

**St. Peter's, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist Parishes
(902) 535-2053**

Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

Bulletin email: bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com

July 18, 2021

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

And they went away in the boat to a lonely place by themselves. Now many saw them going, and knew them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns, and got there ahead of them. As he went ashore he saw a great throng, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things (Mk 6:32-34).



Sunday Readings

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah 23:1-6. In these seven verses, Jeremiah utters dire threats against the shepherds, the leaders of the people of Judah. Their neglect of the flock given into their care and their neglect of God was bringing exile on their people. God would avenge his people bring back the "remnant" of his flock and set trustworthy shepherds over them.

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 2:13-18. St. Paul reminds his Ephesian converts that Christ has brought unity of brotherhood to Jews and Gentiles.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 6:30-34. In these few verses St. Mark very strongly brings out the compassion, the human understanding of Jesus for man. He first planned to give his Apostles a well-earned rest. They had evidently worked hard while out on their mission and a few days rest would restore their lost energy. He himself, too, must have been hard pressed, preaching and dealing with the crowds. In the absence of the Apostles he had no one to help him—he too needed a rest. He,

therefore, planned that he and they should go to a quiet corner of the Sea of Galilee where there was no village and where, therefore, they would not be disturbed.

The desire of the crowds, however, to see him and to hear him speak upset these plans. The people got to the quiet spot first. There they were waiting when the boat pulled to shore. He could have sent them away, but again his human compassion took over. Seeing these simple people of Galilee so anxious to hear about God and his mercy, he let them stay and began to preach the good news of forgiveness and hope to them. For the most part they were simple, unlettered villagers, shepherds and fishermen. They knew a little about the Law of Moses but only a little. There was no one but the local rabbi to teach them and the local rabbis were not very educated at the time. The doctors of the law, the great theologians were all in Jerusalem where they got the respect and the financial reward which they felt they merited. Hence the people of the country were more or less forgotten and neglected. They were, as our Lord described them, "like sheep without a shepherd," wandering about half-lost.

They were certainly fortunate, however, in finding the true shepherd who would lead them to the eternal pastures. Not only would he now sacrifice his rest to come to their aid but he would, later on, lay down his life for them and for all of us. We, like those poor people of Galilee, have so much to be grateful for. The compassionate Christ has had pity on us too, and has brought us into his fold. He knows all our infirmities and all our human weaknesses, and he is ever-ready to have pity on us and pardon us. Those people of Galilee were not saints, they were ordinary, run-of-the mill, not over religious people. They cheated one another; they were often uncharitable to one another; they were not always chaste and pure; they prayed very little and perhaps only when they wanted some material benefit. Yet our Lord had compassion on them.

This should give us great confidence, great encouragement. Christ has not changed: he is the same yesterday, today and forever. He has the same compassion for us that he had for those Galileans; we too are often like sheep without a shepherd wandering half-lost through life. He is ever calling us to come to himself so that he will lead us to safe pastures. If only we would listen to his merciful call! Today's Gospel is one such call — it goes out to every member of this congregation who has been lax in his or her religious life up to now. Christ wants us back on the high-road to heaven. All we have to do is to break with the past, with the earthly things that kept us from God. We can set out as freemen to follow Christ. He has left to his Church the holy sacrament of penance in which he guarantees us complete and entire remission of all past sins if we confess them with true sorrow. Let us not think that our sins are too big to be forgiven, that Christ could not have compassion on us because of our dreadful past. We can remember those Galileans; many of them were sinners as we are and he had compassion on them. He came to call sinners, he tells us. Let us answer his call today—tomorrow might be too late.

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

Sacrament of Baptism

please call:

**Rev. John Yake, I.V. Dei
902-535-2231**

Instructors for baptism:

Mary Fougere, SJB (902) 535-2699

Rose Pâté, SP (902) 302-7011

Vera Doucette, HGA (902) 785-4018

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please call Fr. Yake six months prior to the wedding date.

Pre-Marriage Program**May 29, 2021**

Offered by Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia, Glace Bay.

Register by phone: 902-849-4772

For more information, contact:

Tasia Boucher

EAP/Pre-Marriage Program Coordinator & Admin Support

tboucher@fsens.ns.ca

Website: <http://ensfamilyservice.ca/>

Weekday Liturgy**Wednesday, July 21, 2021**

HGA 11:00 AM

Thursday, July 22, 2021

SJB 4:00 PM

+ Margaret Bourque

Friday, July 23, 2021, 2021

SP 9:00AM

Weekend Liturgy**Saturday, July 24, 2021**

SH 4:00 PM

HGA 5:30 PM

+ Robert P. Sampson

Requested by Dillon Sampson

Sunday, July 25, 2021

SJB 9:00 AM

+Patrick Konning

SP 10:30 AM

+ Rita Collet

Requested by Rose Landry

NOVENA to St ANNE:

From July 17 to July 25, a novena to St. Anne will be prayed at 10:30 each morning at Holy Guardian Angels Church. Everyone is welcome. Covid protocols are in effect.

