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

(902) 535-2053 Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

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June 30, 2024 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24* and references a truth which is clearly stated for the first time in the whole Old Testament — man's real destiny is an unending life with God.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15.* St. Paul urges the Corinthians to give generously toward the collection he is organizing for the poor Jewish converts in Palestine.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35-43*. Today's gospel gives us two further proofs of the divine power and the infinite mercy of our Savior. Apart from the primary purpose of proving his claim to be the promised Messiah, all his miracles had as their aim and end — the benefit of suffering human beings. He worked no miracle for the sake of astonishing people or to satisfy idle gossip. Each one was performed in order to help someone in distress. All who were helped by his miracles of mercy had one thing in common — they were motivated by trust in his mercy and power. The leper in Matthew (8:2) expressed the sentiments of them all: "Lord, if only you will you can cleanse me (of my leprosy)." In many cases, as for instance that of Jarius above, it was a relative or friends who showed this faith and confidence. It was always present either in the fortunate person or in the relative or friend who asked for the miracle.

The Gospels give us only some of the many miracles our Lord worked. They give them to prove that he was what he claimed to be — the Son of God and the long-expected Savior; and also to prove his compassionate understanding and sympathy for suffering humanity.

We must not forget, however, that the meaning of his miracles and his mission was lost on thousands of his contemporaries in Palestine, small though the country was. While great throngs followed our Lord and listened to his message and were interested in his mission, still great throngs remained at home, stolidly immersed in their worldly tasks and thoughts. They heard rumors about the man from Nazareth who was said to be the Messiah, and was supposed to be able to work miracles, but they were too practical, too sensible to listen to such rumors. Anyway they had no interest in the Messiah, or in silly spiritual things, they were fully occupied with their financial and worldly interests.

Has the world changed much in nineteen centuries? How many millions of nominal Christians ignore Christ and his Gospel today, millions who are too practical, too down-to-earth to waste time on such a silly thing as their eternal salvation! How many millions are spiritually sick and dying but who have not the faith, humility and confidence of Jairus, to cast themselves at the feet of Jesus and

ask him to cure them? How fortunate would not people be if they would repeat the leper's prayer: "Lord, if only you will you can make me clean"; if they could, like the suffering woman in today's Gospel, break through the throng of worldly pride, worldly interests and worldly associates and touch the hem of his garment; if they had the faith of Jairus; if only they could say to our Lord "come and lay your hands upon me so that I may be made well and live."?

Today, let us say a fervent prayer of thanksgiving to God for the gift of active faith which he has given us and beg of him to keep that faith ever alive in our breasts. Let us think, too, of our fellowmen, our brothers in Christ, who are so busy with their worldly occupations and pleasures that they cannot find time to listen to his message. They are spiritually anemic and almost spiritually dead, but cannot push their way toward Christ through the throngs of earthly, worldly barricades which they have built about themselves. Our sincere prayers can help them to overcome these obstacles; frequently and fervently let us ask God to send them his efficacious grace so that these brothers in Christ will also be with him in heaven.

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

Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony

Please call the office: 902-535-2053

Office Hours: 9:00 AM- 12:00

Monday & Tuesday (Laureen Burke) Wednesday & Thursday (Mary Sutherland)

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, July 2, 2024

SJB 4:00 PM

+ Beverly Johnson

Wednesday, July 3, 2024

SP 11:00 AM

Mass of Christian Burial

+ Claire LeBlanc

Friday, July 5, 2024

No Mass

Saturday, July 6, 2024

SJB 4:00 PM

+ Stan MacPhee

(Fr. Charles Cameron officiating)

SP 5:30 PM

+ Ora Burke

Sunday, July 7, 2024

SH 9:30 AM

+ Robert Pictou

(Fr. Charles Cameron officiating)

HGA 11:00 AM

+ Eileen & Liam Madden

Receipts

St. John the Baptist

June 22, 2024

Envelopes & Loose \$ 975.00

<u>Total</u> \$ <u>975.00</u>

St. Peter's

June 22, 2024

Envelopes & Loose \$ 717.00 Candles \$ 18.00

Total \$ 735.00

For any parishioners who would like to help financially for new mower for St. Peter's we would suggest you make the donation in the regular collection using a plain white envelope. To add your donation to your year-end receipt, please place your name, envelope number and amount on the front of the envelope. Your help will be greatly appreciated

