



Sacred Heart Parish Bulletin

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

May 24, 2026

Pentecost Sunday

The **First Reading** is from *Acts 2:1-11*. "Pentecost" which means "fiftieth" was the second of the three most important of the annual feasts in the Jewish calendar. It occurred seven weeks after Passover and was primarily a feast of thanksgiving for the harvest: the first-fruits of the wheat crop were offered to God on that day. Later on the giving of the Law to Moses on Mount Sinai was also commemorated on this feast day. All Jewish men, not legitimately impeded, were expected to come to Jerusalem, to the temple, for the feast. Hundreds of Jews from outside of Palestine also came, and the city was usually full to overflowing. It was very fitting therefore that this feast day was chosen for the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.

The Christian religion was to be universal, and the gift of tongues showed its universality. The law given by God to Moses was for the Jews only; the new law, given by Christ, and confirmed by the power of the Holy Spirit, was for all men. The vast gathering of Jews from Palestine and from all nations was a very suitable occasion on which to proclaim publicly the message of Christ given through the mouth of St. Peter.

Pentecost day is called the "birth-day" of the Church. The Apostles had already received the Holy Spirit on Christ's first appearance to them after his resurrection (Jn 20:22). But on Pentecost day the descent of the Holy Spirit was a public manifestation intended to impress and amaze the crowds

of local and foreign Jews who thronged Jerusalem on that great festive occasion. The signs and wonders that manifested his coming brought these Jews in huge crowds to the place where the Apostles were staying, and immediately the gift of tongues was used by the Apostles to explain the occurrence.

Then **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 12:2-7, 12-13*. The gifts of the Holy Spirit were very evident in the infant Church. This was necessary to prove to the pagans that the Christian religion was from the real God who controlled all things. The God of the Christians had real powers and they were distributed freely by the Holy Spirit when occasion demanded. St. Paul is emphasizing that these gifts are not given to an individual for his honor or glory but to help to build up the Church.

These verses of St. Paul are very suitable on this feast day of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. Not only did the Holy Spirit make his presence felt by the external exercise of his powers, on that first Pentecost day, but he continued to do so for some years until the Church had laid solid foundations in the Gentile world.

The important point to bear in mind today on this, the anniversary of the public manifestation of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, is the infinite love of God for us, his Chosen People of the new covenant. Through the Incarnation men are empowered to become adopted sons of God; through baptism we become members of Christ's body, his Church. Through the direct reception of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are made active members of the Christian Church, with all the strength and powers necessary to be effective members, on active service daily, true soldiers of Christ.

The **Gospel** is from *John 20:19-23*. This Gospel, which was first read on the Second Sunday of Easter, is repeated here today, the feast of the Holy Spirit, because on that first appearance of the risen Lord he conferred the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. Today's feast commemorates the solemn public and publicized conferral of the same Holy Spirit.

The liturgical cycle, which each year represents to us God's mercy and kindness in our regard, closes today with this great feast of Pentecost—the public solemn descent of the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, on the Christian Church. During Advent, we try to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Son of God to dwell as man among us. Christmas recalls to our minds and hearts that great act of divine love. Lent prepares us for the sufferings endured by Christ during Holy Week on our behalf. Easter is the feast of triumph, Christ's triumph over death, the guarantee of our final triumph and union with him in his eternal glory. Pentecost crowns Christ's work among us. The Holy Spirit comes to abide with the Church, directing and effectively aiding its leaders to preserve, explain and spread the gospel of hope and love which Christ had brought on earth. The same spirit helps and aids each member of the Church to live a life of holiness by following the teaching of Christ and by helping his fellowmen to do likewise.

May the Holy Spirit today fill us with gratitude for all that God has done for us.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings, Cycle A* by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, OFM

Collection

May 17, 2026

Envelopes	\$371.00
Loose	\$50.00
Pastoral Works	\$30.00
	\$451.00

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: Food Vendor: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer's Market We have space for and welcome new vendors. Our soup guy is retiring this year (sigh, it was always so delicious). We would love to hear of someone interested in doing soup or take out lunches for the market. We are spoiled and no one wants to go home and cook after enjoying the morning at the market. Contact 902-631-0209

3: Funeral for Alva MacNeil: The funeral for Alva MacNeil will take place on Friday May 29th, at 11:00 am at Sacred Heart Church. Burial to follow in the Parish cemetery, followed by a lunch at the hall.

4: Irish Cove Trail Official Opening: June 5, 1 pm. We hope you will join us at the official opening of the Irish Cove Trail, on Friday, June 5, 1 pm. The trail is a community walking trail that weaves through the reclaimed Irish Cove limestone quarry. The launch will take place on the trail. To reach the trail entrance take Lakeshore Drive (east) from Highway 4 in Irish Cove and drive toward the end – please drive carefully and be considerate of the quiet neighbourhood. For the opening, park along Lakeshore Drive as there is limited parking at the entrance. We appreciate the support we received from community members and look forward to sharing the day with you. Rita Campbell, Chair, Trail Committee, JCDC camprita@gmail.com or 902-631-0209.

5: Lakeside Community Association lumberjack brunch Sunday, May 31, 2026, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. \$15.00 eat in or take out. Children under 5 free. 8598 West Bay Hwy. Sampsonville.

6: Cursillo weekend

Camp MacLeod, Albert Bridge, Women's Cursillo, June 4-7.

For more info please call Arlene Edwards 902-577-4214 or Karen MacSween 902-317-5425

7: 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 12th, Our Lady of Guadalupe Outdoor Mass – 2:00 pm -Please bring your own chair

Sunday July 12th – Strawberry Festival – 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Saturday July 26th – Cold Plate Supper

Sunday August 9th – Cemetery Mass – 9:00 am

Sunday August 9th – Pancake Breakfast – 9:45 am

Friday August 21st – 94th Annual Milling Frolic and Square Dance