

**St. Peter's, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist Parishes  
(902) 535-2053**

**Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei**

**Bulletin email: [bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com](mailto:bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com)**

**December 5, 2021**

**Second Sunday of Advent**



“As the journey of Advent continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of Christ, John the Baptist's call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the Son of God Who comes among us to make divine judgement manifest. The Father, writes St. John the Evangelist, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgement to the Son, because He is the Son of man.

“And it is today, in the present, that we decide our future destiny. It is with our concrete everyday behavior in this life that we determine our eternal fate. At the end of our days on earth, at the moment of death, we will be evaluated on the basis of our likeness or otherwise to the Baby Who is about to be born in the poor grotto of Bethlehem, because He is the measure God has given humanity.

“Through the Gospel John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to each generation. His hard clear words bring health to us, the men and women of this day in which even the experience and perception of Christmas often, unfortunately, reflects materialist attitudes. The 'voice' of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way for the coming Lord in the deserts of today, internal and external deserts, thirsting for the water of life which is Christ.” — Benedict XVI

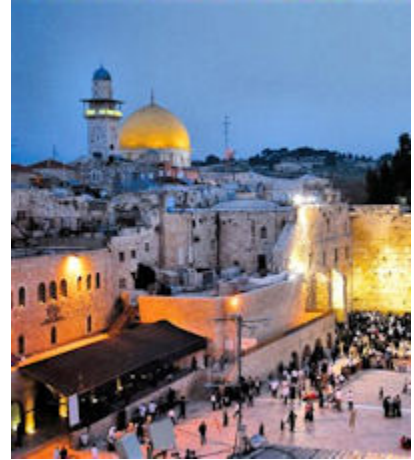
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### **Jerusalem**

In Palestine Christians gather today in Jerusalem for the celebration of holy Mass. In Rome they proceed to the stational church "Holy Cross at Jerusalem" which serves to give the atmosphere of the Holy City.

Why "Jerusalem"? Excavations of ancient sites often reveal a number of strata. When enemies destroyed a city, a new one would rise on the same location, so that today there are several layers of remains, one city, as it were, above the other. Our Jerusalem likewise has four strata. The bottommost layer is the Jerusalem of the Jews, that venerable land where the Lord Jesus began His mission of redemption, where He suffered and died. This is the historical Jerusalem so dear to us Christians. Anyone making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land enters that ancient city with holy awe. That Jerusalem, however, lies buried deep.

For us another has been built upon it, the Jerusalem of Christians, God's kingdom on earth, the holy Church. This city still stands; it is the one which the divine King will enter at Christmas. Now we understand why we will hear so much about Jerusalem during the coming week. We should now clean and adorn our city, improving its streets and avenues through which the Savior will make His entrance. As a motto we should take the words of the precursor, St. John the Baptist: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths; let every valley be filled, every hill be leveled." Holy Mother Church's message today is that the Savior is coming to the Jerusalem of the Christians, to the Church.



Above the second stratum there arises a third, the heavenly Jerusalem at the end of time. Already now the Church sings of this Jerusalem. For during Advent we await the Savior who will appear on the Last Day to take all into "the new Jerusalem coming down from heaven."

Finally, there may be recognized a fourth Jerusalem, our souls in sanctifying grace. This city too must be adorned and prepared, for the King will want to enter. That is our present task.

On Epiphany, the climax to the current season, the Church will cry out: "Arise, shine, O Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee." That is the goal. Today we must prepare for the great King's visit to our city. The whole coming week must be devoted to it. The Church prays: "Awaken our hearts to prepare the way for Your only-begotten Son that we may serve Him with purified hearts."

In the time of the Roman Empire, rulers rode from city to city for the purpose of official visitations. Their appearance, called *epiphany* or *parousia*, was a great event, one preceded by months of preparation. Something analogous takes place in the Jerusalem of our souls. From a high watchtower we see the Lord coming afar off. Suddenly John the Baptist appears; he hurries into the city to announce the King's approach. God condescends to manifest Himself to us in grace; but He demands the proper reception.

--Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace* by Pius Parsc

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

**please call the office:  
Rev. John Yake, I.V. Dei**

**Instructors for baptism:**

Mary Fougere, SJB 902) 535-2699

Rose Pâté, SP (902) 302-7011

Vera Doucette, HGA (902) 785-4018

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

Please call Fr. Yake six months prior to the wedding date.

Call Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia to register for upcoming courses 902-849-4772. Ask for Tasia Boucher, [tboucher@fsens.ns.ca](mailto:tboucher@fsens.ns.ca)

**Tuesday, December 7, 2021**

**SJB 4:00 PM**

**+Florence King**

**Wednesday, December 8, 2021**

**SP 9:00 AM**

**+ Madeline Lafford**

**Friday, December 10, 2021**

**HGA 11:00 pm**

**+ Harry Alfred Sampson**

**Weekend Liturgy****Saturday, December 11, 2021**

**SH Mass 4:00 PM**

**HGA Mass 5:30 PM**

**+ Alonzo J. Sampson**

**Sunday, December 12, 2021**

**SJB 9:00 AM**

**SP 10:30 AM**

**+Madeline Lafford**

**Please note:** Mass intentions should be arranged with Mary at the office, not with Fr. Yake.

**November 28, 2021 receipts****Holy Guardian Angels**

Envelopes \$ 1,199.50

Candles 12.00

Missals 85.00

**Total \$ 1,296.50**

**St. Peter's**

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,465.00
Candles	7.00
Missals	75.00

**Total** **\$ 1,547.00**

**Saint John the Baptist**

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 945.00
Cemetery	100.00

**Total** **\$ 1,045.00**

**Christmas/New Year's Schedule****Christmas Eve, The Nativity of the Lord**

**Friday, Dec 24, 2021**

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 3:30 pm

Holy Guardian Angels, L'Ardoise – 5:30pm

**Christmas Day, The Nativity of the Lord**

**Saturday, Dec 25, 2021**

St. John the Baptist, River Bourgeois – 9:00am

St. Peter the Apostle, St. Peter's - 10:30am

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

**Sunday Dec. 26, 2021**

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 9:00am

**All three parishes at St. Peter the Apostle at 11:00am:**

- ❖ St. John the Baptist
- ❖ St. Peter the Apostle
- ❖ Holy Guardian Angels

**The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

**Friday, Dec. 31, 2021**

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 3:30 pm

Holy Guardian Angels, L'Ardoise – 5:30pm

**The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

**Saturday, January 1, 2022**

St. John the Baptist, River Bourgeois – 9:00am

St. Peter the Apostle, St. Peter's - 10:30am

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**Sunday, January 2, 2022**

Sacred Heart, Johnstown – 9:00am

**All three parishes at St. Peter the Apostle at 11:00am:**

- ❖ St. John the Baptist
- ❖ St. Peter the Apostle
- ❖ Holy Guardian Angels

- Parishioners at these three parishes may choose to celebrate any of the feasts: The Nativity of the Lord, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and the Epiphany of the Lord at Sacred Heart Church in Johnstown or a parish of their choice.
- There will be no weekday Masses from December 27 – 30, 2021 and from January 3-7, 2022.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**St. John The Baptist Memory Tree:** Donations may be made in memory of a loved one. We will have the name placed on a dove, angel, or star; which will be placed on the tree during the Christmas season. Donations and names can be given to Marie Fougere or Mimi Fougere, or simply place the name and donation in the collection. Proceeds will help with purchases of heating oil and electric bills for the church this winter. Thank you."

**Reminder to CWL members and friends** to bring their recyclables to the depot as our Christmas gift to "Chalice" is coming up soon. Many thanks for your support.  
**SJB CWL**

**Religious Christmas Cards for sale:** There are available many different designs and also mixed packs of religious Christmas cards through [www.lifecyclebooks.ca](http://www.lifecyclebooks.ca). You may order on line or Maureen Sampson of HGA has ordered several mixed packs for anyone in our surrounding communities who may be interested. The cost is \$5 for a pack of 10. **Phone 902-587-2517** for more information.

**L'Ardoise Social Action committee** wishes to acknowledge the tremendous support which we have received as a result of the overwhelming kindness of individuals, businesses and organizations. Our recent Food Drive and Bake Sale was a tremendous success and we are grateful to the community for their charitable contributions. There continues to be so many acts of kindness by various acts of financial support which assists our Food Bank operation. Many thanks to all those who purchased tickets on the Quilt which was won by Monique Savoury. God bless everyone for your charity and we wish everyone a Happy holiday season.

