

St. Peter, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist Parishes
(902) 535-2053
Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei

Bulletin email: bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com

May 8, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Easter
World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Gospel Verse, Jn 10:14:

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep and mine know me.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter marks the 59th Anniversary of the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** instituted by Pope Paul VI in 1964. Parishes are especially encouraged to include prayers for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the general intercessions on that day and the homily may focus on vocations. Pope Francis' messages [for each year](#) should be read and taken to heart.

Sunday

Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from Acts 13:14, 43-52 and the event described takes place in the middle of St. Paul's first missionary journey. Paul and Barnabas quote Isaiah 49:6 in support of their decision to preach to the Gentiles. The Isaiah text referred to Christ, ...but now Paul and Barnabas apply it to themselves because the Messiah is "light for the Gentiles" through the preaching of the Apostles, for they are conscious of speaking in Christ's name and on his authority. —*The Navarre Bible—Acts of the Apostles*

The **Second Reading** is from the Book of Revelation 7:9, 14b-17. Last week we heard St. John describing his vision of the heavenly liturgy where he saw the Lamb of God in the Holy of Holies in His perpetual offering to God, the heavenly offering of Jesus Himself which we join at every Mass. Today we join St. John as he again views this heavenly liturgy and describes the Church in heaven (what we call the Church Triumphant) as it glorifies God. The **Gospel** is from John 10:27-30. This Sunday is often called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus intended the beautiful parable of the Good Shepherd with its many consoling truths and promises for men of every century, including the twentieth. We are all too prone to evaluate the words of the Gospel in an exclusively historical sense. The liturgy's primary aim is to portray the present, not the past, to give grace and life along with history. You must, therefore, give the parable a present day context, apply it personally. After each sentence stop and say: Christ is doing this today — and to



help me. The parable brings to our attention three consoling truths: Christ gives His life for His sheep; He remains with them constantly through the bond of grace; He will not rest content until there be but one flock and one shepherd.

Now how do these points affect me personally? a) My Shepherd's death means my deliverance—why, even at this very moment of Mass, redemption's graces are flooding my soul. b) Between Christ and myself there must exist a closer intimacy than even that between brothers, relatives, or friends. c) It is through Christ's efforts that I have been brought into the fold, and He is ever striving to make me a more perfect member of His flock.

In order to realize these ends, Christ instituted His Church. This Church is His representative. There we may approach Him, there He is close to us, there He continues His presence: "I am with you all days, even unto the consummation of the world." Through the Church He speaks to us; in the Church flow the rivers of grace from Calvary's Cross; by means of the Church Christ seeks to become united personally with each of us. Oh, if we only would regard the Church as Christ mystically present in our midst! At this point I would like to single out two ways by which Christ fulfills His office of Shepherd in the Church, viz., through His words and through His very body.

The words He spoke will never die. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away." Christ's words are as pregnant with life now as when they were first spoken. They give us the mind of our Good Shepherd as He instructs, warns, and consoles us; they are the words of a father, a mother, a brother, a friend, a judge. Once upon a time Christ's words performed miracles, they have not lost their power! "Young man, I say to you: arise. This day you shall be with Me in paradise." Treasure Christ's words most highly.

Christ's body in the Eucharist gives flesh to His words in the Gospel. Never disjoin one from the other. For together they constitute our most valuable earthly treasure, together they give us the whole Christ. What He promises in the Gospel He fulfills in the Eucharist. And thus the Mass, comprising the word and the body of Christ, brings Him completely to us. In the Gospel He says, "I am the Good Shepherd"—in the Eucharistic Sacrifice the Good Shepherd becomes present. In the Gospel He proclaims, "I lay down My life for My sheep"—in the Eucharistic Sacrifice He pours His life into our souls. In the Gospel He tells us, "I know Mine and Mine know Me"—in the Eucharistic Sacrifice He fulfills His claim: Whoever eats My flesh abides in Me and I in Him. In the Gospel He says, "Other sheep I have ... them also must I bring"—through the Eucharistic Sacrifice He builds up His flock, gathering stray sheep into the fold.

