



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

Mass: 9:30 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053

June 02, 2024

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

The **First Reading** is *Exodus 24:3-8*. God called Abraham from his home in Mesopotamia and promised him and his descendants a homeland of their own in the land of Canaan. God's purpose in doing this was to enable him to fulfill his eternal plan of elevating man to divine sonship, through the Incarnation of his own divine Son. Christ, the Son of God made man, who would bring this blessing of sonship to all mankind, was to take his human nature from a descendant of Abraham. Hence God's very special interest in the Chosen People. The detailed covenant he made with the Israelites, after he had miraculously freed them from the slavery of Egypt, was the first pact he made with the people as a whole. On his part, he promised to lead them into the land he had promised to them through Abraham; there he would protect them from their enemies and prosper them, provided they were loyal to him and to his commandments. This pact, or covenant, was solemnly sealed and ratified with the blood of the sacrificial victims, sprinkled on the people and on the altar.

Like the whole of the Old Testament, this was a representation and a preparation for the real, the new Testament, the new Covenant, which God was to make not only with Abraham's descendants, but the whole human race through Christ.... This new and eternal covenant was signed and sealed with the precious blood of Christ who offered himself to God the Father as a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of all mankind.

The **Second Reading** is *Hebrews 9:11-15*. The author is encouraging the converts from Judaism to persevere in their faith in spite of persecutions. From the frequent use of the Old Testament, which is shown as so much inferior to the new dispensation, the Christian religion, it would seem that many of the readers were converts tempted to return to the old dispensation, with its temple worship. The author shows the emptiness of the old ritual when compared with the reality of the New Testament sacrifice and ritual. Today's excerpt from this Epistle compares the sacrifice offered by the high priest in the temple on the very solemn day of Atonement, with the sacrifice of true and infinite atonement offered by Christ for us. On the day of Atonement the high priest alone offered the sacrifices for his own sins and the sins of all the people. He entered the innermost sanctuary—the Holy of Holies—to sprinkle the blood of the sacrifices on the Ark of the Covenant, God's throne. This was the only day in the year when the blood was sprinkled there. If any of the first readers of this Epistle felt any temptation to return to the Jewish religion, the comparison between the value of the sacrifices offered on the day of Atonement by the Jewish high priest and the sacrifice offered by Christ on Good Friday must surely have put their minds at rest. The Jewish high priest was a man; Christ was the Son of God in human nature. The high priest had to atone for his own sins as well as those of his people; Christ was sinless. The high priest offered as sacrifice sheep and calves, things in themselves that had no value for making atonement or for honoring God; Christ offered his own human body, an offering that had infinite value in atoning for sin and in giving honor to his Father: for he who made the offering was the Son of God. The high priest had to repeat this ritual of atonement each year; Christ's offering was made once and for all, for it had infinite value for all men for all time. If some fail, the fault will be entirely and completely their own. May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit go with us the

human weaknesses! May they give us the grace to live and die in their love so that we may share their eternal kingdom of happiness!

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark 14:12-16; 22-26*. We have St. Mark's brief account of what happened in Jerusalem on the first Holy Thursday night. Jesus evidently had a Passover meal with his disciples, at the end of which he instituted the Blessed Eucharist.

Our divine Lord said: "Greater love has no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends" (Jn 15:13). Christ carried out this act of love when he laid down his life for us on the cross. Because he was more than man, he was also capable of greater love than any man could show, and this he proved on the first Holy Thursday night. As man he could die for us only once, but being God as well, he ordained that this death of his could be repeated sacramentally time and again under the form of the separation of his precious blood from his body (what happened on Calvary) by means of the separate acts of consecration of bread and wine. This he did himself in the first instance. He then gave the power and the command to repeat this supernatural transformation when he said to his disciples: "Do this as a memorial of me" (Lk 22:19; 1 Cor 11:24).

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

Collection

May 26, 2024

Envelopes	\$185.00
Latin America	\$40.00
Cemetery Donation	\$150.00
	\$375.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: We are pleased to announce the third season of the Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market. This year the Market will operate 10:30 am to 1 pm every **SUNDAY** from June 30 to September 8. Interested vendors should contact johnstownlanding@gmail.com or Rita Campbell 902-631-0209. **Note:** vendors do not need to commit to attending every week. Johnstown Landing is located across from the Johnstown Parish Hall.

2: Fire Hall/Community Hall Update: The survey has been completed at the hall and now the plan is with the Planning Commission in Port Hawkesbury. Moving forward.

3: Weekend Mass at Cape Breton Regional Hospital

Fr. Anthony Eboh, who has taken over as Chaplaincy for the CB Regional Hospital, has begun celebrating Mass at the hospital on Saturdays at 4:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

4: Music Royal Concert – Tentative: more information to follow: Friday August 9 at 7 pm - Sacred Heart Church, Johnstown - Ensemble Urmawi Lamia Yared (vocals and oud), Nizar Tabcharani (qanun), Showan Tavakol (kamanche), Ziya Tabassian (percussion). The musicians will interpret songs from Syrian traditions (Muwashahat) as well as sacred chants from the early Christians of the Orient in Aramaic, and finally some pieces of traditional Persian music will also be included. This tour provides a rare opportunity for Nova Scotian audiences to hear these three traditions of music, which intersect both geographically and historically.

5: Pope Francis recognizes miracle needed for Church's first 'millennial' saint

Pope Francis formally recognized a miracle attributed to the intercession of Blessed Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old Italian teenager whose birth in 1991 will make him the first "millennial" to become a saint. In a meeting May 23 with Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Dicastery for Saints' Causes, the pope signed decrees advancing the sainthood causes of Blessed Acutis, as well as one woman, and six men. The Vatican announced May 23 that the pope had signed the decrees and that he would convene a consistory to set a date for the canonization of Acutis and other future saints: Blesseds Giuseppe Allamano; Marie-Léonie Paradis of Québec, Canada; Elena Guerra; and eight Franciscan friars and three Maronite laymen who were martyred in Damascus, Syria, in 1860.

6: Join the World in Prayer For Our Priests: The Annual Global Rosary Relay for the Sanctification of Priests will take place on June 7, 2024. On this day, countries around the world will pray and offer their Holy Rosary in Thanksgiving to God for Priests and to implore the protection and loving care of our Lady, mother of all priests, for all her priestly sons. At midnight on June 7, the Rosary Relay will begin with groups praying the Holy Rosary in one part of the world, and will continue to be passed on to other countries until the entire world is encircled in prayer over a 24 hour period. You may pray individually, as a family, as a parish or prayer group. For more information including promotional information, please visit: www.worldpriest.com

7: The gift shop at Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine in Mabou, Cape Breton is now open seven days a week as follows:

Mon to Sat - 10am to 4pm

Sunday - 11am to 5pm

The Shrine is open daily for visitation as it has been all winter.

For inquiries 902-945-2221

8: Tentative List of events taking place at the Johnstown Parish Hall

Sunday July 7 - Strawberry Festival - 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Sunday July 7 - Guadalupe Mass - 2:00 pm

Sunday August 11 - Cemetery Mass - 9:30 am

Sunday August 11 - Pancake Breakfast - 10:15 am

Friday August 23 - Milling Frolic 7:00 pm - 12:00 am