**HGA: Anyone wishing to donate money towards Social Action Foodbank** may do by placing an envelope with Social Action on it and putting it in the collection basket. **Thank you**

**A Christmas tree will be displayed in the St. Peter's Church again this year,** from Nov 27 throughout Advent. A decoration will be placed on it for each name received. All funds will go directly to St. Peter's Parish. Donations may be dropped in the collection box at Sunday Mass, dropped at the Glebe Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 12 PM or transferred to [memorytreestpeters@gmail.com](mailto:memorytreestpeters@gmail.com). Security answer is memory tree and in the message section add the names you would like placed on the tree.

## **Pope Francis' Process of Synodality**

Parishioners who would like to lead or participate in this process should see Fr. Yake to discuss a future course of action.

**Retired Teachers Organization:** The Richmond Branch of RTO will host a brunch on Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> at the “Inn On the Canal”, St. Peter’s beginning at 11:30 PM. Please contact one of the following area representatives with your desire to attend as well as your meal choice; Colleen MacRae [ 345-2225], Helen MacDonald [535-3300], Sally Anne Mombourquette [587-2171], Marcia MacEwen [535-2051], Betty Ann David [631-0370]. Deadline Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. Covid regulations in effect.

**Operation Christmas Child:** A sincere thank you to everyone who supported this project. This year 203 boxes were collected. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.  
**St. John the Baptist CWL**

**Note** that the website for the Synod is scheduled to be open on November 29 at this address: [www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch](http://www.antigonishdiocese.com/ListeningChurch).

**Pray for the Synod  
As We Journey Together**

*We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
as we gather together in Your name.  
With You alone to guide us,  
make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go  
and how we are to pursue it.  
We are weak and sinful;  
do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
nor partiality influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity  
so that we may journey together to eternal life  
and not stray from the way of truth  
and what is right.  
All this we ask of You,  
who are at work in every place and time,  
in the communion of the Father and the Son,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.*

## **In the Diocese**

**Sundays with Fr Patrick and John Ratchford**

**7 pm on Facebook Live**

Featuring conversations about church teachings and issues

Join live or watch later on Fr Patrick's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/frpatrick.oneill>

### **New Resources**

#### **for Year of the Family**

The CCCB Office for Family and Life has recently added a series of resource pages to the CCCB website to assist in promotion of “Year of the Amoris Laetitia Family”.

Pope Francis launched this initiative on March 19 to mark the fifth anniversary of the apostolic exhortation Amoris Laetitia (On the Beauty and Joy of Love in the Family). The year will close on June 26, 2022 with the 10th World Meeting of Families in Rome on the theme “Family Love: A Vocation and a Path to Holiness”.

**In English:** <https://www.cccb.ca/faith-moral-issues/family-and-life/celebrating-the-amoris-laetitia-family-year/>

**In French:** <https://www.cccb.ca/fr/foi-et-questions-morales/famille-et-vie/celebrons-lannee-de-la-famille-amoris-laetitia/>

### **2021-2022 Campaign Theme:**

#### **People & Planet First**

The campaign focuses on those in the global south who risk their lives to defend our Common Home from environmental and human rights abuses carried out in the name of greed and corporate profit. There is a call to action for mandatory due diligence and human rights legislation for Canadian corporations operating overseas. Thank you for supporting them!

**To Learn More:** <https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/people-planet-first/>

### **Truth and Reconciliation:**

#### **the Continuing Journey**

This new page on our diocesan website offers activities, links and resources to engage in Truth and Reconciliation not just on a single day, but every day. This page is part of an evolving diocesan plan to engage in and support individual and collective healing.

Suggested actions are first steps, and will be updated and enhanced as our knowledge and engagement grows. You are invited to visit, explore and connect:

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/truth-and-reconciliation/>

### **Mass For Shut-Ins**

#### **New Season Under Way**

Mass airs on CTV on Sundays at 11:30 am, and can be watched later on our Diocese of Antigonish YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPYevnyrNU6zIWHDh8KJ71w>