

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

Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

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August 11, 2024
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Memorial of [St. Clare](#), which is ordinarily celebrated today, is superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *First Book of Kings 19:4-8* and gives us the story from the life of the prophet Elijah in which it is narrated that an angel fed him miraculously.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 4:30, 5:2* in which he urges his converts to live in peace, harmony and love with one another.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John 6:41-51*. The main point of doctrine in this part of our Lord's discourse, as given by St. John, is the necessity for belief in Christ who has come down from heaven. It is only in the last verse of today's text that Christ explicitly states that he is about to give his own very body as their spiritual food to those who believe in him. The description of himself as "bread from heaven" and the vital difference between the effect of this bread and the manna given to their fathers in the desert, are a definite preparation for the announcement of the doctrine of the Eucharist.

However, before they could even think of accepting this teaching on the Eucharist they had first to accept Christ as divine, as the Son of God. This was not easy for Jews, for whom strict monotheism was the center of their faith. To admit that Christ was God would at first sight seem like admitting two gods. Secondly, even though Christ had worked extraordinary miracles, to all appearances he was still a mere man—and the prophets of old had worked miracles. True, Christ was evidently claiming to be more than a prophet; he claimed that he alone had seen the Father, that he had come from the Father. This claim of equality with the Father would be sheer blasphemy if it were not true; could God give the power of miracles to such a great sinner?

Perhaps some of them argued along these lines and accepted his claim later on. Others remained stiff-necked and stubborn and could see nothing in him but a native of Nazareth, a humble Galilean like themselves, but one who had developed strange ideas about who and what he was. These Galileans began a long line of unbelievers which has stretched down through the centuries to our own day. The reasons for the unbelief are the same today as they were in the year 29 A.D. Man is proud of his intelligence; which he did not give to himself. Whatever he cannot grasp within the limited confines of that intellect, he treats as non-existent as far as he is concerned. If a God exists, a doubtful possibility to these great thinkers, we mortals can know nothing about him; he is beyond our ken and we can be of no concern to him.

If there ever was a Jesus of Nazareth, he could be only a mere man who suffered from grave hallucinations! But his miracles? A simple answer: there never were any. His disciples invented these stories later. But these disciples were willing to die for these inventions of theirs! Thousands of Christians were martyred rather than deny the divine claims of Jesus! More hallucination, no doubt! Nineteen centuries of Christian history can be shrugged off as easily as that by those who will not believe. If certain statements do not fit in with preconceived ideas then these statements are false; if certain facts do not agree with history, as the unbelievers understand history, then these facts never happened. So man's limited, finite mind remains the sole judge and arbiter of all truth.

We believe in a loving God, and in his divine Son, Jesus Christ, who came on earth to bring us to heaven, and in the Holy Spirit who completes the work of sanctification in us. Surely, we owe this Blessed Trinity a debt of gratitude! We can never fully repay it. Because of our Christian faith which has come to us from Jesus, we know where we came from, we know whither we are going and we know how to reach that destination. Of all the knowledge a human being can acquire on this earth, the above facts are the most essential and important. Any other knowledge is of temporary value. The knowledge our Christian faith gives us concerns eternity and our journey toward it.

Today, we must thank God from the bottom of our hearts for giving us the Christian faith. This faith means that "God out of the abundance of his love, speaks to men as friends and lives among them so that he may invite and take them into fellowship with himself," as Vatican II puts it. He did not put us on earth and leave us on our own with nowhere to go except to the grave. He sent his beloved Son on earth. He made us heirs to heaven and left to us, in his Church, all the instruction and aids we need to reach our inheritance. The unbelievers and free-thinkers may feel that they are free to do what they will here on earth, but we know that we have been given the freedom of the children of God for all eternity, if only we live according to the faith given us. —*Excerpted from The Sunday Readings by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.*

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

SP

11:00 AM

Mass of Christian Burial

+ Michael Joseph Marshall

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

SP

9:00 AM

+ Family of George & Charlotte Stone & Children:

Gertie, Margaret, Herman, Russell, Florence, Danny, Leo, Martha, Cecilia, Germaine, Arthur, Lorraine, Dan & Isabel

Friday, August 16, 2024

HGA

11:00 AM

+ Valerie & Donald Boudreau

Saturday, August 17, 2024

SJB	4:00 PM
+ <i>Stanley McPhee</i>	
SP	5:30 PM
+ <i>Bridget Goodwin</i>	

Sunday, August 18, 2024

SH	9:30 AM
+ <i>Steve Donahue</i>	
HGA	11:00 AM
+ <i>Herman MacDonald</i>	

Receipts

St. John the Baptist

August 3, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,268.00
Cemetery	20.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 1,288.00</u>

St. Peter's

August 3, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,126.00
Candles	16.00
New Tractor Donations	320.00
Cemetery Donation	1,500.00
Initial Offering	10.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 2,972.00</u>

Holy Guardian Angels

August 4, 2024

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 938.00
Candles	50.75
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 988.75</u>

Please note: Fr. Yake will be away from August 19 – 30, and so there will not be any weekday Masses within that time frame but there are weekend Masses as usual on August 24- -25 to be celebrated by Rev. Charles Cameron.

Medical Assistance in Dying

The Christian Medical and Dental Association of Canada (CMDA Canada) is a Christian organization that supports doctors and dentists in integrating their faith into their professional practice. The NS medical regulator has the most restrictive policy on conscience in North America. 41 courageous doctors have spoken out against this policy.

