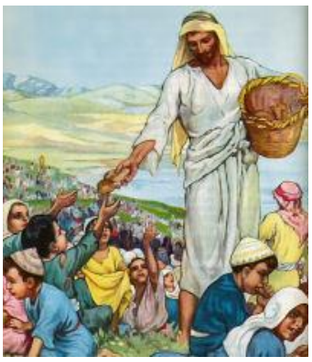


Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin

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

July 28, 2024

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Second Book of Kings 4:42-44.* We have here an incident from the life of Elisha, the prophet in Israel who inherited the mantle of the great Elijah. He prophesied in Israel during the second half of the 9th century. By anointing Jehu as king of Israel, he helped to bring about the overthrow of Achab's dynasty which had introduced the worship of Baal into Israel and had almost paganized the whole northern kingdom. This reading describes a miracle worked by Elisha

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-6.* St. Paul lays great stress on Christian unity which is the essence of the faith. In these six verses he gives a sevenfold formula of unity on which the various aspects of true Christian unity are based.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John 6:1-15.* Although Jesus had the intention of preparing the minds of the multitude for his discourse on the heavenly food which he would make next day, his principal motive in working this miracle was pity and compassion. He knew that they were hungry—they had been away from home all day and some for many days.

They were willing to suffer this inconvenience but he did not want them to do so. Even though he knew there were some among them who would never accept him, and perhaps even some who would be among the rabble that demanded his crucifixion on Good Friday; yet he made no distinction. He had compassion on them all.

This miracle should surely convince us that Christ is interested in our daily needs too, just as he was interested in those of his contemporaries in Palestine. Our principal and only real purpose in life is to be saved and Christ is ever ready to help us. However, we have first to travel through our earthly life so, of necessity, we have to take a passing interest in the affairs of this world. We have to provide for our earthly needs and for those of any others who may depend on us. For many, in fact for the vast majority of men, this has always been and will be a struggle against great odds. Here, too, Christ is ever ready to help us. He has a true interest in our progress through life and if we turn to him trustfully and sincerely, he will help us over our difficulties.

This does not mean that we can expect or demand a miracle whenever we find ourselves in difficulties. If, however, we are true to Christ and to the faith in our daily lives, he will find ways and means of freeing us from difficulties which would otherwise overcome us. If we look back over our past we may notice occasions when we were saved from grave difficulties by some unexpected intervention. We may not even have called on Christ to help us but he knew our needs and he answered our unspoken request. Those five thousand hungry people had not asked him for food, but he knew their needs. He knew too that their needs were caused by their desire to be in his presence—so he gave them what they had not thought of asking for. If we are loyal to him we, too, can trust that his mercy and power will be with us in our hour of need. He may not remove the cause of our difficulty. Remember St. Paul who had some bodily infirmity which he thought impeded his effectiveness as a missioner? Three times he pleaded with Christ to remove this 'infirmity, but Christ assured him: "my grace is sufficient for you." He would prove all the more effectively that he was Christ's Apostle by preaching in spite of that infirmity: "for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12: 7-9). Thus it may be that Christ will use the very difficulty from which we are suffering, to bring us and others into more intimate union with him. Many of the saints suffered great hardships and afflictions during their years on earth—these very afflictions were Christ's gifts to them. Without these, and the virtues of patience, faith and trust which they had to practice, they might not be among God's elect today.

We must rest assured then that Christ is intimately interested in our daily lives on earth. We must not expect that this interest of his will remove all shadows from our path. This would not be for our eternal good—and our eternal happiness is Christ's first interest in us. It should also be our own first and principal interest too. It will help us, too, to bear with our lot, if we look about us and see so many others who are worse off, or at least as badly off as we are especially with regard to the snags of life. Christian charity will move us to help them; we may not be able to give them any material help, but we can help to lighten their load by showing our sincere interest in them and by offering words of comfort and consolation. This is the only charity that the poor have to offer to their fellow sufferers, but if it is Christ-inspired its effects will reach to heaven.

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

Collection
July 14, 2024

Envelopes	**$485.00**
Loose	**$79.00**
Cemetery Fund	**$30.00**
	$594.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: The Market will take place on Sunday July 28th, from 10:30am – 1:00 pm. See you there.

2: Music Royal Concert –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.
$25 at the door, $20 advanced rate, students $10. Email lcampbell1@bellaliant.net for advance reservation.
https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/musique-royale-a-treasury-of-music-from-our-historic-past/events/ensemble-urmawi-in-johnstown/
If you would like an advanced rate, just send me you name and I will put you on the list. Do not send me any money.

3: Accommodations needed: The Music Royal musicians will be looking for accommodations again this year. The group may also be coming in the evening before, so they aren't flying and performing in Cape Breton the same day. so it would be for two nights, if possible. We would be looking for 5 beds in total, as it's a quartet of musicians and the organizer. If you can accommodate one or two people, please let me know,

4: Please join the family of Wendy Campbell for a Family & Friends Drop-in at the Johnstown Parish Hall, Sunday, Aug. 4, 3-5 p.m.

5: Cemetery Mass: The annual cemetery mass will take place on Sunday August 11th, at 9:30 in the Old Graveyard. Please bring your own chair. After the mass will be a Pancake Breakfast at the hall.

6: Milling Frolic: The Milling Frolic is only a month away. Donations will be needed for the Bake Sale, Lunch, Fancy Booth, and the County Store. Workers will be needed for parking cars, bingo, lunch, fancy booth, selling tickets, straw game. and at the door.

7: Music for the Milling Frolic: The music for the Milling Frolic will be Shelly Campbell, Alan Dewar and perhaps friends. We will also have a caller for the square dance, Helen MacDonald from River Ryan.

8: Holy Guardian Angles Festival Holy Mass on Saturday, July 27, 2024, will be at 6:30 PM with the Richmond Men's Choir in attendance. The change of the time of Mass will be for this date only due to the festival. St. John the Baptist will be at regular time of 4:00 PM and Sacred Heart will be at regular time of 9:30 AM on Sunday, 28th with St. Peter's at 11:00 AM.

9: Fr. Yake Away: No weekday Masses are scheduled from August 19th until August 30th because Fr. Yake will be away. Weekend Masses on August 31st and September 1st will be celebrated by Rev. Charles Cameron. Previously scheduled Masses will be rescheduled.

10: Father Albert MacPherson, O.S.A. will celebrate a healing Mass in his 50th year of holy priesthood on Saturday, July 27, 2024, 2:30pmOur Lady of Grace Monastery940 Monastery Rd, Monastery, NS
You are invited to come, be healed and celebrate with Father Albert Refreshments and light lunch to follow

11: List of events taking place at the Johnstown Parish Hall and Church

Friday August 09 - Music Royal Concert – 7:00 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