



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

The **First Reading** is from *Acts 10:34; 37-43*. These verses are part of the story of the conversion of Cornelius, a Roman army officer. Stationed in Caesarea, Cornelius believed the God of the Jews was the true God, but though a good-living man, he had not become a Jew. Advised by a divine messenger, he sent to Joppa for St. Peter, whose antipathy to pagans had been corrected by a vision seen that same day. Peter came to Caesarea and, contrary to his life-long custom, entered the pagan home of Cornelius, who explained to him why he had been asked to come.

This passage from Acts has been selected for Easter Sunday not only because the resurrection is mentioned in it, but especially St. Peter in his first discourse to a Gentile makes the resurrection the basic doctrine and the crowning proof of the truth of the Christian faith. As St. Paul says: "If Christ has not risen vain is our preaching, vain too is your faith" (1 Cor 15:14). And like Paul, St. Peter stresses the truth of the resurrection by citing witnesses, including himself, who had not only seen the risen Jesus but had spoken to him and actually eaten with him.

The **Second Reading** is from the letter of St. Paul to the *Colossians 3:1-4*. The method of administering Baptism in the apostolic days was by immersion. Those who heard the story of the Gospel and were ready to believe in the one true God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who had cooperated in man's redemption and elevation to divine sonship, were immersed in water to be cleansed from their sins and their previous worldliness. Immersion in water symbolized being buried in the tomb with Christ. By immersion, therefore, the new Christian died with Christ to all earthly attachments and desires. He was raised again from the water (the tomb) to be with the Risen Christ.

We are always looking forward to a happier day which is to come some time. All this is very natural and very human, because our present life is not our permanent life; our present home, this earth, is not the real home destined for us by our loving Creator.

We were created for unending happiness in heaven, and it is only when we get there that our desire and our quest for some great happiness will end. From then on, we will always enjoy and possess that all-satisfying happiness.

Today, Easter Sunday, St. Paul reminds us that we have this happiness within our grasp. We are moving steadily and more quickly than we realize toward it. The Holy Trinity, God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, have already done, and are daily continuing to do for us, all within their power. All that is needed is that we do the little that is asked of us.

The **Gospel** for Easter is from *John 20:1-9*. The accounts of the resurrection of Christ differ in many details in the different writings of the New Testament, but the fact of the resurrection stressed in all of them, was the basis of the new Christian Faith. Had it not happened, Christianity would have been stillborn. It would have disappeared from Jerusalem and the world on that first Easter Sunday. Peter and his companions would have returned to their fishing-nets and boats on Lake Genesareth, and Christ the good and the kind man who had helped so many, would have been forgotten in half a generation.

But Christ was no mere man of kindly acts and words of wisdom. He was the Messiah promised for centuries. He was the suffering servant foretold by Isaiah, whose perfect obedience to his Father had led him to the Cross and the grave. But above all, he was the Son of God who had emptied himself (St. Paul) of his divine glory in order to be the perfect human servant of the Father, and who was now raised by the Father, with his divine glory restored, and his glorified resurrected body sharing in that glory. This was the kind of divine plan of God for mankind: through Christ, and because of Christ's (the new Adam's) perfect obedience, all mankind would be made worthy of divine sonship, and worthy of one day rising like Christ from the grave in glorified bodies.

Collection

Envelopes	\$165.00
Loose	\$5.00
Share Lent	\$70.00
	\$240.00

Notices:

1: Community Drop-in All are welcome on Wednesday mornings 9:00 am - 11:30 am at the District 10 Volunteer Fire Department for a social gathering. The coffee pots will be hot and the conversation will be flowing. Sponsored by the Bras d'Or Lakers Club.

2: Thank You- A great big thank you to all who came and helped at the fish cake supper. To all who donated fish, biscuits, and chow, to all who showed up on Friday morning to help peel potatoes and make the fish cakes, and to all who came and ate. Your help was greatly appreciated.

3: Emergency First Aid Course open to seniors over 55 in the District 10 Volunteer Fire Department area, Saturday, April 6, 2024, from 9 am to 5 pm with an hour for lunch. No charge for this course. Limited seating available. For more information or to confirm your attendance, call Debbie Johnston at 902-304-0558."

4: Food Handler's Certification course for seniors over 55 in the District 10 Volunteer Fire Department area around the end of April 2024. Date and time to be announced later. No charge for this course. Limited seating available. Call Debbie Johnston at 902-304-0558 to confirm your attendance.

5: Beginner - intermediate Gaelic workshop Red Islands Firehall Saturday, April 13 10-3 Instructor: Stacey MacLean (head teacher of the Gaelic elementary school in Mabou) \$10 , lunch included Register: Cathy at 902-217-2088

6: Beginner Gaelic classes Red Islands firehall 6 weeks, Tuesdays April 16 - May 21 1- 3:30 \$30 Register: Cathy at 902-217-2088

7: Chair Yoga: Red Islands Fire Hall, Red Islands Wednesdays, for 8 weeks, beginning April 10 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm, Fee: \$25 Instructor: Lynne Doucette
Registering & Payment Options → Register online by visiting <http://www.richmondcounty.ca> → Register by phoning 902.226.0663 → Pay online via credit card or hybrid card → Pay by cash/cheque/debit at the municipal administration office → Pay via credit card over the phone

8: Fr. Greg MacLeod Lecture Series Deepening our Exploration of the Climate Crisis through Laudato Si Fr. Darlene O'Leary PhD. - Coordinator Martha Justice Ministry, NGO liaison at the United Nations Wednesday April 3rd at 2 pm in the Yvonne LeVert Hospitality Suite (Multipurpose Room) at Cape Breton University. Sponsored by CBU Chaplaincy and Newman Society All are welcome to this free community lecture, refreshments provided.

9: 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