St. Peter's, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist Parishes (902) 535-2053 Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

Bulletin email: <u>bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com</u>

November 14, 2021

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Jesus said to his disciples: "In those days after that tribulation the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds' with great power and glory, and then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the end of the earth to the end of the sky (Mk 13:24-27)."

Sunday Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of Daniel 12:1-3. Today's reading puts before our eyes the fact that this world will have an end marked by great upheavals and disasters. However, these will be followed immediately by a new and everlasting existence.

The **Second Reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul the Hebrews 10:11-4; 18. St. Paul continues to compare the priesthood of Christ with the Jewish priesthood.

The **Gospel** is from the Gospel of Mark 13:24-32. There are some obscurities in this extract from St. Mark. Firstly, because Christ was discussing and answering questions on two distinct topics : the destruction of the temple and the end of the world. Secondly, because we may not have the *ipsissima verba* of Christ here, as many exegetes suggest. The message we must learn from today's gospel comes across without any ambiguity or doubt : we must always be ready to face our judgement for we know not the day nor the hour when we will be called from this life. When or how this world will end is of no great importance to us; what is important is that we shall leave this world very soon and our eternity will depend on the state of our consciences at the moment of our departure.

This is the steadying thought the Church, in her wisdom, wishes to put before our minds today. We all know that we must die someday. We are strangers and pilgrims on this earth; we have not here a lasting city, as St. Augustine says. No sane person among us will try to deny this and yet, many of us are so immersed in the things of this world that we forget or try to forget that we must leave this world soon. This is very natural : life is a precious gift and as our earthly life is the only one of which we have experience our every inclination is to hold on to it at all costs. Even when our intelligence tells us that it can, in spite of all our endeavors, end very soon we try to convince our¬selves that that "very soon" is really in the distant future.

We have God's word for it and the example of Christ's resurrection to a life of glory. Let us appreciate the truth that our death on earth is not the end of life but rather the beginning of the true life that will never end. As the liturgy says in the Mass for the Dead : "Life is changed (by death) not taken away." Our death is the doorway through which we pass into the unending life. The years on earth are a gift of God to enable us to earn the infinitely greater gift which in his loving mercy he has prepared for us from all eternity.

God in his mercy is calling on each one of us to be ready when our call comes. We can do nothing about the when or the where of that call, but we can do much about the state of our relationship with God when death comes; in fact, aided by God's grace we can ensure that all will be well with us. We cannot avoid a sudden death, but we can avoid an unprepared death by striving always to live in peace with God. This does not mean that we must be always on our knees praying to God and that we must take no interest in the things and the joys of this world. Far from it. God wants us to use the things of this world, but to use them so that they will not hinder us on our journey.

A very practical way to see how we stand in relation to God and to the things of this world, is for each one of us to ask himself today : "How would I fare if I were called to render an account of stewardship tonight?" This is the practical question that God, through today's readings, is asking us to put to ourselves. If, to our dismay, we find there are several things which have to be put right before facing our judge we will start right away to put them right. We may get another chance, another warning, and we may not. If we value our eternal happiness we will take this warning; we will put our books in order; we will make peace with God and our neighbors—and with God's grace we will do all in our power to persevere in this good resolution.

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

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, <u>tboucher@fsens.ns.ca</u>

Monday, November 15, 202111:00AMMass of the Resurrection for Beatrice "Beatie" MartellVisitation Sunday, November 14, 20211:00 PM until 6:00 PML'Ardoise Funeral Home

Tuesday, November 16, 2021SJB4:00 PMAll Souls Celebration

Wednesday, November 17, 2021SP9:00 AM+Jacob Battiste

Friday, November 19, 2021HGA11:00 pm+ Alphonse & Sarah Pottie

Weekend Liturgy

Saturday, November 20, 2021SH Mass4:00 PMHGA Mass5:30 PM+ Cyril & Irene Sampson

Sunday, November 21, 2021SJB9:00 AMSP10:30 AM+ Madeline Lafford

<u>Please note:</u> Mass intentions should be arranged with Mary at office, not with Fr. Yake.

November 7, 2021 receipts

Holy Guardian Angels Candles	\$ 735.15 28.85	
Total	<u>\$ 764.00</u>	
<u>St. Peter's</u> Envelopes & Loose Cemetery donation Parish Dues	\$ 950.00 25.00 525.00	
Total	<u>\$ 1,500.00</u>	

Saint John the Baptist	¢	
Envelopes & Loose	\$	953.00
Total	\$	<u>953.00</u>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mass and candle lighting ceremony for deceased members of SJB Parish since November 2, 2020 will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 4:00 PM in the church.

Knights of Columbus general meeting Thursday Nov 18th at 6:30 pm in the basement of the glebe house.

<u>November 9, 2021 SJB 4:00 PM Mass</u> on Tuesdays will be held in the vestry except for November 16 candle light Mass for all souls.

