

St. Peter, Holy Guardian Angels, and St. John the Baptist Parishes
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October 6, 2024

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today is Respect Life Sunday.

Respect Life Month

Every October, we consider more deeply why *every* human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death.

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Genesis, 2:18-24*, "So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: 'This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called *woman* for out of *her man* this one has been taken.'" This reading has been chosen to show the origin of the Church's teaching on the indissolubility of marriage.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter to the Hebrews, 2:9-11*, "He who 'for a little while' was made 'lower than the angels', that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone." Today's reading talks about Jesus' exaltation through abasement.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark, 10:2-16*. On the "divorce" section of this Gospel see today's First Reading. Christ clearly states that from the very beginning, God's plan for marriage was that it should be a life-long unity of one man and one woman. Its purpose is the procreation of children and their education, as well as the mutual love and fulfillment of the husband and wife. These demand this life-long bond. Divorce, which tries to break this bond, breaks the law of the Creator who decreed what was best for the temporal and spiritual welfare of the human race.

The last four verses of today's Gospel describe an incident which is in no way connected with the previous discussion but which has a very useful lesson for all Christians. It describes Christ's love for children and while manifesting this love he stresses the need for all his true followers to be

childlike. "I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." To receive the kingdom of God is to accept the teaching of Christ and live according to it in his kingdom on earth. He who does this will enter, after death, into the eternal kingdom of heaven. Christ says, however, that we must accept "like a child": his kingdom on earth, his teaching and the Church he founded to carry on that teaching. It does not mean: in a childish way, an unthinking, uneducated way, but in a child-like way—a humble, grateful, receptive way. A child is unselfconscious, content to be dependent on others' care and generosity. Christianity is a gift of the generous God to us, we have done nothing and never could do anything to merit it. We must accept it simply and gratefully as a gift; we could never deserve it.

While Christianity is a religion of reason and conforms in all its aspects to the rational nature of man—its basis is the revelation of God who is the author and foundation of all rationality—yet it is the heart of man rather than his intellect which Christ means to capture. The assent of the intellect to the doctrine revealed by Christ is not sufficient of itself for a Christian to earn the eternal kingdom; faith is the total acceptance and commitment of the believer to God through Jesus Christ. The man of true faith commits himself to God with a filial childlike trust, assured that if he does all that he can God will do the rest.

Therefore, our Christian faith must be childlike, a trusting, humble and obedient faith. This is the kind of faith that will move mountains—the mountains that loom so large in the vision of too many Christians today—the mountains of doubt, selfishness, unwillingness to be subjected to authority. Christ asks us, if we would be his followers: to take up our daily cross and climb the way to Calvary after him. This daily cross is made of the troubles and trials of life from which no one can escape. They can be borne with reluctance and grumbling or they can be accepted as the loving God's means of training us for the future life. Every true Christian accepts his trials in the latter way, for if he is true to his faith he knows that his years on earth are his apprenticeship to prepare him for his eternal life.

God is surely not asking too much of us when he asks us to live our Christian faith in childlike humility, candor and confidence during the days of our pilgrimage on this earth.

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

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, October 8, 2024

SJB	4:00 PM
<i>+ Marilyn Ann Groom-McNamara</i>	

Wednesday, October 9, 2024

SP	9:00 AM
<i>+ Marilyn Ann Groom-McNamara</i>	

Friday, October 11, 2024

HGA	11:00 AM
<i>+Gerard Taylor</i>	
Requested by Betty Boyles	

Saturday, October 12, 2024

SJB	4:00 PM
<i>+ Harold Stevens</i>	
SP	5:30 PM
<i>+ George & Paula Kyte</i>	

Sunday, October 13, 2024

SH	9:30 AM
<i>+ Madeline Libbus</i>	
HGA	11:00 AM
<i>+ James Peter Briand & Parents</i>	

Receipts

St. John the Baptist
September 28, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 868.00
Donation	500.00
Needs of Cdn Churches	140.00
<u>Total</u>	\$ <u>1,508.00</u>

St. Peter's
September 28, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 657.00
Candles	9.30
Cemetery	360.00
Needs of Cdn Church	150.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 1,176.30</u>

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Holy Guardian Angels
September 29, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 823.00
Candles	57.75
Candidates for Priesthood	10.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 890.75</u>

Community Notices

Chalice extends their heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Yake and East Richmond County parishes for hosting a Child Sponsorship Weekend on the Sept 21st and Sept. 28th weekends. As a result, 6 children were sponsored, in addition to those who are usually sponsored after more time and consideration. On behalf of these children, we give thanks to God that you have revealed His love to them and have given them hope for the future!

Chalice envisions a world where all children and families have the means to overcome the cycle of poverty. Please prayerfully consider a call to sponsorship, a unique way to live out your faith by providing hope for a child in need. Please visit chalice.ca or call 1-800-776-6855 for more information on our mission or to sponsor a child today.

Come Celebrate the Relic and Life of a Millennial Saint!

Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis Coming to Our Diocese

Oct. 21 Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River

Blessed Carlo Acutis was born in 1991, and in his short life offered both miracles and influence to the new generation of tech-savvy faithful. He died of leukemia in 2006 at age 15 and was beatified by Pope Francis in 2020.

To learn more:

<http://www.carloacutis.com/en/association/presentazione>

Oct. 22 St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish

St. Ninian Cathedral will host the relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis on Tuesday, October 22. All are invited to venerate the relic of this holy, young Italian man who died at age 15 in 2006, after a short battle with leukemia and will be officially canonized as a saint of the Catholic Church in 2025.

Blessed Carlo was best known for his devotion to the Eucharist and his dedication to using modern technology and the Internet to spread knowledge of the faith. He detailed many Eucharistic miracles to let people know about God's true presence in the world.

The day's events at the Cathedral will begin at 11 a.m. with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and display of the relic beginning at 2 p.m. Msgr. Anthony Figueredo, who is accompanying the relic from Italy, will talk about Blessed Carlo and lead prayers. While prayer and opportunities for confession continue in the Church throughout the afternoon, there will be a fellowship room available with refreshments. At 4:30 p.m., all are invited, with a special emphasis on youth and families, to gather in St. Ninian Place for a warm supper of chilli, while taking part in a special presentation by Catholic youth and a "Journeying with Christ" session.

Bishop Kirkpatrick will celebrate Mass at 6:30, including a special blessing with the Relic, followed by a concluding reception. If your parish would like to bring a group of youth or a large group of faithful, please contact St. Ninian Cathedral at admin@saintninian.ca or (902)863-2338 to help in planning for food preparation.

The Knights of Columbus, Council 14280 will be holding their monthly Officers' meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 7 pm at the St. Peter's Glebe. Also, their general council meeting will be on Thursday, October 17, 2024, at 7 pm, St. Peter's Glebe.

HGA: Religious Christmas Cards for Sale: There are available many different designs and also mixed packs of religious Christmas cards through www.lifecyclebooks.ca You may order online or Maureen Sampson of HGA parish has on hand many different packs for anyone in our surrounding communities who may be interested. The cost is \$5 for a pack of 10 cards. For more info contact Maureen at 902-587-2517.

Fall Fair

October 26, 2024, from 10 - 2

Lakeside Community Centre

8598 West Bay Highway, Sampsonville

\$5.00 Sandwich, \$1.00 Sweet, \$1.00 Tea/Coffee