



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

October 6, 2024

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Genesis, 2:18-24*, "So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: 'This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called *woman* for out of *her man* this one has been taken.'" This reading has been chosen to show the origin of the Church's teaching on the indissolubility of marriage.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter to the Hebrews, 2:9-11*, "He who 'for a little while' was made 'lower than the angels', that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone." Today's reading talks about Jesus' exaltation through abasement.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark, 10:2-16*. On the "divorce" section of this Gospel see today's First Reading. Christ clearly states that from the very beginning, God's plan for marriage was that it should be a life-long unity of one man and one woman. Its purpose is the procreation of children and their education, as well as the mutual love and fulfillment of the husband and wife. These demand this life-long bond. Divorce, which tries to break this bond, breaks the law of the Creator who decreed what was best for the temporal and spiritual welfare of the human race.

The last four verses of today's Gospel describe an incident which is in no way connected with the previous discussion but which has a very useful lesson for all Christians. It describes Christ's love for children and while manifesting this love he stresses the need for all his true followers to be childlike. "I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." To receive

the kingdom of God is to accept the teaching of Christ and live according to it in his kingdom on earth. He who does this will enter, after death, into the eternal kingdom of heaven. Christ says, however, that we must accept "like a child": his kingdom on earth, his teaching and the Church he founded to carry on that teaching. It does not mean: in a childish way, an unthinking, uneducated way, but in a child-like way—a humble, grateful, receptive way. A child is unselfconscious, content to be dependent on others' care and generosity. Christianity is a gift of the generous God to us, we have done nothing and never could do anything to merit it. We must accept it simply and gratefully as a gift; we could never deserve it.

While Christianity is a religion of reason and conforms in all its aspects to the rational nature of man—its basis is the revelation of God who is the author and foundation of all rationality—yet it is the heart of man rather than his intellect which Christ means to capture. The assent of the intellect to the doctrine revealed by Christ is not sufficient of itself for a Christian to earn the eternal kingdom; faith is the total acceptance and commitment of the believer to God through Jesus Christ. The man of true faith commits himself to God with a filial childlike trust, assured that if he does all that he can God will do the rest.

Therefore, our Christian faith must be childlike, a trusting, humble and obedient faith. This is the kind of faith that will move mountains—the mountains that loom so large in the vision of too many Christians today—the mountains of doubt, selfishness, unwillingness to be subjected to authority. Christ asks us, if we would be his followers: to take up our daily cross and climb the way to Calvary after him. This daily cross is made of the troubles and trials of life from

which no one can escape. They can be borne with reluctance and grumbling or they can be accepted as the loving God's means of training us for the future life. Every true Christian accepts his trials in the latter way, for if he is true to his faith he knows that his years on earth are his apprenticeship to prepare him for his eternal life.

God is surely not asking too much of us when he asks us to live our Christian faith in childlike humility, candor and confidence during the days of our pilgrimage on this earth.

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

Collection:

September 29, 2024

Envelopes	\$405.00
Loose	\$45.00
Cemetery Fund	\$20.00
Donation to Cemetery Fund	\$200.00
Donation to Parish	\$200.00
	\$870.00

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.

Notices:

1: Parish Council: Sacred Heart Parish Council met this week, and we are looking for new members to join. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, please let me know. Technically Sacred Heart Parish boundaries go from the bottom of Middle Cape Hill, in Cape Breton County, to MacNabs Cove but over the last number of years we have welcomed new parishioners from Soldiers Cove and beyond. We welcome new Parish Council members from all areas of our Parish.

2: Walking Group. If you are interested in enjoying a morning walk and chat with friends, meet at the Cape Breton County side of Lakeshore Drive, at the bridge. To start, we will meet at 8:30 am on Mondays and Saturdays. Other days could be added, and the time adjusted, if need be.

3: Richmond County Programs: Registering & Payment Options Class sizes vary resulting in classes filling up prior to start date. Pre-registration is recommended 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

4: Chair Yoga | 55 + Red Islands Fire Hall, Red Islands Wednesdays, for 10 weeks, beginning October 9 1:30 pm - 2:45 pm, Fee: \$25 Instructor: Lynne Doucette

5: Gentle Yoga 55+ Red Island Fire Hall, Red Islands Fridays, for 10 weeks, beginning October 11 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, Fee: \$30 Instructor: Lynne Doucette **NOTE: This yoga was incorreccted added in the Reflections of Richmond as happening in St. Peters, but it is at the Fire Hall in Red Islands.**

6: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft Group This group will meet every Thursday from October 10 to December 12, 2024, at 1:00 pm. This is an informal group. Bring your own project and create with kindred spirits. A sewing machine is available, plus help, for anyone who wants to sew, quilt or knit. Everyone welcome. Location: District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands.

7: Christmas Bingo. Our Christmas Bingo will take place on Sunday November 10th, at 2:00 pm at the Parish Hall. We will be drawing for the BBQ at this time. Save the date.

8: The Cape Breton Chordsmen Present an Afternoon of Song & Praise in support of Holy Rosary Church, Westmount. Concert will be held at Holy Rosary on Sunday, October 6th at 2:30 p.m. Joining the Chordsmen as special guests will be Keltic Gospel Chorus, Misty Creek, Holy Rosary Choir, Class Act Quartet, Mike Finigan. Admission is \$ 20.00 and tickets are available by calling Evie O'Rourke at 902-539-2970, from any Chordsman or at the door.

9: 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 3rd. As the names are read, a family member will be invited to come to the candle 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

10: Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis Coming to Our Diocese: Oct. 21 Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River Blessed Carlo Acutis was born in 1991, and in his short life offered both miracles and influence to the new generation of tech-savvy faithful. He died of leukemia in 2006 at age 15 and was beatified by Pope Francis in 2020. To learn more: <http://www.carloacutis.com/en/association/presentazione>

11: 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.

12: Rosalyn Mitchell, whose family have a summer place in Red Islands, is fundraising to attend a conference, see below for more information.

Below is a link to my blog, which shares donation information. I represent Rehumanize Toronto at the Rehumanize International, a pro-life and pro-peace conference. We aim to oppose violence and build a culture of life in a divided world. <https://evangelinepress.substack.com/p/rehumanize-conference-fundraiser>
My blog (Evangeline Press) aims to share the Gospel of Jesus to a dying world. <https://linktr.ee/evangelinepress>