To support this effort, we are collecting stories from people who have been offered MAiD (Medical Assistance in Dying) within the healthcare system, particularly those among the most vulnerable populations. Have you or someone you know had an experience in healthcare where MAiD was offered? Share your story with us!

Reach out to record a video-story through this link <https://e584193.capsule.video/record> or if you prefer, to reach out directly, contact Brad MacKinnon bmackinnon@cmdacanada.org or by phone 902-406-2955 and toll free 1-888-256-8653

Your help in connecting us with such individuals is greatly appreciated!

Prayer cards are in the church for those who wish to pray for an appreciation of life in the face of what St. John Paul called, a culture of death.

HGA: Thank you so much to the people who came from near and far to help us through this sad time of Gerard Taylor's passing to his new life: to the staff at St. Martha's hospital who worked so hard with him until his end, Green's Funeral home, Blair Sampson and grave diggers, Rev. John Yake, Fr. Antolin Asor, altar servers Elaine Sampson, Terry Clements, Jean Pottie, readers Maureen Sampson and Brielle MacCuspic, Eucharist Minister René Samson, music by Dylan Sampson, pallbearers John, Jacqueline & Jasmine Matthews; Jeff, Michelle and Colby Tower; Reid, Jill and Braeden Carter; Roddie and Chantelle MacCuspic; Nancy Taylor; presentation of gifts Reanna Tower and Brooklynn Carter; and to the endless people who donated so much food both at the house and at funeral parlour.

Thank you to the many workers at the community hall for reception after Mass, the many people who came to the wake, attended the Mass of Christian Burial, gave so much of their time with kind words, sympathy, Mass cards and encouragement along with their generous charitable donations.

Our thanks to those who assisted us these past years during Gerard's illness, especially the L'Ardoise Volunteer Fire Department and EHS ambulance drivers, 911, St Martha's hospital, Strait Richmond Hospital, Cape Breton Regional Hospital, VON and continuing care workers, as well as anyone whom I may of forgotten.

His memory to so many people will never be forgotten but the memory of all your kindness will never be forgotten either.

- Frances, Jacqueline, Michelle, Nancy, Jill, Chantelle, and all the family.

HGA: L'Ardoise Acadian Festival is over for another year and it was a very busy and successful four days. Thank you to our many volunteers and without you this event would not be a success. To the business and individuals who donated financially, those who donated food items and those who gave of their time and energy we are truly grateful. Our community is blessed to have each and every one of you.

Seniors' Meals on Wheels: I was hoping you could help me out. I am the VON Coordinator for Frozen Meals on Wheels in Richmond County. I was wondering if I could place a small ad in your weekly bulletin. We are looking for a volunteer driver to deliver meals to those who are in need in the St Peter's/L'Ardoise and surrounding areas. The mileage is reimbursed and it's a great way to bring a smile to everyone.

Sister Anne Coady

Please remember in your prayers Sister Anne Coady, 93, formerly Sister Helen Matthew, a Sister of St. Martha of Antigonish, who died in Mary's Court, Parkland Antigonish on August 5th 2024, in the 73rd year of her Religious Life.

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sister Anne was a daughter of the late Matthew David and Helen (Scanlan) Coady. Sister Anne was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Besides her parents she was predeceased by a sister, Marjorie Kimball, and brothers Matthew and Basil. She is survived by her loving nieces and nephews and their families.

Sister Anne entered the Sisters of St. Martha on August 15, 1949. She pronounced her first vows on August 15, 1951, and her perpetual vows on August 14, 1954. After her profession of vows, Sister spent several years teaching and later entered the field of social work.

She was employed by the Cape Breton District School Board where she taught at East Bay Elementary School and MacDonald School, Big Pond. In Antigonish County she taught at Rev. H. J. MacDonald School, Heatherton and Dr. Hugh MacPherson Elementary, Antigonish.

A graduate of Provincial Normal College, Truro, and St. F. X University, Antigonish, Sister Anne was trained in singing and music through the Toronto Conservatory of Music. In 1970 she obtained her Master of Social Work Degree from Carleton University, Ottawa.

As a social worker, she served with Family Services of Eastern Nova Scotia in, Sydney; New Waterford Consolidated Hospital, New Waterford; St. John's Hospital, Lowell, MA; and St. Michael's General Hospital, Lethbridge, AB. Rooted in Gospel Hospitality, after retirement from social work, Sister Anne did volunteer ministry at St. Therese Convent, St. Paul's River, QC, and at Bethany Centre, Antigonish, and in the last few years she was totally committed to the ministries of presence and prayer.

Sister Anne was deeply committed to all aspects of Social Justice; she was a tenacious advocate for anyone she perceived to be marginalized or in need of support. A keen wit, and ready laugh were equal to her sorrow and cry for justice. She was grateful for all that she received and the care and dedication of staff, those who worked for the congregation, and those who worked for Parkland, Antigonish.

The Sydney Mines Highland Games Cultural Society is a non-profit and the Highland Games is offered in memory of Coal Miners who built our communities. The Highland Games takes place on **Sunday, August 18th**, 11AM – 8PM around the Princess Colliery, 150 Pitt St. at the Pitt Street Walking Track in Sydney Mines. This area was repurposed for athletics and health.