



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

November 17, 2024

The new missals for 2024/2025 are at the front of the church. Missals are \$5.00. You can add that to your envelope and note on the envelope that you are paying for a missal.

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Daniel 12:1-3*. Today's reading puts before our eyes the fact that this world will have an end marked by great upheavals and disasters. However, these will be followed immediately by a new and everlasting existence.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter to the Hebrews 10:11-4; 18*. St. Paul continues to compare the priesthood of Christ with the Jewish priesthood.

The **Gospel** is from the *Gospel of Mark 13:24-32*. There are some obscurities in this extract from St. Mark. Firstly, because Christ was discussing and answering questions on two distinct topics : the destruction of the temple and the end of the world. Secondly, because we may not have the *ipsissima verba* of Christ here, as many exegetes suggest. The message we must learn from today's gospel comes across without any ambiguity or doubt : we must always be ready to face our judgement for we know not the day nor the hour when we will be called from this life. When or how this world will end is of no great importance to us; what is important is that we shall leave this world very soon and our eternity will depend on the state of our consciences at the moment of our departure.

This is the steadying thought the Church, in her wisdom, wishes to put before our minds today. We all know that we must die someday. We are strangers and pilgrims on this earth; we have not here a lasting city, as St. Augustine says. No sane person among us will try to deny this and yet, many of us are so immersed in the things of this world that we forget or try to forget that we must leave this world soon. This is very natural : life is a precious gift and as our earthly life is the only one of which we have experience our every inclination is to hold on to it at all costs. Even when our intelligence tells us that it can, in spite of all our endeavors, end very soon we try to convince ourselves that that "very soon" is really in the distant future.

We have God's word for it and the example of Christ's resurrection to a life of glory. Let us appreciate the truth that our death on earth is not the end of life but rather the beginning of the true life that will never end. As the liturgy says in the Mass for the Dead : "Life is changed (by death) not taken away." Our death is the doorway through which we pass into the unending life. The years on earth are a gift of God to enable us to earn the infinitely greater gift which in his loving mercy he has prepared for us from all eternity.

God in his mercy is calling on each one of us to be ready when our call comes. We can do nothing about the when or the where of that call, but we can do much about the state of our relationship with God when death comes; in fact, aided by God's grace we can ensure that all will be well with us. We cannot avoid a sudden death, but we can avoid an unprepared death by striving always to live in peace with God. This does not mean that we must be always on our knees praying to God and that we must take no interest in the things and the joys of this world. Far from it. God wants us to use the things of this world, but to use them so that they will not hinder us on our journey.

A very practical way to see how we stand in relation to God and to the things of this world, is for each one of us to ask himself today : "How would I fare if I were called to render an account of stewardship tonight?" This is the practical question that God, through today's readings, is asking us to put to ourselves. If, to our dismay, we find there are several things which have to be put right before facing our judge we will start right away to put them right. We may get another chance, another warning, and we may not. If we value our eternal happiness we will take this warning; we will put our books in order; we will make peace with God and our neighbors—and with God's grace we will do all in our power to persevere in this good resolution.
—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

If you have a notice for the bulletin, you can email louisecampbel@gmail.com

If you would like to donate to the parish, but do not have an envelope you can e-transfer to sacredheartjohnstown@gmail.com. A receipt will be provided.

Collection: November 10, 2024

Envelopes	\$145.00
Loose	\$10.00
Missals	\$10.00
	\$165.00

Notices:

1: Thank You: A great big thank you to all who made the Christmas Bingo a success. To all the people who donated prizes, door prizes and the canteen. To the people who asked for and collected the prizes and worked at the Bingo. To all the people who showed up and had an enjoyable afternoon. Over \$2500.00 was realized at the Bingo and close to \$500 on the BBQ tickets. Winner of the BBQ was Jenn Pearson.

2: St. Mary's Parish, Frenchvale. Ticket draw on 4 Cords of Firewood, or \$500.00. Tickets: \$1.00 each: Draw Date: Dec 7th, 2024. Contact Cathy Johnston: 902-535-2774

3: Our weekly Wednesday Morning Coffee get togethers will resume on November 6th, 9:00 – 11:30 am, at the District 10, Red Islands Fire Hall. Drop in and visit with your friends and neighbours. Cards, games and puzzles are available. Everyone is welcome.

4: The Annual General Meeting of the Johnstown Community Development Co-operative will take place on Sunday, November 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Johnstown Parish Hall, Johnstown, NS. **Note:** We will have a discussion **about the Irish Cove walking trail** as part of the 2024 JCDC AGM. **Everyone is welcome to attend and join the discussion.** Feedback, ideas, and comments on the work of JCDC are welcomed as are new members.

5: The Annual General Meeting of the Bras d'Or Lakers Seniors club will take place on: **Sunday, November 24th at 2:00 PM at the Red Islands Fire Hall** All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

6: Christmas Toy Drive: It's time for our annual collection of toys and children's clothing to be donated to the St. Peters Food bank, for distribution to their client families in time for Christmas. We are requesting unwrapped new toys and new children's clothing to be dropped off at the Red Islands Fire Hall, on Saturday, December 7th, between 3:00 and 5:00 PM. We will have tea and light snacks. We hope you can support this effort again this year. On behalf of their client families, the Food Bank management have expressed great appreciation for our efforts in past years. So please mark your calendars. We will see you at the Red Islands fire hall on December 7th.

8: Comfort Tea Come For Tea : Throughout our lives we experience many types of losses. We wish to promote awareness of the impact of grief on our lives. All are invited for a beverage and sweets in a supportive setting. You may wish to bring along a friend, memento, photo, or experience to share. You may have words of support to offer or just be in the company of those who understand.

Wednesday, November 27th, 2024 1:30 - 4:00 pm

St. Mark's United Church, 504 Bernard Street, Port Hawkesbury, N.S.

Hosted by the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society celebrating our 30th anniversary

www.srpalliativecaresociety.com Facebook: Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society

9: Provincial Election: Due to the Postal Strike we will not be receiving voter identification cards from Elections Nova Scotia. Below you will find information for voting in our area:

Continuous Polls

Voting Saturday November 16 to Saturday November 23 – 9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Monday November 25th – 9:00 am – 6:00 pm

Tuesday November 26th – 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

4 MacAskill Drive. St. Peters (Big yellow building beside the Royal Bank)

Extended hours on November 21st and November 22nd – 9:00am – 8:00 pm

No Sunday voting

Advanced Polls

Voting Saturday November 16 – Saturday November 23 – 9:00 am – 6:00 pm

D'Escousse Civic Improvement Center – 3276 Route 320 D'Escousse

No Sunday voting

Extended hours on November 21st and November 22nd – 9:00am – 8:00 pm

Election Day – Tuesday November 26th.

If you live in Richmond County – Irish Cove to Potlotek

Johnstown Parish Hall – 15290 Highway 4, Johnstown – 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

If you live in Cape Breton County – Irish Cove – Big Pond – Big Pond Fire Hall – 8:00 am – 8:00 pm