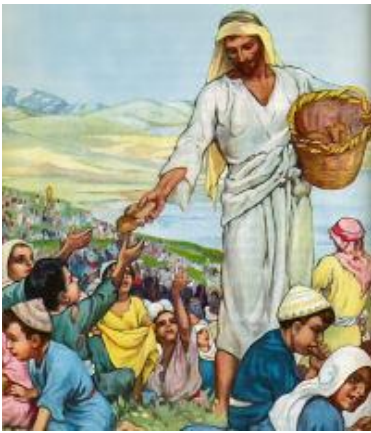




Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

August 02, 2026

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah* 55:1-3. The prophet, living among the Jewish exiles in Babylon, utters words of consolation for the despairing exiles. Here he tells them that Yahweh is inviting them to a banquet which he freely gives them. Yahweh alone can provide for their real needs; they are foolish to look elsewhere for consolation or help. If they cooperate he will fulfill the promise he had made to David, the promise of a future Messiah.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans* 8:35, 37-39. St. Paul concludes this chapter with a hymn in praise of God's love for us: "with God on our side," he says, "who can be against us?" Then come today's verses, which are rhetorical questions, showing that there is no power in heaven or on earth that can take away or lessen God's love for us as manifested in Christ, his Incarnate Son.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew* 14:13-21. This miracle was an act of kindness and loving thoughtfulness on the part of Christ. He saw the people's need — it was late for them to return to their homes and they had had nothing to eat all day — and He worked a miracle to provide for this need. The miracle also helped to convince the people of Galilee — the news spread around quickly - that He was the expected Messiah, but especially it prepared the way for the announcement of the greatest miracle of all - the miracle of the Eucharist. As St. John tells us Jesus referred to this miracle the next day in order to introduce His promise of the heavenly bread which He would give them and which was to be His own body and blood, under the form of bread and wine. The bread He miraculously multiplied that day to supply the bodily needs of the Galilean multitude was but a foreshadowing of that heavenly food which He was about to give as spiritual nourishment to the millions who would become His followers down through the centuries until the end of time.

The Galileans were grateful to Him for providing so kindly and so thoughtfully for their needs. How much more grateful should we not be for the miracle by means of which He has left us Himself to be our daily spiritual food? We are grateful, of course, to our loving Lord who not only handed up His Body to His enemies to be crucified for us, but through His divine power, arranged that His glorified body, triumphant over death, should remain with us, His Church, forever under the Eucharistic species.

Though invisible to mortal eyes, He is as truly present on our altars as He was that day in Galilee, when He miraculously fed the multitude. He is present under the form of bread and wine — so that we can partake of Him as spiritual nourishment during our earthly life. Could love go any further? He Himself said: "A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends" (Jn. 15:13). Yes, once a man has given his life he has given his all; there is nothing more he can give. But Christ was more than man. He was God as well, and, therefore, He was able not only to lay down His human life for us, but was able and willing to remain with us after death under the Eucharistic species: to be our strength and nourishment until we join Him in the promised land of heaven.

When we compare our own unworthiness with this, almost incredible, love and thoughtfulness of Christ for us, all we can do is simply to say: "Lord, you know I am not worthy to receive you, but you say you want to come into my poor and untidy home, please make me less unworthy, forgive all my past sins and offenses, and give me the grace and strength to be better in the future."

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

Collection

July 26, 2026

Envelopes	\$259.50
Loose	\$310.00
Building Fund	\$50.00
	\$619.50

Notices:

1: 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.

2: Funeral: A funeral service will be held on Tuesday August 04, at 2:00 pm for Terry Cash (formally of Irish Cove). Burial to follow in the parish cemetery and a reception to follow in the parish hall.

3: Committal Service: A committal service for Hugh Campbell (formally of Johnstown), will take place on Friday August 7th at 12:30. The committal service is open to all, and will be followed by a lunch at the Parish Hall.

4: Thank You: Thank you to all who ordered the cold plate. We realized a profit of over \$700.00.

