



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

June 23, 2024

Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Job 38:1, 8-11*. The point in this story of Job, is that God has plans and purposes which mortal men cannot grasp. While Job's three friends try to persuade him that he must be guilty of some crime, otherwise he would not be suffering as he is, Job insists on his innocence. God now comes on the stage. By correcting Job's friends he indirectly proves that Job is innocent, but at the same time, he does not proclaim Job's *right* to complete happiness.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 5:14-17*. St. Paul is urging his converts never to forget what being a Christian means. They have been given a new mode of life because Christ died and rose from the dead for them.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark 4:35-41*. There is a very important lesson for every one of us in today's gospel story. Our lives are really a journey across the sea of time to the shore of eternity. During that crossing all who come to the use of reason encounter some storms. There is no smooth, calm crossing for anyone. This is the will of God. Our Lord knew that a storm was going to blow up that night in the Sea of Galilee. He allowed his disciples to face that terrifying ordeal, because he wanted his future Church to have confidence in his divine power and assistance, when tribulations and persecutions would seem to be on the point of ending

her forever. Down through the centuries the Church of God has had to face storms and trials which would have swamped her if she had not a divine Founder and Protector. Christ, however, kept his promise — the gates of hell cannot prevail against her. She survived the storms and as a consequence of them gained new vigor and strength.

That same divine guarantee which Christ gave his Church will be with her until the last human being on earth has entered heaven. It is with her today. It will save her from internal weaknesses which could do more damage to her spiritual vitality than open persecution from without could ever do. We know Christ is in the barque of Peter. He is waiting to be called. If we realize that of ourselves we are not able to weather this storm, and call on him, he will rebuke the winds of pride and calm the waves of turbulent self-assertion. The barque of Peter will enter calm waters once more.

What is true in the life of the Church is true also in the life of each member of the Church. God foresees all our life's storms. He permits them, because he is to use them as means to help us in our struggle to reach heaven. If we use these storms or trials of life to come closer to Jesus, to throw ourselves on his mercy, they will serve the purpose for which he permits them.

Unfortunately, there are Christians who question not only the goodness of God, but his very existence, when some heavy seas break across their life's barque. "How could God, if he be good," they ask, "allow me to suffer like this, I who have been so faithful? Why should he let me bear all this poverty, all these pains, all this dishonesty of my fellowmen, when a small act of his will could remove it all and make me healthy, happy and prosperous?"

What such a Christian forgets is that God's purpose in creating him was not to make him healthy, happy and prosperous in this life, but to give him a share in his own eternal happiness in heaven. If this life were the end and sum-total of man, if all ended with death, then certainly that complaint would have some foundation. However, our human intelligence, and divine revelation, prove to us conclusively that this life is not an end for man but a means with which to attain his real end, perfect happiness.

Therefore, we must not expect to get from life what it cannot give. Instead, we must use what it gives us, the unpleasant as well as the pleasant, the rain as well as the sunshine, the pain as well as the pleasure, as means which will help us to reach our perfect ending, our eternal dwelling-place in heaven. Too often like the disciples that night in the storm, we think that God has forgotten us, that he is not interested in us when storms break around us. In fact, it is then that he is nearest to us. We think he is sleeping and that all is lost, when he is but using this storm to rekindle our faith, and make us realize that we are pilgrims on our way across this earth and not permanent residents here.

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

Collection

June 16, 2024

Envelopes	\$135.00
Loose	\$10.00
	\$145.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: The first Market will take place on Sunday June 30th, from 10:30am – 1:00 pm. See you there

2: Thank You: Thank you to all who came and helped clean up the hall on Friday, a great job done.

3: Canada Day: Another summer is approaching. Please join us for our Canada Day reception on Monday, July 1, 2024 at the Red Islands fire hall. We will be serving light snacks, coffee, tea fruit punch and desserts, and plenty of good company. You are welcome to bring another beverage of your choice. We look forward to seeing you! Best wishes to all, Howard MacIntyre, Chair; Edith Boyles, Vice-chair

4: Exciting News: A film crew has approached the parish about using the church and hall to film scenes for an upcoming movie. The Bishop has approved the use of the buildings. The filming will be taking place on Tuesday July 2nd and Wednesday July 3rd. They will be filming in the church on July 2nd and in the hall on July 3rd. They will also be looking for extras to fill the church and hall and will need all ages. Once I receive the link for the application to apply as an extra, I will pass it along. The movie is based on video by Adam Baldwin "The Lighthouse at Little Lorraine." Here is the link to the sign-up form to become an extra
<https://form.jotform.com/241653698032258>

5: Knights of Columbus will be holding a yard sale on the 29 and 30th of June as well as on July 1, 2024. We are asking for donations of lightly used furniture and appliances in good working order which will be stored in the glebe basement. Donations can be dropped off on June 28 which is set up day. Please, no coffee mugs as we can't sell them. Sale will start at 9:00 AM and will continue until 4:30 PM each day. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

6: Strawberry Festival: The Strawberry Festival is fast approaching, July 7th, and we will need bakers of biscuits, bonnach and oatcakes, and help with hulling the berries and workers serving the berries. If you can help, please call Louise at 902-535-3107 or email lcampbell1@bellaliant.net

7: Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass: Note: Fr. Yake will be away that weekend, Fr. Dan Doucet has graciously agreed to celebrate the Outdoor Mass.

8: 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.

9: New Readers: If anyone is interested in becoming a lector at Sunday Mass, please let Louise know.

10: Free Marriage Prep Course Sunday June 30th at St Joseph Church in North Sydney - 10 am to 3 pm. Starting with mass at 10 am with a homily on the marriage laws of the Church. Followed by sessions in the hall on finances, spirituality, sexuality, children, communication and a free lunch. All couples being married in the Diocese are welcome. Register by calling the parish office at 902-794-3951

11: 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