



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

July 26, 2026

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from the *First Book of Kings* 3:5, 7-12. God gives Solomon a choice of gifts. Solomon asks God for "an understanding mind," so that he could always do what was just and best for his subjects. God rewards him with the gift of wisdom making him the wisest man that ever lived. —*The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans* 8:28-30. The theme of this reading concerns the graciousness and mercy of God at work in calling men to himself, justifying them, and glorifying them as well. The point of the reading is the eternal mystery of the ineffable love of God for man, even before man existed. —*A Celebrant's Guide to the New Sacramentary — A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew* 13:44-52. The lesson of these two parables is as true for us today, as it was for those Palestinians to whom Christ spoke. All Christians are called on to imitate the two wise men, and surrender all their earthly possessions if necessary in order to gain eternal life. Does this "giving all" mean that we are all expected to abandon the world and take on the religious vows of poverty, chastity and obedience? There are many who do just this. But it is not the only way, nor the normal way, to purchase the eternal treasure. Heaven is within the reach of all, who follow the ordinary vocations of life and partake of this world's joys and pleasures *within the framework of God's commandments*, but never lose sight of the goal toward which they are moving.

Keeping within the framework of God's commandments is the difficulty. We need not have a vow of obedience, but we must obey all legitimate authority. We may possess the goods of this world, but only such goods as we lawfully and justly acquire. Nor may we withhold all of these from a fellow man who is in need. We do not have to take a vow of chastity, but yet we must be chaste, we must use the gifts and the pleasure of sex only within the limits set down by God's wise laws.

All of this is not easy for human nature. But we are not relying on weak human nature, we have within our reach in the Church all the spiritual and supernatural aids we need. Our twentieth century, it is true, is so engrossed in chasing after the earthly comforts and pleasures of the body, and so devoid of any spiritual or other-worldly outlook, that even those who know and believe that there is an eternity after death, find it hard

to allow their faith and convictions to govern and direct their daily actions. Yet, the evil example of others will never justify our wrong-doing. The commandments of God are still binding, even though they are openly and flagrantly violated by individuals and whole nations today.

Remember this: we shall not be asked at the judgment, "What did your neighbor do?", but "what did you do?" If we lose the pearl of great price in the eternity of happiness God has offered to us-it will not be the fault of others. The fault will be ours and ours only. We refused to pay the price. We did not think it worth the "paltry all" which we possessed in this life.

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

Collection

July 19, 2026

Envelopes	\$425.00
Loose	\$20.00
Cemetery Fund	\$20.00
Donation	\$35.00
	\$500.00

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 July 28th, at 11:00 am for Margaret (Margie) Johnston (formally of Hay Cove). Burial at a later date. There will **not** be a reception following the funeral..

3: 90th Birthday Party: This party has been cancelled.

4: 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.

5: 70th Annual Broad Cove Scottish Concert
Sunday, July 26th, starting at 3 pm on the grounds of St. Margaret of Scotland Church, Broad Cove
Admission \$30.00 Adult/children under 12 free Canteen/refreshment tent/lots of great talent
See you at the concert!

6: Open House and Welcome Day August 3, 11 am - 3 pm
Our Lady of Grace Monastery
Join us on the holiday Monday for an afternoon of celebration, featuring music by Ty Wallace, a local farm/artisan market, bbq and pizza, and the opportunity to explore the Monastery and outdoor Shrine. Our Lady of Grace Monastery is in its 201st year of serving as a sacred space and an oasis of history and nature. We look forward to welcoming you, and welcoming you back!
940 Monastery Rd., Monastery, off Exit 37 Trans-Canada Highway 104
Ladyofgracemonastery@gmail.com

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 closing Mass for the 125th Anniversary Year of the Sisters of St. Martha A Mass of Thanksgiving on the Feast of Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. Wednesday July 29 at 10:30 AM at St. Ninian's Cathedral in Antigonish.

11 The 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, July 26, 2026 “The celebration of the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is an opportunity to rediscover that the Church is called to be a mother to all and that at any age it is always possible to recognize ourselves as sons and daughters of God. May this day, therefore, be an inspiration for everyone, especially the young to revive the beautiful custom of visiting their grandparents, the elderly members of the family and even those who have no one to visit them.” Pope Leo XIV The theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV, I will never forget you, Isaiah 49: 15 reminds us that God's unwavering love is the ultimate answer to the isolation and neglect so often experienced by the elderly. It brings comfort and hope, assuring us that the Lord knows each of us personally, forgets no one, and loves us unconditionally, even through the frailties of old age