



## Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

**February 15, 2026**

### Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from *Sirach 15:15-20*. Today's reading comes from the section of Sirach's writing on man's free will and responsibility.

The **Second Reading** is from the letter of *St. Paul to 1 Corinthians 2:6-10*. Last week we heard Saint Paul address how his preaching illustrates the fact that man's strength and wisdom are nothing compared to those of God. Today we hear him tell of the true wisdom of God.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 5:17-37*. In this Sermon on the Mount, we have various sayings of Christ, actually spoken on different occasions. Matthew, in his systematic manner, has gathered these sayings into one continuous discourse here. This makes it easier for his readers, who were Jewish converts, to grasp the new order of salvation as inaugurated by Christ. They knew the ten commandments, but they knew them as their rabbis had taught them. These rabbis, for the most part Pharisees, put all the stress on the letter of the law and on its external observance. Christ's opening statement, that the attitude of his followers towards the commandments (and other precepts of the law) must be different, and superior to that of the scribes and Pharisees, clearly indicates how Christianity must differ from, and supersede, Judaism.

Christ is not abolishing the ten commandments, but he is demanding of his followers a more perfect, a more sincere, fulfillment of them. The whole moral value of any legal observance (the Mosaic law included), comes from the interior disposition of him who observes or keeps the law. No man serves or honors God by any exterior acts, be they ever so arduous or continuous, unless these acts proceed from an intention and a will to honor and please God. This is the charter, the constitution, of the new law, Christianity. The old law is not abolished, but deepened and given a new life.

Avoiding murder therefore is not enough; the true Christian must remove any inclination to murder by building up true, brotherly love for all men in his heart.

We must not only not injure our neighbor or fellowman in his person, or in his character, but we must be ever ready to help him and prevent injury to him, whenever and wherever we can. We must not only not commit adultery, but must also develop a Christian respect and esteem for purity, the virtue which will preserve us not only from adultery but even from thoughts of adultery, or any other abuse of our sexual gifts given us by God for his sublime purpose.

We must be truthful always, and men of our word. This virtue is not only necessary for man's salvation, but is the basis of rational intercourse between men in civilized society. While our civil courts still deem it necessary to impose oaths on contestants and witnesses (since they have, unfortunately, to take account of the liars and deceivers who still are a menace to society), the truthful man need not be afraid of insulting or dishonoring God by calling him as his guarantor, if asked to do so.

True and loyal service of God therefore begins in the heart and has its value from this interior disposition. Keeping the ten commandments is our way of proving to God that we are grateful, obedient and loyal to him who gave us all we have and who has promised us future gifts infinitely greater still. And just as our love for God is proved by our true love for our neighbor, so the last seven of the commandments impose on us obligations regarding our neighbor. It is only by fulfilling these seven that we can fulfill the first three which govern our relations with God.

This truth is expressed by our Lord in the words: It you are offering your gift at the altar, and remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there . . . first be reconciled to your brother and then come and offer your gift.

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

#### Collection

**February 08, 2026**

Envelopes	\$243.00
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## Notices:

**1: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft Group** This group will meet on Thursdays, at 1:00 pm. This is an informal group. Bring your own project and create with kindred spirits. A sewing machine is available, plus help, for anyone who wants to sew, quilt or knit. Everyone welcome. Location: District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands.

**2: Our weekly Wednesday Morning Coffee** get togethers will be on Wednesdays, 9:00 – 11:30 am, at the District 10, Red Islands Fire Hall. Drop in and visit with your friends and neighbours. Cards, games and puzzles are available. Everyone is welcome.

**3: Fire Hall/Community Hall Update:** The deed has been transferred to the Fire Department and we can now get back to working on the new hall.

**4: (ASH) Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

St. Peters, 9:00 AM

Mass will be celebrated in the church with distribution of ashes to mark persons' entry into the Lenten Season. • Ashes will be distributed at Masses for the First Sunday of Lent, Feb. 21 – 22.

**5: Sweet Serenade with the Cape Breton Chorale - a fundraiser**

Tea/Coffee/Sweets and Song

Sat. Feb 14th - two shows 1:00 P.M - 2:30 P.M. and 3:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. \$30 per person - Storm date is Saturday, February 21st.

United Heritage Church Hall. 500 Charlotte St., Sydney. Seating is limited and pre-purchase is recommended.

Call 902-270-2591 or buy online at [capebretonchorale.com](http://capebretonchorale.com)

**6: Sydney Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2026 1:30 -3:30 PM**

An invitation to join with other women to share

**TEA and TALK** at Holy Redeemer Convent 24 Neville St.

Whitney Pier, just behind the Pier Post Office.

This invitation is open to women of all ages. This is an attempt to provide an opportunity for women to join with others to simply share a cup of tea and to experience the joy of being together. For further information phone 902 270 4840 or 902 539 6331.

**7: Medjugorje Pilgrimage, April 26 - May 6, 2026** with Fr. Andrew Gillies and Rhonda-Lynn Cormier (group leader).

\$2,899. (return flights from Halifax). Single supplement \$350 (if available).

Included in price: airfare, ground travel in Europe, two meals a day, professional Medjugorje guide, two days of excursions to the UNESCO city of Mostar and a local village Surmanchi — Divine Mercy Chapel.

Contact: [rhonda\\_lynn\\_c@hotmail.com](mailto:rhonda_lynn_c@hotmail.com) or (902)448-3660

**8: Venerable Fulton J. Sheen** will soon be beatified, now that the Vatican has given the green light, the Diocese of Peoria, Illinois, announced Feb. 9. No date or location for the beatification was given. See the Catholic Register for details.