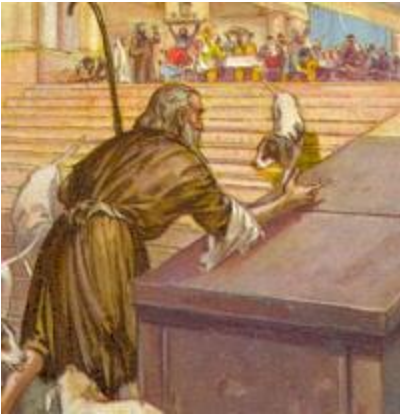




Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

September 28, 2025

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Prophet Amos 6:1a, 4-7*. This warning of the prophet Amos, who was only an uneducated shepherd before God called him to the prophetic ministry, does not come from Amos but from God, in whose name he spoke. God's Chosen People, to whom he had in his goodness given the land of Canaan to be their homeland for all time, were about to lose their land and their freedom, because they had forgotten their divine Benefactor and thought only of themselves and their own comfort.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to Timothy 6:11-16*. In these verses St. Paul is exhorting Timothy to strive to become daily more perfect in his observance of the Christian faith. He had made a public and noble profession of that faith on the occasion of his baptism as a young man. He must continue to profess it.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 16:19-31*. We have here a story of two men whose states, both in this life and in the next, are dramatically opposed. The rich man had everything a man could desire on this earth and he set his heart on this wealth, to such a degree that he excluded all thought of God or of what followed after death. It was not that he was ignorant of God or of a future life (our Lord was addressing the parable to the Pharisees); he admits that he had Moses and the prophets, but he paid no heed to them. He was too busy trying to squeeze the last ounce of pleasure out of his few years on earth.

On the other half of the picture we have a beggar, a man not only in dire destitution, but suffering bodily pains as well. He bore his lot patiently. He was quite content if he got the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table, which he probably

did not always get. He must have been disappointed that this rich man never thought of giving him a helping hand but there is no mention of his ever criticizing or blaming him. He left these things to God.

Both men die eventually. The beggar goes straight to heaven to a state of endless happiness. His bodily sufferings have ended forever, he will never be in want again. The rich man fares very differently. His enjoyments are over forever. He is now in torments and he is told that he can expect no relief. They will have no end. Abraham tells him why he is in his present state: he abused his time on earth. He sees the truth of this. He knows that he has no one to blame but himself which must add greatly to his torments. It is also a cause of additional grief to him that his bad example will lead his brothers (his fellowmen) to a like fate.

All the parables of our Lord are based on everyday happenings. While we hope and pray that the case of the rich man described here is not an everyday occurrence, we cannot doubt but that such cases have happened and will happen again. This rich man is not in eternal torments because he was rich and even very rich. He is in eternal torments because he let his wealth become his master and forgot God and his neighbor and his own real welfare—eternal life. There are men like him in our world today, men who completely ignore their real future. While they are convinced that their stay on this earth is of very short duration and that they will have to leave it very, very soon, they still act and live as if they had a permanent home here.

This is true not only of those who try (ineffectively most probably) to keep from their minds all thought of a future life, but even of some who openly profess to be Christians and who recite so often the words of the Creed: "I believe in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." Yet, they are so busy trying to get the wealth and the pleasures of this life, or to increase all they have of them already, that they haven't a moment to spare for the thing that really matters—their future unending life after death.

God forbid that any of us should be numbered amongst these foolish people, for there is no greater folly on earth than to miss the real and only purpose in life because of a few trivial, passing attractions. We are not forbidden to have some of this world's goods. We need some, and God it was who provided them for our use. But we must use them properly and we must not set them up as idols to be adored. On all sides of us there are Lazaruses placed at our gates by God to give us an opportunity to exercise fraternal charity. Be a true brother to them now and you will not have to envy them hereafter.

If on the other hand your lot is that of a Lazarus—and many there are whose life is one long, continual struggle against poverty, disease and hardship—try to carry your cross patiently. Envy of your neighbor and rebellion against God will only add to, and do not cure, your ills. The day of judgment, which for you will be the day of reward, if you are humble and patient, is around the corner. Eternal happiness is worth twenty lives of earthly ill-fortune.
—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings, Cycle C*, Fr. Kevin O' Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection
September 21, 2025

Envelopes	\$215.00
Loose	\$45.00
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$75.75
Donation	\$200.00
	\$535.75

Notices:

1: 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.

2: 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

3: 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.

4: Mass Intention for Sunday September 28: Dannie MacMillian

5: 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

6: Weekly Wednesday morning coffee starts again on October 8, 2025, and runs until December 10, 2025. Red Islands Fire Hall: 9:00 am – 11:30 am. Everyone is welcome.

7: 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

8: 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

9: Save the Date: The Christmas Bingo will be held on Sunday November 9th, 2:00 pm at the Johnstown Parish Hall. Watch for more information.

10: Autumn Deadline for Bishop Power Foundation

The late Bishop William Power recognized the importance of the laity in strengthening Christian faith in today's modern world. A family charitable foundation in his name continues to support: individuals in university Catholic Studies (full or part time) and non-profit groups that:

a) empower the poor and/or

b) develop the laity for their Christian role within the church
and/or

c) aid the missionary activity of the church

Applications are accepted each spring and fall for consideration. The foundation typically distributes up to \$20,000 annually to successful applicants.

Deadline is October 1 for consideration this autumn. To apply or for more information, visit: www.bishoppowerfoundation.ca

11: Life a peaceful and prayerful witness to the sanctity of all human life. Please join us on Sunday Oct. 5 from 2-3pm. At the Port Hastings rotary and add your voice to the voiceless.

12: Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

with Fr. Tim Broderick Spiritual Chaplain and Rhonda-Lynn group leader. Cost - \$3299.00 includes airfare and all airport taxes from Halifax; twin accommodation, breakfast and dinner daily, professional local guide. Single room supplement -\$300.00, if available.

Contact Rhonda-Lynn for more information and itinerary.
902-448-3660.