



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

December 28, 2025

Feast of the Holy Family



The **First Reading** is from the *Book of Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14*. Although all the emphasis in these verse seems to be on the obligation of children to their parents, there is a profound lesson here for parents, too. "Like father like son" is an old and a true saying very often. If the parents fail to do what is right and just in the sight of God they can hardly complain if their children turn out disobedient to God and to them. The young learn more from example than from precept. Today, on this feast day, I would ask all parents to examine themselves and see how how they are fulfilling this grave responsibility—which God has placed on them. Are they preparing their children by word and example, especially by example, to be worthy citizens of heaven where they will be their parents' crown and glory?

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians 3:12-21*. Ninety per cent of the first readers of St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians were pagans before their conversion. To practice the new Christian virtues was no easy task for people reared in the laxity and license of the paganism of their day. Yet they did practice these virtues and produced many saints and martyrs. Let us being in our own family circle to bring sanity back to our world. Let us have the true peace of Christ in our hearts and in our home, each one carrying out the task God has allotted to him. We shall not convert the world immediately but we shall have made a start. The world is the sum-total of its individual families.

The **Gospel** is from *Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23*. During this holy season of Christmas, Jesus Mary and Joseph should be remembered frequently by every Christian. To help us to remember them and above all to strive to imitate them, the Church has dedicated this Sunday to the memory of the Holy Family. Although they were God's closest friends, and although they were the holiest family that ever lived, or ever will live, on earth, they had more than their share of this world's troubles and cares. Today's Gospel story tells us of some of these earthly woes and sufferings. They had just settled in Bethlehem, and the Baby Jesus was only a few months old when, to avoid his murder at the hands of the murderous and jealous Herod, they had to flee from Bethlehem and become displaced persons in a foreign and pagan land.

The message of today's Gospel story is a message of encouragement and consolation for every one of us. If the Holy Family suffered such trials and hardships, surely we should be ready and willing to suffer and bear with the trials that God sends us for our own eternal welfare.
—Adapted from *The Sunday Readings*, by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection
December 21, 2025

Envelopes	\$315.00
Loose	\$5.00
Donation	\$50.00
	\$370.00

Christmas
December 25, 2025

Envelopes	\$855.00
Loose	\$515.00
Donations	\$1700.00
	\$3,070.00

Notices:

1: The 2026 Envelopes: The 2026 envelopes are at the front of the church. Please pick up your box. **NOTE: We ordered less envelopes this year, so if your number was from 41 – 50 you will have a new number.**

2: Church Decorating: Thank You to all who came and helped decorate the church, many hands make light work. Thank you to Geogia for taking the statues down from the choir loft. Thank you to the MacNeil family, who donated the wreaths, in memory of their mother, they are beautiful.

3: New Year's Day Mass will be on Thursday January 1st, at 9:00 am.

4: Garbage collection for Christmas/New Years

Solid Waste Curbside Collection Changes

ZONE 3 - Lynch's River, Grand River Falls, Loch Lomond, Corbett's Cove Rd (east), Route 4 from Irish Cove to St. Peter's Canal, Smith's Road and Lewis Cove Rd.

- Thursday, January 1st will be done on Friday, January 2nd.

5: The St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Car Draw is back! You could drive away with a brand new car and help out our parish in the process! Tickets are \$50.00 each or 3 for \$125.00! You could win a NEW Chevrolet TRAX 2RS. The draw will take place on Dec. 31st. If we sell out before New Year's Eve the draw will take place earlier. Only 2000 tickets.

6: Do you receive our diocesan newsletters?

Seven Ears of Grain is emailed each Monday morning, with news and events from our diocese and parishes, plus news and resources from the Vatican and national offices.

Witness of Hope is our seasonal newsletter.

To subscribe, visit <https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/newsletter/>

or email jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca

7: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft Group This group will meet again starting on Thursday January 8th, at 1:00 pm. This is an informal group. Bring your own project and create with kindred spirits. A sewing machine is available, plus help, for anyone who wants to sew, quilt or knit. Everyone welcome. Location: District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands.

8: Our weekly Wednesday Morning Coffee get togethers will resume on Wednesday January 7th, 9:00 – 11:30 am, at the District 10, Red Islands Fire Hall. Drop in and visit with your friends and neighbours. Cards, games and puzzles are available. Everyone is welcome.