5: Thank You: Thank you to John Bernard MacDonald for the years as one of our lectors. John has decided to retire from that role.

6: New Reader: If anyone is interested in becoming a Lector on Sunday’s please let us know.

7: Sacred Heart Parish Cemetery Mass: Sunday August 9th, 9:00 am The Mass will be held in the Old (Lower Graveyard). Please bring your own chair.

8: Pancake Lunch; Sunday August 9th: 10:00 am at the Johnstown Parish Hall
Pancakes, Sausage, eggs, tea and coffee. \$12.00

9: Milling Frolic: The Milling Frolic is only a few weeks away, Friday August 21st. We are once again asking for donations for the Bake Sale, Fancy Booth and Lunch. We will also be looking for people to help, so if you would like to be involved, please let me know.

10: The story of the Sacred Heart of Jesus can be told through the faith experience of Marguerite Marie Alacoque, a sixteenth century nun of the Visitation Monastery in Paray le Monial, France. Born in 1647, Marguerite Marie’s whole life was a formation in humility and obedience that was to be the foundation for the mystical experiences that the Sacred Heart intended to bestow upon her. From 1673-1690 Marguerite received apparitions of Christ in which he drew her lovingly to himself forming her as his disciple. This was her preparation for the message of love that she would communicate to the world. Through Marguerite devotion to Christ’s Heart spread and in 1856 the Church established the Feast of the Sacred Heart (June 19). Sr. Marguerite Marie was canonized in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV. Her mission was that Love would be loved because we may only understand God when we become the love that God is. Marguerite Marie Alacoque Was the fifth of seven children and baptized with the name Margaret, adding the name Mary at the time of her confirmation. At the age of four she took a vow of chastity though she admitted, “I did not then understand what I had done, nor what was meant by the words, ‘vow’ and ‘chastity.’ From her earliest year she was devoted to the Blessed Sacrament and to the Blessed Virgin. Christ had carefully prepared her for her great mission through suffering, prayer and special guidance. Her sufferings were to continue to the end, and her prayer would become ecstatic. Christ himself was her personal spiritual director till death. In this way she would be able to present to the world the devotion to the Sacred Heart in its modern form.

Our Lord made many revelations to Margaret Mary, perhaps forty, the most striking began on December 27th, 1673 and ended with the greatest of them all, where Christ showed her his heart saying, “Behold this heart,” in June 1675. The Sacred Heart made twelve promises to the world through St. Margaret Mary. These were not given in a list but St. Margaret Mary revealed them through the letters where she revealed her close relationship with the Lord and perhaps inadvertently made some prophetic utterances.

TWELVE PROMISES OF THE SACRED HEART

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will give peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their troubles.
4. They shall find in My Heart an assured refuge during life and especially at the hour of death.
5. I will pour abundant blessings on all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in My Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall speedily rise to great perfection.
9. I will bless the homes in which the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and honoured.
10. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who propagate this devotion shall have their name written in My Heart, and it shall never be effaced.
12. I promise thee in the excess of the mercy of My Heart, that its all-powerful Love will grant to all those who shall receive Communion on the First Friday of Nine consecutive months the grace of final repentance; they shall not die under My displeasure, nor without receiving the Sacraments; My Heart shall be their assured refuge at that last hour.

The popular piety or devotion derived from the seventeenth century has foundational theological roots: from Adam's side God took a rib to form Eve, the mother of the living, and on the cross blood and water flowed from the pierced side of the Saviour. Water refers to baptism where the life of the Spirit of God is given to the soul. Blood points to the lamb (Jesus) that was sacrificed for us on the cross and whose offering of self out of love for humanity is renewed in the Eucharist (Holy Mass). The heart symbolizes person's loving centre and the Heart of Christ wounded on the cross communicates concretely the otherwise invisible love of God. God now has a human heart by which to speak to us.

O most sweet Jesus, Whose overflowing charity for humanity is requited by so much forgetfulness, negligence, and contempt, behold us in your presence eager to repair by a special act of homage the cruel indifference and injuries to which Your loving Heart is subjected. Amen.