



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

November 09, 2025

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Today the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica** in Rome, the oldest and highest ranking of the four major basilicas in Rome. The Basilica's official title is "Basilica of the Most Holy Savior and of Saints John the Baptist and John the Evangelist in the Lateran" but most often called the Basilica of St. John Lateran. It is the cathedral of the diocese of Rome, the official ecclesiastical seat of the Holy Father, the Bishop of Rome, not the Basilica of St. Peter as so many mistakenly believe. The Basilica is also called the Church of Holy Savior or the Church of St. John Baptist. In ancient Rome this was the church where everyone was baptized. It the oldest church in the West, built in the time of Constantine and was consecrated by Pope Sylvester in 324. This feast became a universal celebration in honor of the archbasilica, the ecclesiastical mother church, called "the mother and mistress of all churches of Rome and the world" (*omnium urbis et orbis ecclesiarum mater et caput*), as a sign of love for and union with the See of Peter.

St. John Lateran is unique because it is both a cathedral and a basilica. The Church celebrates the anniversary of the dedication as a cathedral since it is regarded as the Mother Church of the entire Catholic Faith. Because the Church/Cathedral bears the title of "Christ our Savior Cathedral," today's feast is considered a Feast of the Lord which takes precedence over the Sunday liturgy. See Feastday Highlights: Dedication of St. John Lateran by Jennifer Gregory Miller.

Today the liturgy celebrates the dedication of the Lateran Basilica, called "mother and head of all the churches of the city and the world." In fact, this basilica was the first to be built after Emperor Constantine's edict, in 313, granted Christians freedom to practice their religion.

The emperor himself gave Pope Miltiades the ancient palace of the Laterani family, and the basilica, the baptistery, and the patriarchate, that is, the Bishop of Rome's residence — where the Popes lived until the Avignon period — were all built there. The basilica's dedication was celebrated by Pope Sylvester around 324 and was named Most Holy Savior; only after the 6th century were the names of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist added, and now is typically denominated by these latter.

Initially the observance of this feast was confined to the city of Rome; then, beginning in 1565, it was extended to all the Churches of the Roman rite. The honoring of this sacred edifice was a way of expressing love and veneration for the Roman Church, which, as St. Ignatius of Antioch says, "presides in charity" over the whole Catholic communion (Letter to the Romans, 1:1).

On this solemnity the Word of God recalls an essential truth: the temple of stones is a symbol of the living Church, the Christian community, which in their letters the Apostles Peter and Paul already understood as a "spiritual edifice," built by God with "living stones," namely, Christians themselves, upon the one foundation of Jesus Christ, who is called the "cornerstone" (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17; 1 Peter 2:4-8; Ephesians 2:20-22). "Brothers, you are God's building," St. Paul wrote, and added: "holy is God's temple, which you are" (1 Corinthians 3:9c, 17).

The beauty and harmony of the churches, destined to give praise to God, also draws us human beings, limited and sinful, to convert to form a "cosmos," a well-ordered structure, in intimate communion with Jesus, who is the true Saint of saints. This happens in a culminating way in the Eucharistic liturgy, in which the "ecclesia," that is, the community of the baptized, come together in a unified way to listen to the Word of God and nourish themselves with the Body and Blood of Christ. From these two tables the Church of living stones is built up in truth and charity and is internally formed by the Holy Spirit transforming herself into what she receives, conforming herself more and more to the Lord Jesus Christ. She herself, if she lives in sincere and fraternal unity, in this way becomes the spiritual sacrifice pleasing to God.

Dear friends, today's feast celebrates a mystery that is always relevant: God's desire to build a spiritual temple in the world, a community that worships him in spirit and truth (cf. John 4:23-24). But this observance also reminds us of the importance of the material buildings in which the community gathers to celebrate the praises of God. Every community therefore has the duty to take special care of its own sacred buildings, which are a precious religious and historical patrimony. For this we call upon the intercession of Mary Most Holy, that she help us to become, like her, the "house of God," living temple of his love.

—Benedict XVI, Angelus Address, November 9, 2008

Collection
November 02, 2025

Envelopes	\$255.00
Loose	\$55.00
	\$310.00

Notices:

1: The Christmas Bingo will be held on Sunday November 9th, 2:00 pm at the Johnstown Parish Hall. Lots of excellent prizes, door prizes, and a canteen.

2: Cape Breton Chorale - A Sing-along Gathering for Remembrance Director: Ryan Billington Piano: Kevin Orrell Sunday, November 9 @2:30pm at St. Mary's Parish Church, East Bay
Tickets: \$30.00 at the door online at capebretonchorale.com or phone: 902-270-2591

3: Fun Darts: Just a note to say that community fun darts at District 10 Red Islands fire hall is starting up Friday, November 7, 2025, at 7:15 pm. Hope to see you there.

Darts will be every second Friday

Pass this message along to anyone in the community you think may be interested. Beginners are welcome. We have extra darts in case some don't have them.

4: Annual General Meeting: Johnstown Community Development Co-operative LTD: The Annual General Meeting of the Johnstown Community Development will take place on Sunday, November 16, 2025, at 7:00 pm at the Johnstown Parish Hall. Note: There will be a discussion about the Irish Cove Walking Trail as part of the 2025 JCDC AGM. Everyone is welcome to attend and join the discussion. Feedback, ideas, and comments on the work of JCDC are welcome as are new members

5: Challenge/Cursillo

Cape Breton Challenge Executive are trying to renew the Challenge movement in our area again. We are reaching out to our Challenge/Cursillo family to see if there is anyone among you who would be interested in working a Challenge weekend or be a member of the Challenge Executive.

If this is of interest to you please reach out to us - Eastern region Rose Henry roseh5029@gmail.com or 902-577-1517, Mabou region Ashley Roach roachashley1988@gmail.com or 902-224-5035.

We ask you to keep us in your prayers as we move forward and for the success of reviving this beautiful movement.

Thank You from Lay Directors Rose and Ashley

6: November 17, 1 pm

St. Ninian Cathedral, Antigonish

Mass and veneration of relics of the Canadian Martyrs and St. Kateri Tekakwitha. The visit in our diocese is part of an eastern Canadian tour by Martyr's Shrine in honour of the Jubilee year.

St. Jean de Brébeuf, St. Charles Garnier and St. Gabriel Lalemant were among the eight French missionaries who first brought the Gospel to Canada. St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first indigenous North American saint, and is a patron of the First Nations peoples.

See our website:

www.antigonishdiocese.com/national-relics

7: The Municipality of the County of Richmond is looking for a community-minded person to represent the Municipality on the Cape Breton Local Immigration Partnership (CBLIP) Council. This group brings together people and organizations across Cape Breton–Unama'ki to share ideas, build connections, and help newcomers feel part of our community. You'll help guide newcomer supports, share your community's perspective, and work with local organizations to make communities more welcoming.

Deadline to Apply

December 10, 2025

How to Apply

Please submit your expression of interest by email.

Your submission should include:

- Your full name, civic address, and mailing address (if different)
- A brief outline of relevant experiences or skills that would support the work of the CBLIP Council

Email your application to: clerk@richmondcounty.ca

To learn more about CBLIP, visit <https://capebretonpartnership.com/.../cape-breton-local.../>

To view the CBLIP terms of reference, visit <https://capebretonpartnership.com/.../CBLIP-Terms-of...>