

Bulletin

Sacred Heart Parish

Mass: 4:00 pm – Saturdays
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

March 26, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Lent

Today is the halfway mark of Lent. This Sunday is known as Laetare Sunday for the first word of the Introit or Entrance Antiphon laetare (rejoice); it is a Sunday of joy. The celebrant has the option to wear rose colored vestments. This is also the Second Scrutiny in preparation for the baptism of adults at the Easter Vigil.

The **First Reading** is taken from the book of Joshua, 5:9, 10-12. Today's reading recounts the celebration of the Passover in the Promised Land by Joshua and those who had sojourned with him in the desert for 40 years..

The **Second Reading** is from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians, 5:17-21. The reconciliation of mankind with God has been brought about by Christ's death on the cross. Jesus, who is like men in all things "yet without sinning" bore the sins of men and offered himself on the cross as an atoning sacrifice for all those sins, thereby reconciling men to God; through this sacrifice we became the righteousness of God.

The Gospel is from St. Luke 15:1-3, 11-32. This reading recounts the parable of the Prodigal Son, one of Jesus' most beautiful parables. It teaches us once more that God is a kind and understanding Father. The son who asks for his part of the inheritance is a symbol of the person who cuts himself off from God through sin. "Although the word 'mercy' does not appear, [this parable] nevertheless expresses the essence of the divine mercy in a particularly clear way" (John Paul II, *Dives in misericordia, 5*).

Mercy — as Christ has presented it in the parable of the prodigal son — has the interior form of the love that in the New Testament is called agape. This love is able to reach down to every prodigal son, to every human misery, and above all to every form of moral misery, to sin. When this happens, the person who is the object of mercy does not feel humiliated, but rather found again and 'restored to value'. The father first and foremost expresses to him his joy, that he has been 'found again' and that he has 'returned to life'. This joy indicates a good that has remained intact: even if he is a prodigal, a son does not cease to be truly his father's son; it also indicates a good that has been found again, which in the case of the prodigal son was his return to the truth about himself" (*Dives in misericordia*, 6).

Collections:

March 19, 2022

Envelopes	$445.00
Loose	$20.00
	$465.00

Notices:

1: Yoga with Helen Slade will resume on Monday April 4th, from 10 – 11:30 am, at the Johnstown Parish Hall. Contact information will be in the spring edition of Reflections of Richmond

2: April 3 is Solidarity Sunday. This will be an opportunity to reflect and pray for "People
and Planet First".
Read Bishop Kirkpatrick's letter, and follow the links for free resources and ways to support this important campaign:
https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/share-lent-people-and-planet-first/

3: Holy Week Schedule
Chrism Mass – April 11, at St. Ninian's Cathedral, details TBA

Holy Thursday, April 14, 2022
There will be no foot-washing.
4:00pm HGA
5:30pm SP
7:00pm SJB

Friday April 15, 2022
Friday April 15, 2022 Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)
3:00 PM Service
Fr. Yake will celebrate Good Friday service at Sacred Heart.

Lay persons TBA will lead in the other parishes.
Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) 3:00 PM Service
Holy Mass is not permitted on Good Friday or Holy Saturday. The Good Friday Service typically consists of three parts: The Liturgy of the Word with Intercessions, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. When a priest is not available to celebrate the Good Friday Service a Deacon or a lay person may do so. In this exceptional case the service consists of optional readings and the reading of the Passion of the Lord (John 18:1 – 19: 42) followed by the Stations of the Cross. Assuming that some Covid rules are still in place there is no individual procession for the Veneration of the Cross.

Saturday, April 16, 2022 At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night:
8:30pm SH

Easter Sunday April 17, 2022 The Resurrection of the Lord
8:30 AM SJB
10:00 AM SP & Chapel Island
11:30 AM HGA

4: The annual Fishcake and Beans Supper: Friday April 15th, (Good Friday) at 4:45 at the Johnstown Parish Hall. This year we will do both eat in or take out supper. To order a meal please call the following: Cost: $12.00
Louise: 902-535-3107
Barbara: 902-828-2079
Rita: 902-631-0209
Edie: 902-322-6543
Elizabeth: 902-539-2078
or email louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com

5: Update on the Parish Hall: District 10 Red Islands Fire Department and Sacred Heart Parish Council met with Cathy Farrow, Managing Director/Financial Administrator The Catholic Episcopal Corporation Of the Diocese of Antigonish, this week. All three groups agreed that the idea of a new Fire Hall/Community Hall is a win win win situation. The next steps are to get the right-of-way transferred over and for the Fire Department to provide more detailed plans to the diocese. This was a very positive meeting.

6: April 28: Spring Deadline for Bishop Power Foundation The late Bishop William Power recognized the importance of the laity in strengthening Christian faith in today's modern world. A family charitable foundation in his name continues to support: individuals in university Catholic Studies (full or part time) and non-profit groups that: a) empower the poor and/or b) develop the laity for their Christian role within the church and/or c) aid the missionary activity of the church Applications are accepted each spring and fall for consideration. The foundation typically distributes up to $20,000 annually to successful applicants. Deadline is April 28 for consideration this spring. To apply or for more information: www.bishoppowerfoundation.ca

7: Lenten Calendar for your Synod Journey March 24-31

Fast From Lethargy; Feast on Enthusiasm
Let someone else do it. I'm too tired.
We are tired. Life demands much from us. Our faith asks only that we allow and be present. In these moments of quiet, we can hear and choose.
Almsgiving:
Invite someone to Mass.
Share our survey or website on your social media. Deliver a note of encouragement or an invitation to your parish or Synod event with a donation to your local food bank.
Prayer:
Offer up prayers to someone you know in need.

8: Synod Conversations with Catechists, Coordinators, and Graduates of the Lay Formation Program:

April 2 in Our Lady of Fatima parish hall, Sydney River
10:30 am - 4 pm, includes lunch, join in person or via Zoom

Contact: Debbie Aker, daker@dioceseofantigonish.ca
Wednesdays 7-8 pm through March 30
Holy Family Church, Sydney Mines

All are invited.

Topics for Conversation
March 30: What is your Dream for the Church
Contact Norma Blinkhorn: norma@dioceseofantigonish.ca