

Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin

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

May 26, 2024

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

The **First Reading** is *Deuteronomy 4:32-34; 39-40*. In today's reading from the book of Deuteronomy we see how privileged the Chosen People of Israel were, how wonderful God had been in his dealings with them, and how all he asked for in return was that they should keep his commandments, which were for their own good....They quickly forgot all that he had done for them and turned to adore lifeless idols, pagan "gods" who could not help either themselves or anyone else. This was ingratitude and meanness of a high order, but let us remember that everything that God did for the Jews, he did for us, too. Through his dealings with them he was preparing the way for the Incarnation.

The **Second Reading** is *Romans 8:14-17*. In today's four verses, St. Paul stresses the change which Christianity has brought to Jew and Gentile. Man is no longer a slave of sin or of the world: he has been made a son of God through Christ's life, death and resurrection and is therefore a freeman... If we can—and we can and should—call God our Father, Abba, it is because the Holy Spirit moves us to do so and the Holy Spirit does this because we have indeed been made sons of God by the incarnation of his Son. Because we are adopted into God's household, heaven is our inheritance provided we obey Christ's commands.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 28:16-20*. The reason why these five verses, that conclude the final chapter of St. Matthew's gospel were chosen for today's Mass is evident. The three Persons of the Blessed Trinity are mentioned by name in this pericope.

All those who would enter the new kingdom of God, the Church, were to be dedicated in the ceremony of baptism to the Blessed Trinity; they were to enter into a fellowship with the three divine Persons. Whether Christ himself gave the exact words for the form of baptism does not concern us here, but from 2 Cor. 2:21, it would appear that this form was in use from the earliest days of the Church. We are aware that we ourselves were dedicated to God in our baptism and destined to have an eternal fellowship with the Trinity in heaven. We are aware, too, of the part played by the three divine Persons in making that eternal happiness and friendship with the Trinity available to us. While the essence of the Trinity, or the way in which there can be three Persons in the one God, is a mystery which our limited minds cannot even begin to solve, we have no hesitation in accepting the existence of this deepest mystery of our religion. It was no less an authority than Jesus Christ himself who revealed it to us. With his guarantee for its truth, we are left in no doubt as to the existence of this mystery. We can safely wait for a greater, if not a complete understanding in heaven.

Today, as we honor the Blessed Trinity, our predominant thought must be one of gratitude to each of the three Persons for all they have done and are still doing for us. First, to God the Father, who in his love planned not only our creation as intelligent human beings, the highest and noblest of his creatures on earth, but planned to give us adopted sonship as well. Secondly, let us show our deepest gratitude to the all-obedient, all-loving Son of God, who carried out to the letter the divine Father's plan for our adoption, by sharing with us our humanity so that we could share in his divinity. Thirdly, let us be eternally grateful to the Holy Spirit—the fruit of the love of Father and Son —who has come to dwell in the Church and in each member of the Church, in order to fill our hearts with a true love of God, and to direct our faltering steps toward the everlasting happiness which awaits us beyond the grave.

We know only too well how unworthy we are of this love of the Blessed Trinity which has been poured out on us. The greatest saints were unworthy of this infinite love. Our unworthiness should not, and must not, stop us from availing ourselves of this divine love and from doing what we can to prove how we value and sincerely appreciate the love and goodness of the Blessed Trinity for us. In return for this love, Christ asked us, his followers, to keep his commandments. This is the one genuine proof we can give of our gratitude for all that these Three Persons have done for us.

We are so weak that we often let the passing things of this world turn our thoughts and actions away from God and from our own eternal interests. We forget Christ and his commandments at times and let the world rule our hearts and minds. However, even for sinners like us there is hope and encouragement in the infinity of God's love. Let us not forget it: the Father, Son and Holy Spirit know all our weaknesses, they knew them before they arranged to make us sharers in their own eternal happiness. They know, also, that those of us who try and try again to rise above our human weakness will finally share with them their heaven.

This possibility is open to all of us. The Blessed Trinity will excuse nobody from heaven.

If some fail, the fault will be entirely and completely their own. May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit goat us the courage and strength to overcome our human weaknesses! May they give us the grace to live and die in their love so that we may share their eternal kingdom of happiness!
—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings*, Cycle B, Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection

May 19, 2024

Envelopes	$322.00
Loose	$160.00
Pastoral Works	$30.00
Donation to Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine	$300.00
	$812.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: We are pleased to announce the third season of the Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market. This year the Market will operate 10:30 am to 1 pm every **SUNDAY** from June 30 to September 8. Interested vendors should contact johnstownlanding@gmail.com or Rita Campbell 902-631-0209. **Note:** vendors do not need to commit to attending every week. Johnstown Landing is located across from the Johnstown Parish Hall.

2: Birders Beware! Your Bras d'Or Lake Biospheere Region is providing a special Bras d'Or Watch birding activity on Saturday June 1st starting at 6am. Our local expert, Billy Digout, will be conducting a guided walk, starting at his property in French Cove which will last around an hour, depending on what we see. This is a good time of year and day to see mating pairs. We will walk about 1/2 km along the highway and head into the woods. There is no need for boots but bring your binoculars.
Location: 8059 West Bay Hgy in French Cove (park in Billy's driveway).
Date & Time: June 1st @ 6am to 7am or so.

3: Weekend Mass at Cape Breton Regional Hospital
Fr. Anthony Eboh, who has taken over as Chaplaincy for the CB Regional Hospital, has begun celebrating Mass at the hospital on Saturdays at 4:00pm. All are welcome to attend.

4: Welcome to the new adventure of CND sisters during the visitation weekend (May 31st- June 2nd)! We are inviting young women (20 to 45 years old) to discover our mission and our history with Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys! And why not discover yourself? You will enjoy:
• Pilgrimage to St Marguerite Bourgeoys museum
• Adoration and personal prayer time
• Renewal of sisters' vows
• Presentations and exchanges
• Karao-praises and quiz with sisters

PS: The discovery weekend is free of charge and we can cover the travel expenses if needed.
Sisters of the Congregation of Notre Dame
Mother House, Montreal
vocations@cnd-m.org **www.cnd.m.org**

5: Music Royal Concert – Tentative: more information to follow: 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.

6: 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