Operation Christmas Child: Boxes need to be submitted on Nov. 14. They will be sent to Central America and West Africa. **St. John the Baptist CWL**

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 <u>www.lifecyclebooks.ca</u> 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 Weekend is Saturday, November 27th and Sunday, November 28th. Our annual Food Drive will take place on Saturday, starting at 10:00 A.M. from Point Michaud to Grand Greve. On Sunday we will have a Bake Sale from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Lower level of the Community Center. Holy Guardian Angels Lunch Sally Ann Mombourquette (902) 587-2171

<u>Sunday Missals for 2021-2022 have been ordered</u> and will be in sometime in November.

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

COVID Update from Bishop Kirkpatrick

Received on Friday, November 5.

Dear Faith Leaders,

At today's media briefing I informed Nova Scotians that the increased case numbers we are seeing are from several clusters of cases, primarily in Northern and Western Health Zones, related to several faith groups participating in a single multi-day event. This situation presents an opportunity to reinforce some key information on what is currently required in faith gatherings and events under the Public Health order and the <u>COVID-19 Protocol for Proof of Full</u> <u>Vaccination for Events and Activities</u>.

Proof of Vaccination

Proof of full vaccination <u>is not</u> required for a regular faith service, such as daily or weekly services. Services that are part of your faith's annual calendar (such as Christmas and Easter services in Christian faiths) are considered the same as regular daily/weekly services – no proof of full vaccination is required. If a Remembrance Day service is combined with a regular daily or weekly service, no proof of full vaccination is required. But if it's an additional special service, then proof is required.

Proof of full vaccination <u>is</u> required for participants (not officiants) at weddings, funerals and other ceremonies – even if they take place in a church or other faith facility. However, it is not required for indoor and outdoor funeral services with a maximum of 25 participants (not including officiants or funeral home staff). Proof of full vaccination is still required for visitation and receptions.

As an aside, please note that we are currently not granting any exception requests for people to enter Nova Scotia to attend a funeral. Anyone who is not fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arriving must self-isolate for at least 7 days and get 2 negative test results in Nova Scotia to stop isolating.

Proof of full vaccination <u>is</u> required any events and activities hosted by a faith organization, including social time after a service, bible study, youth group, retreats, community meals or fundraisers. It is also required when people rent/use the church's facilities (like a hall or other rooms) for events like a wedding reception or leisure activities/clubs like playing cards.

If a faith organization is offering space for mental health and addictions support groups or for programs and services for vulnerable populations, proof of full vaccination <u>is not</u> required. If faith organizations are offering food bank services, shelters or meal programs for vulnerable populations (including dine-in), proof of full vaccination <u>is not</u> required for people accessing those services or for employees providing them. It <u>is</u> required for volunteers providing them.

I encourage you to carefully review the <u>protocol</u> for further details. Please note that there are resources at the end that will help your organizations when you are hosting events and activities where proof of full vaccination is required.

Masking

The wearing of masks <u>https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/masks/</u> in faith services and gatherings <u>is</u> required with the following exceptions:

(a) is less than 2 years of age or age 2 to 4 years and their caregiver cannot persuade them to wear a mask;

(b) for whom the wearing of a mask is not possible because of the person's medical condition;

(c) is reasonably accommodated by not wearing a mask in accordance with the *Nova Scotia Human Rights Act*;

(e) removes the mask momentarily for identification or ceremonial purposes (e.g. post wedding ceremony kiss)

(g) is an officiant (preaching) or performer (choir signing but not congregational singing) in the course of performing activities requiring vocalization such as talking or singing at the event or activity

General information on other measures that you are encouraged to use and follow is at https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/avoiding-infection/

We understand everyone is eager for life to become more normal and we look forward to a time when we're able to lift restrictions further. For now, as we continue to navigate the fourth wave of the pandemic, I thank you for your continued efforts to keep your congregations safe from COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Strang Chief Medical Officer of Health Department of Health and Wellness PO Box 488 Halifax, NS B3J 2R8

In the Diocese

Nov. 14

is World Day of the Poor

The World Day of the Poor is observed on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. The Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the fifth World Day of the Poor, entitled "The poor you will always have with you" (Mk 14:7) can be found on the Holy See's website:

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20210613messaggio-v-giornatamondiale-poveri-2021.html

Nov. 17

is Red Wednesday

Red Wednesday is an event aimed at highlighting the persecution and injustice suffered by Christians, while promoting respect and tolerance between people of different religions.

Currently, 327 million Christians live in a country where there is religious persecution. Another 178 million live in a country where there is discrimination. It makes 505 million Christians who are at risk. Although it is difficult to keep a precise count, it is believed that 75% of religiously motivated violence is perpetrated against Christians. In solidarity with Christians who suffer for their faith, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN Canada) invites people to organize an event around that theme, to make themselves visible by wearing red, illuminating their church or another significant building in red, as this colour is associated with martyrdom in the Christian tradition.

To learn more:

https://acn-canada.org/red-wednesday/

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

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

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.

Join in worldwide prayers for the Synod:

http://www.prayforthesynod.va/en/ http://www.prayforthesynod.va/fr/

For the Synod process and resources: https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/synod2021/

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