Note: Weekday Mass at St. Peter's Villa will recommence in August. The first celebration will be on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 10:30am and thereafter on Thursdays starting on Thursday, August 12 at 10:30am.

Please note: Mass intentions should be arranged with Mary at office, not with Fr. Yake.

Please call the office when covid-19 restrictions are lifted to reschedule Masses that were missed during closure. Last Masses were said weekend of May 1-2

(July 11, 2021 receipts)

Holy Guardian Angels

Envelopes	\$ 792.00
Candles	16.00

Total **\$ 808.00**

St. Peter's Catholic Church

Envelopes & Loose	\$1,326.00
Candles	19.00
Improvement Fund	50.00
Cemetery Fund	100.00
Altar Society	100.00

Total **\$1,595.00**

Saint John the Baptist

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,182.00
Roof Fund	800.00

Total **\$1,982.00**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Facebook Live with Fr Patrick O'Neill and John Ratchford

Sundays at 7 pm

Fr. Patrick and John will host a 30-minute presentation of spirituality, talks and taking questions from viewers. Fr. Patrick is pastor of Our Lady of Fatima, Sydney River, as well as producer of Mass for Shut-Ins and chaplain for the Canadian Armed Forces and CBRM police. John Ratchford is a renowned photographer from North Sydney who has shared his personal experiences of faith and mental illness as part of our Youth Ministry Let's Talk events in 2020 and 2021.

To view the livestream:

<https://www.facebook.com/frpatrick.oneill>

From Bishop Kirkpatrick

In providing a COVID -19 update today, Premier Iain Rankin and Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Health announced that the province will enter Phase Four, effective tomorrow, July 14.

Phase Four allows for in-person faith gatherings in the province for 50% capacity up to 150 people indoors and up to 250 people outdoors. We will need to continue wearing masks and maintain physical distancing. I remind you the people in their own bubble count as one not the number of people in the group.

Weddings and funerals (including receptions and visitation) may have 50% capacity up to 150 people indoors and up to 250 people outdoors with social distancing and wearing masks.

<https://novascotia.ca/reopening-plan/phase-four/>

Celebrating the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly...

catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com › 2021 › 07

In recognition of this very important place that grandparents have in our lives, Pope Francis has declared July 25, 2021, as the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. This celebration will take place every year on the fourth Sunday of July, closest to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

Events at Johnstown

The following is the schedule for the summer and fall season. Some events are tentative at this time and more information will be forthcoming closer to the event. These events are subject to change due to Covid restrictions

1: Saturday July 10th: Take-out Strawberry Festival 2: Saturday July 17th: Flea Market – Sponsored by the Johnstown Community Co-op – to be held at the Johnstown Landing site 3: Saturday July 31st: Take-out Cold Turkey Plate 4: Saturday August 14th: Cemetery Mass and Take-out Supper 5: Sunday August 22nd: Bake Sale 5: Saturday September 4th: Take-out Supper 6: Sunday November 21st: Christmas Bingo

Indigenous delegation to Vatican scheduled for December 2021

Following the 10 June 2021 announcement regarding the delegation of Indigenous people to meet with the Holy Father to foster meaningful encounters of dialogue and healing, the Catholic Bishops of Canada are pleased to announce that the delegation is scheduled to take place from 17-20 December 2021 in compliance with global travel restrictions.

Pope Francis will meet with each of the three distinct groups of delegates – First Nations, Métis and Inuit – as well as a final audience with all delegates together on 20 December 2021. This pastoral visit will include the participation of a diverse group of Elders/Knowledge Keepers, residential school survivors and youth from across the country, accompanied by a small group of Bishops and Indigenous leaders.

Read more on Our Blog:

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/delegation-to-the-holy-see/>

We Are Neighbours:

New Study Guide Now Available

A new resource has been created and released by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops – Evangelical Fellowship of Canada National Dialogue.

This new study guide invites Catholics and Evangelicals to come together to form joint study groups. The guide includes study questions, suggested

ice-breakers, ideas for considering common social action, and suggestions for building relationships through faith practice. This guide aims to assist Catholics and Evangelicals, wherever they may encounter each other in Canadian society, to become more familiar with their brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Read more and download the study guide (English and French)
on Our Blog:**

<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/we-are-neighbours/>