

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

November 10, 2024
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Memorial of **St. Leo the Great**, which is ordinarily celebrated today, is superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *First Book of Kings 17:10-16*. In this reading we have one of the many miracles attributed to Elijah, the great prophet who preached in the northern kingdom between 900 and 850 BC.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter to the Hebrews 9:24-28*. This epistle continues with its description of Christ as the high priest of the New Testament and his superiority over those of the Old Testament.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark 12:38-44*. Our Lord's severe condemnation of those Scribes whose exaggerated opinion of their own importance made a mockery of the religion they professed to live, is a serious warning to all his followers not to look for the praise and esteem of their neighbors when doing their good works, but rather to hope for God's praise and esteem in the future world. In another context, he said to his followers: "Because of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven . . . when you give alms do not let your left hand know what your right is doing ... and your Father who sees in secret will reward you ... when you pray go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father ... who sees in secret and will reward you" (Mt. 6: 1-6).

It is hardly necessary to say that our Lord is not referring to community prayers or services here. What he is condemning is the hypocrisy of the Scribes, who lengthened their garments and their prayers not in order to give glory to God but to earn the glory of their fellowmen for themselves. Pride was their predominant vice—the vice which caused the fall of angels and of man. It so governed their lives that even their best actions were vitiated by it. There is a strong inclination to pride in every one of us. The reason is that we have great gifts from God and great capabilities: but we are tempted to claim the credit for these gifts and capabilities for ourselves—whereas we owe them all to God's generosity.

A proud Christian is surely a contradiction in terms. A Christian is a follower of Christ whose humility can never be equaled. He was God as well as man. While on earth he emptied himself, as St. Paul puts it, of his divine glory so that he could be like one of us. A follower of Christ should not try to make display of gifts which are not his own, nor try to exalt himself above his neighbor because of something

he has which was not given to his neighbor. If Christ wanted to be, and indeed was like the least one among us, we must never try to raise ourselves above our neighbor. Love of neighbor is the second of the two essential commandments—there can be no true love of neighbor where there is pride.

The second incident in today's Gospel story highlights true humility and true charity. The poor widow, forgetful of herself and of her own needs gave her all, her last penny, to help others who were in need. She made this sacrifice without publicity and without seeking the praise of her neighbors. It is this deep contrast between her outlook on life and on religion, and that of the Scribes in the first that connects the two incidents. While the Scribes sought to earn the respect and praise of their fellow-Jews—as well as all the financial gain they could come by—from the practice of the externals of their religion, this poor widow's religion was practiced in secret and it was to God alone that she looked for any reward that he might deign to give her.

As we saw in today's first reading we can be sure that she was not left without the reward she deserved. The widow of Zarephath was given a temporal reward. The same generous God did not let the similar act of supreme generosity on the part of the widow in Jerusalem go unnoticed. Christ's judgment on the Scribes implies this: They will receive the greater condemnation for their pride, and abuse of religion for their own temporal gain. On the other hand the widow's religion was an act of complete self-renunciation: "she has put in everything she had, her whole living."

We may never be called on to share our last morsel with a starving neighbor but if we are, we must remember that Christ gave his very life for us and has asked us to do likewise, if necessary. It may never be necessary for us to make this supreme act of self-renunciation. If, however, we are sincerely practicing our religion, we must be ever-ready to help a neighbor in need even if this cuts into our hard-earned reserves. The greater the sacrifice, the greater the reward. —*Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.*

Mass Schedule

Monday, November 11, 2024

HGA

9:30 AM

♥*Veterans' Memorial Mass*

No Masses on Tuesday, November 12th & Wednesday, November 13th
Clergy Study Days

Friday, November 15, 2024

HGA

11:00 AM

+ *Casilda Parago*

Saturday, November 16, 2024

SJB

4:00 PM

George Landry

SP

5:30 PM

+ *Bridget Goodwin*

Sunday, November 17, 2024

SH 9:00 AM

+ Anna Mombourquette

HGA 11:00 AM

+ Richard Martell

Receipts

St. John the Baptist

November 2, 2024

Envelopes & Loose \$ 1,223.00

Total \$ 1,223.00

St. Peter's

November 2, 2024

Envelopes & Loose \$ 1,149.25

Candles 24.00

Cemetery 150.00

Parish Dues 405.00

Total \$ 1,728.25

Holy Guardian Angels

October 3, 2024

Envelopes & Loose \$ 553.00

Candles 46.30

Total \$ 599.30

Community Notices

SJB Operation Christmas Child

A reminder that all boxes must be returned by Saturday, Nov. 16th for SJB and SP and by Sunday, Nov. 17th for HGA.

Contact Mary Fougere (902 535-2699)

From Henrietta Doary, SJB

Although it saddens me greatly, I have decided to retire as organist for SJB of River Bourgeois. I wish to thank everyone who has participated in the choir over the years. It has been wonderful, and I've enjoyed it immensely and hope everyone has. It has been approximately 60 years and a good time since I was a little girl and that's not yesterday. My hands are just not working well anymore. Singing is a fun and an amazing way to praise the Lord.

The St John the Baptist CWL thanks all who signed the letter to our MLA regarding MAID recently. They have been forwarded to Mr Boudreau. In the meantime, a provincial election has been called. This gives us an opportunity to discuss this issue with those who are running for office. When you are speaking to any of candidates, either at your door or at a public function, you can use this time to make your views known to those who will represent us in the next Assembly.

Ann Cooke

Secretary, SJB CWL

SP Altar Society will be holding a meeting at 1:30 PM on November 13, 2024 in basement of the Glebe. New members are welcome.

HGA Social Action Events 2024:

Saturday, November 30, 2024

Men's Club Breakfast 8 AM-11 AM. Adults \$12/Children under 11 \$8.

Proceeds donated to Social Action.

Parish Food Drive starting at 10:00 AM.

Grand Greve to Pt. Michaud. Please leave non-perishable food items on your front doorstep or where they can easily be seen.

Sunday, December 1, 2024

Bake Sale 11 AM till 1 PM. Merchandise Bingo at 2:00 PM. Excellent prizes to be won. Lic. # AGD341079-24. All activities to take place at the L'Ardoise Community Centre.

Anyone wishing to make a financial contribution may do so by contacting Sally Mombourquette at (902) 587-2171 or by mailing your donation to L'Ardoise Social Action 19 Mombourquette Rd. Lr. L'Ardoise NS B0E 1W0

HOLY GUARDIAN ANGELS CEMETERY FEES HAVE CHANGED EFFECTIVE JANUARY, 2025

PLOT PURCHASE FEES: RESIDENTS \$100.00, NON-RESIDENTS \$500.00, CREMATION BURIALS ON EXISTING PLOTS - RESIDENTS \$100.00, NON-RESIDENTS, \$250.00. FUNERAL HOME RENTAL - 1 DAY RENTAL \$300.00, (Private Family Gathering Prior To Funeral: No Fee) Grave preparation fees for full interment and/or cremation burials provided upon request.

Wanted: Volunteer drivers for Richmond VON Meals on Wheels Program

Route 3 River Bourgeois St Peters Roberta

Route 4 L'ardoise Grand River areas

Route 5 Lynches River – Johnstown.

Mileage is compensated monthly.

References, Police/Vulnerable Person Check, Valid License/Insurance needed.

~530 meals were delivered in these areas for the month of October and the program is increasing steadily.

But we need drivers to keep this invaluable program going.

If you or anyone you know is interested please reach out to;

Glenda Richards

Program Coordinator, Community Support Services

VON Richmond

Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

T: 902 345-2900

C: 902 227-8008