

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

Bulletin email: bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 18, 2022

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

GOSPEL VERSE, YEAR C, CF. 2 COR 8:9:

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

GOSPEL EXCERPT, LUKE 16:1-13:

Jesus said to his disciples: "The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."

Today is [Catechetical Sunday](#).

Sunday Readings, Year C:

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Prophet Amos* 8:4-7. Amos was a shepherd in the kingdom of Judah who was called by God to go to Israel, the northern kingdom. There he was to speak in God's name to the people. This was in the 8th century B.C. The country enjoyed material prosperity but idolatry and injustice were rife among the upper classes especially. Against these vices the prophet spoke fearlessly, until he was driven from the kingdom eventually. Today's reading deals with the injustices practiced against the poor and the helpless.

The **Second Reading** is from *St. Paul's first letter to Timothy* 2:1-8. What St. Paul is telling Timothy, the bishop of Ephesus, to teach his congregation is the necessity and the obligation of prayer.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke* 16:1-13. These words of Christ warning those who would follow him on the road to heaven not to become the slaves of earthly things are applicable to all of us. Most of us may feel that this warning is for millionaires and business magnates. Our Lord didn't say so. There was not a single millionaire

in his audience. He meant it for all of us, for what he warned against was not the just acquisition of this world's goods but their unjust acquisition, and the dishonest use of them when they were justly acquired.

It was God who created all that exists in this world. He intended these goods for the use of man. We are only managers, therefore, of these worldly goods. It is on our way of managing these goods, not on the quantity we had to manage, that our judgment will be based. Millionaires can get to heaven while all paupers have no guarantee that they will make it. Our Lord deduces two lessons for us from the parable of the unjust manager or steward. Firstly, the enterprise which he showed in providing for his earthly happiness when he would lose his employment, was greater and keener than that shown by most of us in providing for our eternal happiness.

Did I give one hour a day to God and the things of God, helping the needy, learning more about my religion, giving a hand in parochial affairs, advising those in difficulties, spiritual or temporal, praying for my own and my neighbor's needs—yet even if I did, it is less than one-tenth of the free time I had at my own disposal.

If I did not, if I barely managed to get in the Sunday Mass and a few hasty prayers, could anyone suggest that I was showing great interest and was very enterprising as far as my future life was concerned? God is very generous with me. He gives me lots of time for providing for my health and temporal needs each week, and a lot of free time besides. I should not express surprise if he is disappointed at how little of that wonderful gift of time I am willing to give back to him. The unjust steward was far more enterprising as regards earthly provision for himself.

The second lesson our Lord wishes to teach us is that we should use what we can spare of our earthly possessions in helping those who are in need of our help. By doing that, we will be making friends who will help us at the judgment seat to get a lasting reception in heaven. Remember that description of the judgment which our Lord gave when he said, "I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was naked and you clothed me"? What we do for the needy, we do for Him. Those whom we help, as far as we can, will be witnesses testifying for us when our final examination, on which our eternity will depend, comes upon us.

Two resolutions worthy of your serious consideration today in relation to earthly goods are: Never let them take up all your time. You have a far more serious purpose in life. Give it a little more thought and enterprise than you have been doing. Secondly, be grateful to God for what He has given you in this life. You might like to have a lot more, but God knows best. Work honestly and be generous with what you have. You are serving God, not money. God will be waiting for you where there is no currency, and where the one bank account that matters will be the good use that you made of your time and your share of this world's goods while you were alive.

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

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the office:

902-535-2053

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

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

SJB 4:00 PM

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

SP 9:00 AM

Friday, September 23, 2022

HGA 11:00 AM

+ Hugette Martell

Saturday, September 24, 2022

SH 4:00 PM

HGA 5:30 PM _____

+ James & Eliza Sampson & son, Alonzo

Sunday, September 25, 2022

SJB 9:00 AM

SP 10:30 AM

+ Joey Murray

Receipts

Holy Guardian Angels

September 10, 2022

Envelopes & Loose \$ 1167.85

Candles 24.00

Total \$1191.85

St. John the Baptist

September 11, 2022

Envelopes & loose \$ 978.00

Cemetery 60.00

Total \$ 1038.00

St. Peter's

September 11, 2022

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 837.00
Candles	17.00

Total **\$ 854.00**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

HGA: Holy Guardian Angels Parish Anniversary Planning meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 25th at 2:00 P.M. L'Ardoise Community Center. All are welcome.

SP Parish Council: Four new members are required for periods of 1 to 3 years and nominations for these positions are requested from the parish. Please note that each person nominated must be approached for confirmation that he/she is willing to allow their name to stand. If there are more than four names put forward an election will be held next weekend. Contact the parish at (902) 535-2053 or Bernie Landry (506) 523-8994

SJB: On behalf of Jamie and Karen Stone, Rebecca's mom and dad and her brother Brendan: We would like to thank everyone for all your prayers and Masses offered up for my granddaughter, Rebecca, who passed away on July 10, 2022, one day short of her 21st birthday. Also, thank you for all the cards we received. Our hearts are broken and we are overwhelmed for all the love and support we received.

Thank You,
Ethel and Family

Public Meet and Greet: Will be held at the United Church Hall next Thursday, Sept. 22, 2022 beginning at 6:30 PM to introduce Richmond County's new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Troy Mac Culloch. The event is co-sponsored by the Village of St. Peter's and the St. Peter's Economic Development Organization (SPEDO). All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.



