



## Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

**April 19, 2026**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33* and concerns bearing witness to the "name" of Jesus, and the implications which this witnessing necessarily brings with it. Peter and the apostles answered their inquisitors by stating firmly their faith in Christ, and the lesson ends with reference to their joy at having been found worthy to endure trials for the name of Christ. —*A Celebrant's Guide to the New Sacramentary, A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of Peter 1:17-21*. St. Peter says that we are sons of God because of his infinite mercy in sending Christ to us as our brother. So we can rightly call God our "Father." But we must behave as true, loyal sons, during our "time of exile" on this earth, for our merciful Father is also the absolutely just God who will judge each one of us "impartially according to our deeds" when we lay down our earthly life. —*A Guide to the Eucharist and Hours—Lent* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 24:13-35*. It is the first day of the week after the great Jewish feast of the Passover and Jerusalem is trying to return to its normal routine. The shopkeepers count their profits and the Temple priests congratulate themselves because they were able to kill the 'Galilean'. For the disciples and those who were 'foreigners' in Jerusalem, it is time to start to return to their own homes and their normal lives.

Curtains were closed and lights were dimmed not only due to the celebration of Jerusalem's solemn festival but also because everyone had hope that the man Jesus 'would be the One to redeem Israel' (Lk 24:21). The two disciples from Emmaus are to be found, along their journey, talking to 'Jesus in person', 'but their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him' (Lk 24:16).

Why did the Lord not tell the disciples straight away who He was? Indeed, in the dialogue that the liturgy presents to us today, it almost seems that Jesus did all He could to avoid revealing His true identity. Firstly, He pretended not to know what Cleopas and his companion were discussing and then He went on to 'explain to them the passages throughout scriptures that were about Himself' (Lk 24:27) but without making direct reference to Himself.

At the end of the journey, 'He made to go on' (Lk 24:28). Jesus didn't want to play games with His disciples, but He sought to educate their hearts, and also ours, so that we won't be 'slow'! In fact, when faced with the Lord's Presence, we find that the heart quickly 'burns' upon hearing His words as we are grateful of the fact that we were freed not by 'gold and silver but by the precious blood of Christ' who is the 'blameless and spotless' lamb (Cf. 1 Pet 1:19).

The Risen Lord uses so much gentleness with us! He doesn't oblige us to 'believe' but He offers us the instruments that enable us to judge based on the infallible measure of our own hearts. As St Augustine extraordinarily wrote in the opening of his Confessions 'our heart is restless until it rests in you' (St. Augustine, Conf. 1,1,1:PL 32,659-661)

There is still one more detail that calls for our attention and raises many questions: why did the eyes of the disciples open to recognise Jesus whilst they were at table with Him? The Eucharistic context is undeniable. The disciples are at table, the Lord is with them; He took the bread and saying the prayer of benediction, broke it. It was during the last action of the breaking of the bread that the companions recognized Jesus. It was not only the action in itself but finally Cleopas and his friends could see, with their own eyes, the hands pierced by the nails of the passion that until that very movement had remained hidden from them during the long journey on the road.

It was in that very moment in which they recognized the presence of the Crucified One, that He 'disappeared from their sight' whilst their eyes remained fixed on the broken bread, that was left to fall 'onto the altar'. Is it not the same experience that every one of us can have every Sunday?

So, 'they set out that instant' (Lk 24:33). They started to understand that death is not the last word on the life of each one of us as we can not be 'held in its power' (Acts 2:24). This is a sign of great hope that gives us irreprehensible joy! In so much as we journey to Jerusalem—each on his own road, it must often seem long and tiring. However, now with our eyes fully opened it appears that we have the privilege to say to all the world, 'the Lord has indeed risen' (Lk 24:34). —From the Congregation for the Clergy

## Collection

April 12, 2026

Envelopes	\$390.00
Loose	\$20.00
Share Lent	\$50.00
Donation	\$100.00
	\$560.00

## Notices:

**1: Gaelic Flag Raising & Cape Breton Meal.** Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:00 pm. District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands. Flag raising and community celebration of Gaelic Awareness Moth followed by a Cape Breton meal – Maragan, sneap’s, buntata, featuring the maragan recipe of Theresa Cash, Irish Cove. Donations welcome to support Gaelic instruction in the area.

**2: Gaelic Workshop and Lunch:** Red Islands Fire Hall – Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. All are welcome to join a Gaelic Workshop with guest Stacey MacLean. \$30.00 per person/lunch included. Contact Cathy Campbell for registration 902-217-2088 ceiteagcaimbeul@gmail.com

**3: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer’s Market:** Another summer on the way. Looking forward to Sundays at the Johnstown Landing Artisan & Farmers Market. The markets run from June 28 - September 6, 2026. Every Sunday 10 am - 1 pm. We welcome new vendors. Send us a message or call 902-631-0209.

**4: Come to the Ceilidh** – East Bay Fire Hall – Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm  
Join us for tea and chats as we host a family of musicians! Colin MacDonald, Brittany Rankin-MacDonald, Christina Luxton & Keith MacDonald will bring us piano, guitar, fiddle, pipes, songs & steps

**5: Sunflower Treasurers:** Support Cape Breton Hospice by donating and/or purchasing pre-loved possessions including kitchen ware, jewelry, china, art work and much much more at the NSCC Waterfront Campus, Building B.

Donations: May 7,8, & 9 from Noon to 4:00

Sale Days: May 15, 16 & 17 (For information call 902-562-0662)

**6: Heavy Garbage Collection Schedule:** Waste should be placed curbside by 8am on Monday of the scheduled collection week for the area. Items placed at the curb after collection has started in the are may not be collected. Week 3 (May 18 – 24) Johnstown, Loch Lomond to St. Peters Please see:

<https://www.richmondcounty.ca/news-and-announcements/> for items that are allowed/not allowed

**7: As a follow-up to my Pastoral Letter** concerning the expansion of MAiD, I mentioned an upcoming vote in Parliament concerning Bill C-218. I invite you to encourage your parishioners to contact their Members of Parliament and tell them to stop the expansion of MAiD for those with mental illness and to support Bill C-218 - An Act to amend the Criminal Code (medical assistance in dying), “The Right to Recover Act”. Bishop Kirkpatrick

**8: Schedule of Events** that will take place at the Johnstown Parish Hall this summer: More information will be provided as the event get closer

Sunday July 12<sup>th</sup>, Our Lady of Guadalupe Outdoor Mass – 2:00 pm -Please bring your own chair

Sunday July 12<sup>th</sup> – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday July 26<sup>th</sup> – Cold Plate Supper

Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup> – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am

Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup> – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am

Friday August 21st – 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance