



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

Mass: 9:00 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053

August 17, 2025

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from *Jeremiah 38:4-6; 8-10*. The prophet was maltreated and imprisoned. Jeremiah was a man of God who suffered all his life for the sake of the true religion.

The **Second Reading** is from St. Paul's *Letter to the Hebrews 12:1-4*. The author of Hebrews says that our Lord endured the cross for the sake of the joy which lay before him. A great part of that joy was our resurrection to a glorified existence in the future life which his cross was earning for us.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 12:49-53*. We who appreciate what he has done for us, and who are striving hard against our natural weaknesses to profit by his salvific work, can do something to console him for the desertion of so many that he still loves dearly. God wants no human being lost eternally. He detests sin but he still loves the sinner. He is always ready to grant a full pardon for each and every sin a man commits, if only the sinner has the humility to say "mea culpa."

Let those of us who have remained faithful never let a day pass without a fervent prayer for the prodigal sons of God, that they will get the humility to return to their father's home and ask for his pardon. Another grace, too, that we must ask of God is that peace between fellowmen will soon be restored. Christ foresaw that this concord would be broken, because of his very gospel of peace. First and foremost we must pray for, and do everything we can to help bring about, a reunion between all Christians who are followers of Christ by their baptism. Thanks to the late saintly Pope John,

active steps are now being taken to restore the unity which Christ wished and intended to exist among his followers. We may not be able to solve the theological problems which are preventing this unity, and each of us can do much to make personal contacts between the members of what were once opposing Churches. We are all followers of Christ, we are all on the road to heaven—if we really love God and if we really appreciate what the Son of God has done for us, we must want every one of his followers to be in heaven with him.

Let us put aside all past prejudices and opinions. Neither we nor our separated brethren are responsible for the sins and failings of our ancestors in the eleventh or the sixteenth centuries. We are responsible for our own actions today. We are failing Christ if we do not take a sincere and active interest in the noble and truly Christian work of ecumenism.

To mention our brothers in Christ first, does not mean we forget the children of Abraham whom, in our Mass, we call "our father in faith." They are still dear to God. We are now the Chosen People of the New Covenant but that New Covenant is for them also. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, Greek or Barbarian in the Church of Christ. It is for all mankind, as St. Paul tells us. The followers of Mohammed also have much in common with us Christians; they believe in one God, the Creator of all. They believe in a future life and hope to reach it by keeping the rules laid down by their Prophet. While respecting the beliefs of Jew and Muslim, which correspond with some of those we ourselves hold, let us pray fervently that God will give them the grace to recognize Jesus as the Person he was, the Son of God in human nature, who came on earth to make us fit for heaven.

God speed the day, and let us each give him a helping hand in this work, when not only all Christians will be one but when our Jewish and Muslim fellowmen will also be with us, thanking Christ for all that he has done for us. That day may still be a long way off, but every step I take towards bringing it about, is bringing me a step nearer to heaven and making me dearer to God.

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

Collection
August 10, 2025

Envelopes	\$420.00
Donation	\$70.00
Cemetery Fund/Envelopes	\$200.00
Cemetery Fund/Donation	\$400.00
Cemetery Fund/Loose	\$266.00
	\$1,356.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market: The Market will operate 10:00 am to 1 pm every SUNDAY from June 29 to September 7th. Interested vendors should call 902-631-0209. Note: vendors do not need to commit to attending every week. Johnstown Landing is located across from the Johnstown Parish Hall.

2: Mass Intention for August 17 is for Frances MacKenzie-Howatt

3: Thank You: Thanks to all who made the Cemetery Mass and Pancake Breakfast a success, it was one of the biggest crowds we have seen in a long time. We made a profit of \$881.47, which is all most \$400.00 more than last year.

4: Milling Frolic – the 93rd Milling Frolic is coming up fast. The event is on Friday August 22nd and runs from 7:00 pm – 12:00 am. Cost is \$7.00. Included in the event are the following: Milling, The Best in Gaelic Singing, Bingo, Lunch, Bake Sale, Fancy Booth and Children's game. The Square Dance starts at 9:00 pm, with music by Keith, Kyle and Colin MacDonald and caller Helen MacDonald. Great time for the whole family.

Please remember that we are looking for donations for the Fancy Booth (crafts, sewing, knitting, etc), Bake Sale and Lunch

5: SUMMER CAMP: The Religious Education ministry of St. Peter's Parish, Port Hood, presents: Summer Camp 2025! DRAMA, MUSIC, ART. Camp 2: August 18, 25. Monday mornings 9:00 am-12 noon at the St. Peter's Parish Hall. Camp is for children of ages 5-12 (Older students are welcome to register as leaders). Register for one or two months. We will prepare a theatre play-backdrop, props, music, and costumes-to perform at the end of the month. For more information or to register contact: Sheila MacIsaac: 902-631-2512. Registration Fee: \$15 /child; \$ 30/family. (If registration is an issue, don't worry, sponsorship is available).

6: Parish Mission: Please mark your calendar for the Parish Mission in St. Peter's Parish Port Hood, from Saturday, October 25 to Tuesday 28, 2025 preached by Archbishop Martin Curry, Archbishop Emeritus of St. John's NL. The mission will begin with the Holy Mass on Saturday at 4.00pm. Details to follow.