Holy Guardian Angels

June 23, 2024

Envelopes & Loose \$ 625.00 Candles \$ 41.20

<u>Total</u> \$ 666.20

Community News

Knights of Columbus will be holding a yard sale on the 29 and 30th of June as well as on July 1, 2024. We are asking for donations of lightly used furniture and appliances in good working order which will be stored in the glebe basement. Donations can be dropped off on June 28 which is set up day. Please, no coffee mugs as we can't sell them. Sale will start at 9:00 AM and will continue until 4:30 PM each day. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

St. Peter's Parish Council Update

June 2024

Parish Council has ended the spring season with some financially disappointing news. The parish lawn mower, which had major repairs two years ago, has broken down again. Estimates for this repair make it more appropriate to replace the machine.

After looking around, we have decided to replace the lawn mower and the cost will be between \$5,000.00 and \$6,000.00. Since this is essential for maintaining the grounds and cemetery, we will make this purchase.

Sister Stella Chafe

Please keep in your prayers Sister Stella Chafe, formerly Sister Shaun Marie, 87, a Sister of Saint Martha of Antigonish, who died at Saint Martha's Regional Hospital, Antigonish, on Monday June 24, 2024, in the 67th year of her Religious Life.

Born in Antigonish, Sister Stella was the daughter of John Robert and Bridget Mary (Bailey) Chafe. Sister Stella entered the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Martha on August 15, 1955, pronounced her first vows on August 15, 1957, and her perpetual profession of vows on August 15, 1960. Sister Stella was the last surviving member of her immediate family. Besides her parents she was predeceased by her sister Mary Marriot and brothers William, Thomas, Ronald, Raymund, Michael, Joseph, Edward, Bernard, Alphonsus, and John. She is survived by several devoted nieces and nephews and their families, all of whom she cherished.

Sister Stella was called to Leadership roles within the Congregation, serving as Local Leader; Apostolic Director; General Councillor; Community Leader of Bethany; Assistant Congregation Leader; and General Treasurer. She was a valued member of several Congregation committees, and Boards within the larger community. She also ministered at Martha Centre, in Lethbridge, AB and following her last term in Leadership, she lived in Inverness, Cape Breton,

bringing her gifts of Hospitality and Presence to the community. She and Sr. Lucy MacNeil were dedicated to being a presence for the people of Inverness throughout the COVID Pandemic. When she moved to Parkland, Antigonish, she brought with her, Gospel Hospitality, a ready smile, and a deep sense of gratitude.

Sister Stella was a lifelong educator having received her Diploma in Education in 1960, and a BA and B Ed in 1973, both from St. Francis Xavier University, she began a long career as an educator and administrator. She was a teacher in Big Pond, Cape Breton, NS; Dingwall, Cape Breton, NS; Trenton, NS; Fort McMurray, AB, where she served as Vice Principal and Teacher; and Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Kamloops, BC as Principal.

Sister Stella was a woman of great compassion and empathy, prayerful and kind. She had an easy laugh that was infectious, and a sharp, strategic mind that could organize and plan anything from school administration to Congregation Chapters, to By-Laws for Boards. She was competitive card player, but she enjoyed the people more than the cards.

Friends may gather for Visitation at Martha Place, Parkland Antigonish, beginning Thursday June 27 at 4:00 pm. with Vigil Prayers offered at 6:00 pm. A Liturgy of Christian Burial will be offered on Friday June 28 at 9:00 a.m. in St. Martha Chapel, Parkland, Antigonish.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sister Stella's family and the Sisters of St. Martha.

May Sister Stella's soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Both the Celebration of Vigil and the Liturgy of Burial will be streamed live on the funeral home website. Arrangements are under the direction of CL Curry Funeral Services of Antigonish.

Sr. Stella Chafe (clcurry.com)

Appointments 2024:

Bishop Wayne Kirkpatrick has announced pastoral appointments for 2024. View the list on our website:

https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/pastoral-appointments-2024/