten Years of MAiD in Canada – Are the risks to patient safety worth the emphasis on autonomy? Presented by a lawyer and a physician from Halifax on Friday October 16, 2026 at 6:30 pm at Cape Breton University in the Yvonne LeVert Hospitality Suite (Between Great Hall & cafeteria). Larry Worthen BA. MA (Th.) LLB and Dr. Linda Gagnon M.D. All are welcome to CBU for this free community lecture, food and refreshments provided.