



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

October 18, 2026

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 45:1, 4-6*. The prophet, second-Isaiah, who lived in Babylonia with the exiled Jews, tells us, in God's own words, that he is the God, not only of the Jews, but of history and of the whole world.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:1-5b*. St. Paul praises his converts for their fidelity to God and to Christ his Son and tells them how they are ever in his prayers so that they would continue to be faithful to the call God had given them, a call proved by the many gifts of the Holy Spirit bestowed on them.

The **Gospel** is from *Matthew 22:15-21*. God's plan for man on earth was that he should live in the society of his fellowmen. Society must be governed, there must be authority which will direct the actions of the component members toward the common good, which common good is principally, though not exclusively, the material welfare of the members as a whole. As his ultimate end, however, man has his spiritual welfare. This government, this temporal power to rule and direct the human groups or societies or states, comes, therefore, from God for it is his will that such societies should exist. The answer of our Lord explicitly restates this fundamental norm of the divine natural law. "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's;" the state authorities have a right to the obedience and cooperation in all things that tend to the material welfare of the state, provided always the spiritual welfare of the members is not impeded by the rulers' demands.

As a partly spiritual being man is destined to be a citizen of a spiritual eternal kingdom, and while on this earth he has the duty and the possibility of preparing himself for citizenship in that kingdom. And since this kingdom is of a higher and much more important nature, man's primary aim in life must be to reach that kingdom. He must, in other words, find out and fulfill his duties toward God; he must "give to God what is God's."

This dual citizenship of man and the dual obligations that arise from it are the common knowledge of all from the natural law but are made more explicit still in divine revelation of which today's answer, given by Christ to the Pharisees, is a precise and perfect resume. We have duties to God and duties to our country and the fulfillment of the latter is part of the fulfillment of the former. We Christians have no doubts as to our obligations under these two headings. We fulfill our duties to God by being faithful, loyal, active members of the spiritual kingdom, the Church, which Christ established on earth in order to lead us to our eternal kingdom. We fulfill our duties to our country by loyally obeying the just laws of the State, by paying all lawful taxes, and by contributing our share, whenever called on, toward the common good.

Both St. Peter (1 Pet. 2: 13-14) and St. Paul (Rom. 13: 1-7), stressed the obligation on the early Christians of being an example to all in their loyalty as citizens of the state. The same necessity obliges us too. We who know the divine, positive and natural law so much better than many others, must help to enlighten those others by our faithful observance of these laws. And our loyalty, too, will give the lie to those enemies of the faith who, in their ignorance and foolish opposition to things spiritual, are only too ready to think that loyalty to our Church and our God must of necessity make us disloyal to our country. History already has given the lie to such calumnies, for the loyal Christian has ever been the loyal citizen, but we must keep on writing such history in glaring lights of daily deeds, for there are, and there always will be, those enemies who cannot read history books. —Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection
October 11, 2026

Envelopes	\$450.00
Loose	\$95.00
World Mission Sunday	\$45.00
	\$590.00

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: Lakeside Community Association: Fall Fair will be held, Saturday October 24, 2026 10AM – 2PM. Location: Lake Community Centre, 8598 West Bay Highway, Sampsonville. Vendors / Bake Sale / 50/50 Mini Bingo (2PM). Lunch available: Sandwich \$5, Sweet \$1 and Tea/Coffee \$1.

5: 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.

6: 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.

7: Saturday October 31st. Calling all witches, warlocks, wizards and other Halloween creatures to the Johnstown Parish Hall Saturday October 31st 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

8: 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

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

10: The Johnstown Community Development Cooperative (JCDC) is holding the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, November 15th at 7:00 pm in Johnstown Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome **to** attend the AGM, although only JCDC members can vote. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact Rita Campbell, Chair, camprita@gmail.com, 902-631-0209 or another member of the Board (Barbara MacIntyre, Howard MacIntyre, Dave Pearson, Rhonda Walker, or Kathleen Perchaluk)

11: Harvest to Holly Bazaar
Saturday, November 7 | 1:00–4:00 p.m.
St. Ninian Place

Come and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship and shopping at our Harvest to Holly Bazaar. There will be a variety of tables featuring:

- Pantry items
- Jams and jellies
- Crafts and knitting
- Fabric
- Books
- Jewellery
- Ticket draws

There will also be raffle tickets available for a **lap quilt, crocheted bedspread, and gift basket.**