

Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

November 22, 2026

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

The **First Reading** is taken from *Ezekiel 34:11-12; 15-17.* In his infinite love and kindness God consoled and encouraged the Jewish exiles in Babylonia through the prophet Ezekiel. He told them they would return to their own country where they would once more be a Chosen People directly under his divine care. He described the relationship between his people and himself under the image of a flock of sheep and its shepherd. This prophecy given by God over 500 years before Christ came on earth was fulfilled to the letter in Christ; as Christ himself declared and as history has proved. The Son of God came on earth as man to give all men eternal life. He founded the new sheepfold, the new Chosen People, the kingdom of God on earth, to prepare for entry into heaven all who will enter its gates. We are fortunate to belong to that kingdom. We have a king who has proved his love by dying for us in order to give us life. By his sufferings our wounds were healed; by his death on the cross he has conquered death; by his resurrection he has made our physical death the doorway that leads to everlasting life.

The **Second Reading** is taken from the *First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-26, 28,* chosen because of the reference to the kingship of Christ. It was Christ who founded the new kingdom of God on earth and he will reign over it until the final victory is won. It is very fitting that the Church should dedicate the last Sunday of the liturgical year to honoring Christ, her founder and Savior, as King of the universe. We close our liturgical year, therefore, with a feastday which honors Christ as man and we give him the highest title a man can have as we proclaim him our King. Although this title was introduced only in recent times by Pius XI, its meaning and understanding go back to the very beginning of Christianity. St. Paul tells us in today's reading that Christ began his triumphant reign at the moment of his resurrection and that it will continue on earth until his last opponent is overcome. That will be on the day of the final judgment. Christ's kingdom on earth will then pass into the Father's eternal kingdom of heaven, where Christ as God will reign in majesty together with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Christ is our king in this world. Let us make sure that he will be our king for all eternity by doing our best to be his loyal subjects here on earth.

The **Gospel** is from *Matthew 25:31-36*, with Jesus describing his second coming as that of a king arriving in all his majesty and sitting on his kingly throne to judge all mankind. Christ himself in this description of the last judgement, describes his role as that of a king. This gospel reading, therefore, reminds us of the Kingship of Christ. On this feast of Christ our King, let us renew our pledge of loyalty to him, and so that this pledge will not be an empty formula, let each one of us resolve to study once more the spiritual and corporal works of mercy and see how well we put them into practice. If we have failed in the past, let us resolve to begin again today. Let us help one another by bearing one another's burdens. This is what Christ asks of us. This is how we can prove ourselves loyal and grateful subjects. This is what we will be judged on when we meet him on our last day. If we love our neigh or with an active and practical love for Christ's sake, we are thereby loving God, and are keeping "the two greatest commandments on which the whole law and the prophets depend."

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

Collection
November 15, 2026

Envelopes	$355.00
Loose	$20.00
Heat	$90.00
	$465.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Sewing/Handicraft group will meet every Thursday at 1 pm, starting October 8th. 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

2: Weekly Wednesday morning coffee starts again on October 14, 2026, at the Red Islands District 10 Fire Hall: 9:00 am – 11:30 am. Everyone is welcome.

3: Missals: The new Missals are in. If you take a missal the cost is $5.00. Please note on your church envelope.

4: 2027 Envelopes: The 2027 envelopes are available. They will be at the side altar as you come in.

5: Bras d'Or Lakers Seniors AGM: This year's Annual General Meeting for the Club will take place, as follows:
Date: Sunday, November 22 2026 - Time: 4:00 PM - Location: Red Islands Fire Hall
We look forward to seeing you there. - Howard MacIntyre, Chair

6: Lakeside Community Association: Christmas Merchandise Bingo Sunday, November 22, 2026 2PM 15 Games, 2 Specials ($1/each), $7.50 /Book or 3 books for $20.00, Canteen available, 8598 West Bay Hwy, Sampsonville.

7: Make Christmas decorations from old books. Thursday, December 3rd, 1pm, Red Islands Fire Hall. Make stars, garlands, trees, and acorns. Supplies will be provided but you may wish to bring a pair of scissors, glue and/or an old book. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun. For questions contact Rita, 902-631-0209, camprita@gmail.com

8: Memory Tree: A Christmas memory-tree will be erected, in Sacred Heart Church, throughout the Season of Advent. The names of the people who are remembered will be added to the tree each week. The people named do not have to be from this parish, just people you want remembered. The names will be read out the final Sunday before Christmas. The donation asked for is $5.00, but that does not preclude people giving more, if they want. Charitable donation receipts will be issued. All funds raised go directly to the Parish. Donations may be dropped in the collection at Sunday Mass or e-transferred to sacredheartjohnstown@gmail.com. If you have an envelope, please put your envelope number on the donation. If you e-transfer, please add your name, the name of the person remembered, and your civic address.

9: Christmas Childrens Toy and gift Drive: We are doing our annual childrens toy and gift drive again this year. As usual, we are requesting new, unwrapped toys and childrens clothing.
We plan to have our gift drop-off reception as follows:
Date: Saturday, December 12, 2026 - Place: Red Islands Fire Hall - Time: from 3:00 to 5:00 PM - Tea and snacks will be served. We will be delivering the gifts to the St. Peters Food Bank on Monday morning, December 14th. We look forward to seeing you on the December 12th. Seasons Greetings! Howard MacIntyre Chair

10: District 10 Fire Department AGM: Will be held on Sunday December 13th, at 1:00 pm at District 10 Fire Hall, Red Islands. All residents are encouraged to attend.

11: The Diocesan Pastoral Center in Sydney will be hosting two workshops on November 24th (Port Hawkesbury) and November 25th (Sydney) to discuss pertinent information on insurance, financial Reporting, Canada Revenue Agency and Responsible Ministry. Anyone you feel would benefit from this information is invited to attend. More details with an agenda will follow closer to the date of the workshops.

12: FREE COMMUNITY LUNCH!
We warmly invite seniors and those approaching their senior years from Big Pond and our neighbouring communities to join us!
Join us for a delicious FREE lunch, some friendly conversation, and an opportunity to learn about Homeward Bound NS, an initiative focused on helping seniors age in the communities they know and love.
Sunday, November 29th 11 AM – 1 PM Big Pond Volunteer Fire Department
Please RSVP by November 24th at 4 PM.
Call or text Brooke at 902-574-5390 or see the poster for more details.
Come enjoy a meal, bring a friend, and have your voice heard!

13: Decorating the church for Christmas: usually we decorate the church after the last Sunday, before Christmas. This year Richmond County Men's Choir will be joining us on Sunday December 20th, so it might be nice to decorate before that Sunday. A date and time will be added later.