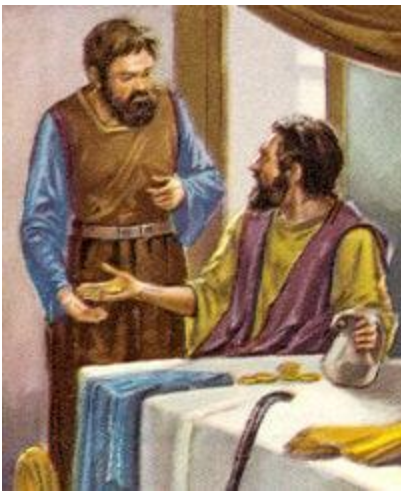




Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

September 21, 2025

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Prophet Amos 8:4-7*. Amos was a shepherd in the kingdom of Judah who was called by God to go to Israel, the northern kingdom. There he was to speak in God's name to the people. This was in the 8th century B.C. The country enjoyed material prosperity but idolatry and injustice were rife among the upper classes especially. Against these vices the prophet spoke fearlessly, until he was driven from the kingdom eventually. Today's reading deals with the injustices practiced against the poor and the helpless.

The **Second Reading** is from *St. Paul's first letter to Timothy 2:1-8*. What St. Paul is telling Timothy, the bishop of Ephesus, to teach his congregation is the necessity and the obligation of prayer. The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross supersedes the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Feasts of the Lord that fall on a Sunday in Ordinary Time and in the Christmas season replace the Sunday liturgy.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 16:1-13*. These words of Christ warning those who would follow him on the road to heaven not to become the slaves of earthly things are applicable to all of us. Most of us may feel that this warning is for millionaires and business magnates. Our Lord didn't say so. There was not a single millionaire in his audience. He meant it for all of us, for what he warned against was not the just acquisition of this world's goods but their unjust acquisition, and the dishonest use of them when they were justly acquired.

It was God who created all that exists in this world. He intended these goods for the use of man. We are only managers, therefore, of these worldly goods. It is on our way of managing these goods, not on the quantity we had to manage, that our judgment will be based. Millionaires can get to heaven while all paupers have no guarantee that they will make it. Our Lord deduces two lessons for us from the parable of the unjust manager or steward. Firstly, the enterprise which he showed in providing for his earthly happiness when he would lose his employment, was greater and keener than that shown by most of us in providing for our eternal happiness.

Did I give one hour a day to God and the things of God, helping the needy, learning more about my religion, giving a hand in parochial affairs, advising those in difficulties, spiritual or temporal, praying for my own and my neighbor's needs—yet even if I did, it is less than one-tenth of the free time I had at my own disposal.

If I did not, if I barely managed to get in the Sunday Mass and a few hasty prayers, could anyone suggest that I was showing great interest and was very enterprising as far as my future life was concerned? God is very generous with me. He gives me lots of time for providing for my health and temporal needs each week, and a lot of free time besides. I should not express surprise if he is disappointed at how little of that wonderful gift of time I am willing to give back to him. The unjust steward was far more enterprising as regards earthly provision for himself.

The second lesson our Lord wishes to teach us is that we should use what we can spare of our earthly possessions in helping those who are in need of our help. By doing that, we will be making friends who will help us at the judgment seat to get a lasting reception in heaven. Remember that description of the judgment which our Lord gave when he said, "I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was naked and you clothed me"? What we do for the needy, we do for Him. Those whom we help, as far as we can,

will be witnesses testifying for us when our final examination, on which our eternity will depend, comes upon us.

Two resolutions worthy of your serious consideration today in relation to earthly goods are: Never let them take up all your time. You have a far more serious purpose in life. Give it a little more thought and enterprise than you have been doing. Secondly, be grateful to God for what He has given you in this life. You might like to have a lot more, but God knows best. Work honestly and be generous with what you have. You are serving God, not money. God will be waiting for you where there is no currency, and where the one bank account that matters will be the good use that you made of your time and your share of this world's goods while you were alive.

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

Collection September 14, 2025

Envelopes	\$745.00
Loose	\$48.00
	\$793.00

Important Update: Fall Newsletter Distribution – Reflections of Richmond:

Due to the current Canada Post strike action, neighbourhood flyer mail delivery is temporarily suspended. As a result, the Municipality of the County of Richmond is unable to distribute the Fall Newsletter through regular postal channels.

The Municipality will be sending me copies and I will leave them in the Church and Fire Hall.

Notices:

1: Celebration of Life: We invite you to join us in Celebrating the Life of Daniel (Dannie) MacMillan. All are welcome to join us as we share stories, memories, and a toast to a life well lived.
Saturday, September 20, 2025
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Johnstown Parish Hall

2: Beginner Gaelic Classes

Mondays, 6:30 – 8:30
Starting September 22
\$ 40 for 8 weeks

Location: **Red Islands Firehall**

Have you always wanted to learn Gaelic to connect with your heritage?
Classes are fun!
Learning to **speak Gaelic** is the focus, no reading or writing!
Contact: **902-217-2088 ceiteagcaimbeul@gmail.com**

Supported by the Office of Gaelic Affairs

3: HARVEST MARKET: October 12, 10 am – 1 pm, in Johnstown Parish Hall. After a successful summer market season, we are looking forward to our Harvest Market on Thanksgiving weekend. Shop for garden produce, meat, eggs, preserves, jam, maple syrup, delicious bread and baked goods, socks, t-shirts, arts and crafts.
We have room for more vendors at our indoor market. \$20/table. Contact Rita 902-631-0209, Johnstown Landing Artisan & Farmers Market

4: Big Pond Fire Dept Community Centre Fall Market

We had so much fun at last year's market at the Big Pond Fire Dept Community Centre, we are having another on Saturday October 18th, from 10:00pm – 2:00pm.
This year we have lots of makers, bakers and other creators with so much to offer!
Admission \$2.00, children 12 and under free.
For more information (or to book table), please call/text Kim at 902-371-4562, or message Tracy MacIsaac on Facebook.

5: Mass Intention for Sunday September 28: Dannie MacMillan

6: COMFORT TEA ... Come For Tea – September 23, 2025: We all experience many types of losses throughout our lives. To promote awareness of the impact of grief, you are invited to join us for a beverage and sweets. You may bring a friend, photo, memento, or memory to share or just be with others who understand. 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at the Creignish Recreation Centre, 2123 Highway 19, Creignish, N.S. Sponsored by the Strait Richmond Palliative Care Society and Nova Scotia Hospice Palliative Care Association Healing Pathways. All are welcome.

7: Preparation Classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation Classes are scheduled to begin on Monday, September 22 at 6:30 PM at the St. Peter's Glebe. There are six candidates registered to receive the sacrament but classes are available to any adults and teens who would like to participate.

8: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft group will meet every Thursday at 1 pm, from October 9 to Dec 11. Bring a project or idea and sew, knit and/or craft with others. Everyone welcome.
Location: District 10 Fire Department, Red Islands. Contact: Rita Campbell 902 631 0209

9: Gentle Yoga 55 +

Red Islands Fire Hall, Red Islands Fridays, for 10 weeks, begin October 10 9:30am - 11:00 am, Fee: \$30
Instructor: Lynne Doucette - For more information on how to register visit www.richmondcounty.ca or call 902.226.0663

10: Chair Yoga 55 +

Red Islands Fire Hall, Red Islands Wednesdays, for 10 weeks begin October 8 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm, Fee: \$30
Instructor: Lynne Doucette - For more information on how to register visit www.richmondcounty.ca or call 902.226.0663