Flames engulf St. Jean Baptiste Church in Morinville, Alta., June 30, 2021, in this still image taken from video obtained from social media. The fire was believed to have been deliberately set. *CNS photo/Diane Burrel, social media via Reuters*

‘Staggering’ rise in anti-Catholic hate in Canada

BY TERRY O’NEILL, CANADIAN CATHOLIC NEWS

• September 1, 2022

Canadian and international observers are condemning media, politicians and other opinion leaders for turning a blind eye to a startling new report that shows a 260-per-cent increase in anti-Catholic hate crimes in the past year.

The increase is almost 10 times higher than for all hate crimes combined and was by far the single largest percentage growth recorded in any category in the numbers released by Statistics Canada.

At the same time, experts and activists are also calling for Catholics to more forcefully respond to the sort of prejudice and bias that the media-blackout epitomizes.

“We should stop talking and take action against it,” said Marc Vella, president of the Christian Civic Affairs Committees of Canada.

StatsCan reported on Aug. 2 that the number of police-reported, hate-motivated crimes in Canada increased by 27 per cent last year, to 3,360 from 2,646 in 2020.

Hate-motivated crimes targeting religion grew by 67 per cent, to 884 from 530.

The number of anti-Catholic hate crimes grew to 155 in 2021 from just 43 the year before. Crimes directed at Black persons accounted for the largest number of all incidents. Anti-Jewish incidents topped the hate-crime list in the religion category, up 47 per cent with 487 reported incidents.

While StatsCan provided no explanation for the huge anti-Catholic crime increase, the figures correspond to an explosion of arson, vandalism and threats directed at Catholic institutions last summer following inflammatory news reports about the existence of possible graves at an abandoned cemetery at Kamloops Indian Residential School.

A search of Canada’s largest mainstream media outlets did not find a single reference to the surge of anti-Catholic hate crimes.

“It’s disappointing that the mainstream media did not responsibly cover the staggering rise in anti-Catholic hate crimes,” said Christian Elia, executive director of the Catholic Civil Rights League.

“It’s even more disappointing that they covered the StatsCan report in general terms, alarmed at the overall 27-per-cent increase in all police-reported hate-motivated crime, yet they did not acknowledge the eye-popping 260-per-cent increase against Catholics specifically.”

“Government officials have been equally silent or made dismissive comments about this violence,” said Janet Epp-Buckingham, a professor at Trinity Western University in Langley, B.C., and director of the Laurentian Leadership Centre in Ottawa.

“The reality is that these churches are where Christians worship and find their identity as believers. Attacks on them are attacks on all Christians.”

Madeleine Enzlberger, executive director of the Vienna-based Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination Against Christians in Europe, said the Canadian numbers “are truly worrying” and probably represent only the tip of the iceberg.

“Unfortunately, we have seen similar trends of anti-Christian and -Catholic hatred in other Western countries as well,” said Enzlberger. “It is a dynamic in which violence against Christian buildings, churches or even people to some extent is perceived to be a legitimate form of protest against what the Church said, did or represents.”

Enzlberger warned that legitimizing violence against the Church by ignoring it “could lead to a normalization that could socially legitimize the further escalation of violence to even more severe levels.”

“This spiral of violence needs to be broken at its earliest stages before it gets out of control,” she said.

The news media’s failure to report on the rapid rise of anti-Catholic hate crime is part of a pattern, she said.

Enzlberger said research conducted by the British Parliament found a prevailing anti-religious and specifically anti-Christian bias, as well as a high level of religious illiteracy among media.

“This bias often manifests itself in a toxic narrative that only allows for Christians to fit the role of the perpetrators and not the victim.”

Things are much the same in Europe, said Enzlberger. She pointed out that the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe’s most recent report revealed that anti-Christian hate crimes grew the most compared to other religions and also all other protected groups defined by gender, race and ethnicity.

Ian Dowbiggin, a professor in the Department of History at the University of Prince Edward Island and a writer on Catholic issues, said “there’s always been anti-Catholic sentiment down through Canadian history, leavened by anti-French and anti-Irish bigotry, for example, and the coverage of the Church’s sexual abuse scandals of the 1980s and 1990s.”

He has been warning of the problem for decades. Writing in the *Globe and Mail* in 1995, Dowbiggin said, “Anti-Catholicism is as alive as it ever was, but now it’s less recognizable.

The new anti-Catholicism expresses itself in the form of a hip discourse that tries to reduce a worldwide Church with hundreds of millions of parishioners to a handful of trendy slogans of dismissive contempt.”

Twenty-seven years later, Dowbiggin said he believes Catholics are themselves somewhat responsible for the ongoing problem.

“If anti-Catholicism and hate crimes against the Church still occur today, and the media won’t report them, it is due to a large extent because Catholics themselves don’t push back and defend their faith,” he said.

“Canada’s Jews rightly fight back when there is evidence of anti-Semitism, so why can’t Catholics in the face of things like the church burnings of 2021 and the orchestrated humiliation of the Pope in recent days?”

Vella, a member of St. James Parish in Abbotsford, B.C., is one Catholic who is fighting back. He said the mainstream news media has been pushing an anti-Catholic narrative for decades.

“We Catholics should not bellyache and complain about how unfair our treatment in the press is,” Vella said. “Rather, we should stop talking and take action to fix the problem.”

He suggests Catholics need “to become far more savvy” in response to the media, be better informed on issues confronting the Church and not rely on mainstream media, and to get involved in public affairs and politics.



Blessed John Paul I, precursor of the Francis style

Pope Francis this Sunday will beatify John Paul I (1912-1978), the man who in just 33 days ushered in a new, more pastoral style in the exercise of the papacy.