These, then, are our two greatest treasures, Christ's words and Christ's body. By embracing both we embrace our Savior whole and entire.

—*The Church's Year of Grace*, Pius Parsch

Sacrament of Baptism
please call the office:
Rev. John Yake, I.V. Dei

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.
Call Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia to register for upcoming courses 902-849-4772. Ask for Tasia Boucher, tboucher@fsens.ns.ca

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

SJB 4:00 PM

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

SP 9:00 AM

Friday, May 13, 2022

HGA 11:00 AM
+Patricia Samson

Saturday, May 14, 2022

SH 4:00 PM
+Shirley Pentecost (Sutherland)

HGA 5:30 PM
+Jane Croft

Sunday, May 15, 2022

SJB 9:00 AM
+Josephine "Tussie" Morrison

SP 10:30 AM
+ James "Jimmy" Wedge

Receipts

Holy Guardian Angels

April 30, 2022

Envelopes & Loose \$ 660.00
Candles 22.50

Total \$ **682.50**

St. John the Baptist

May 1, 2022

Envelopes & Loose \$875.00

Total **\$ 875.00**

St. Peter's

May 1, 2022

Envelopes & Loose \$ 790.00

Candles 13.00

Parish Dues 448.00

Cemetery fund 25.00

Total **\$ 1,276.00**

Special Collections:

Holy Land: S.P. \$526.00; HGA \$288.00; SJB. \$335.00

Share Lent: SP \$595.00; HGA \$760.00; SJB \$265.00

Development & Peace: HGA \$160.00

COMMUNITY EVENTS

HGA: This past weekend any number of community volunteers offered their time to pick up garbage along our roadside and also clean up debris scattered in our cemetery. Thank you to everyone who made a difference and continue to see value in a clean and respectable environment.

SJB: Our sincere thanks to all those who took part in services during lent and holy week and for your generosity and dedication to your parish. May the risen Lord bless you abundantly **SJB Liturgy Committee**

SJB: We are very grateful to all those who made donations for Easter flowers and special thanks to the family of the late Margaret Bourque for their support.

SJB CWL

SP: Next parish council meeting will be held on Monday May 16, 2022 in St. Peter's Glebe basement at 6:00 PM

SJB: Burial of + Jean Pottie will be on May 14, 2022 at 11:00 AM and **Mass of the Resurrection and burial** for +Donnie Richard will be on Friday, May 27, 2022 at 11:00 AM. Masks suggested but not mandatory.

For all parishes: The Richmond Co. Men's Choir is actively singing again. The men sing in a different parish in Richmond Co. one **Sunday/Saturday** of each month (excluding July & August). If you love to sing, come join us! We practice in Louisdale Church every second week from 7:15 PM till 8:15 PM. Our next practice will be on May 11th. Choir will be in Glendale on May 29th at 10:00 AM Mass.

Priests' retreat will be held from Monday, May 23 until Friday, May 27th via Zoom.

From the Diocese

One-Day Market

May 28, 9am to 1pm

Sr Catherine Steele Centre, Stellarton

(behind Our Lady of Lourdes Church, North Foord St., Stellarton)

Hosted by Our Lady of Lourdes CWL

Come visit our Vendors for an excellent array of crafts and products that will be sure to delight you.

We are featuring a display that will be sure to excite you as well! We have the BEST, BEST, BEST junk ever and lots of vintage items ready for your decor diva to explore. Our Book Store will be open, there will be a 50/50 Draw, Raffle Basket and Fun for all! Admission is free.

Synod Update

"I don't know if anything will change, but it was nice to see people again and hear what everyone had to say."

- Synod conversation participant

Our conversations have a long way to travel to reach the Synod of Bishops in Rome. But it is important to remember that engaging in conversation locally has great value the moment it is shared – value to you, given a voice in the Synod process. Value to us who are privileged to hear it. Value to your faith community and our diocese as we move forward in the ‘new normal.’

Submissions to the Synod will be accepted until June 3. The Synod team stands ready to assist .

Contact Communications Officer, Jennifer Hatt

jennifer@dioceseofantigonish.ca, ph 902-759-2181

or visit www.antigonishdiocese.com/listeningchurch

From the Catholic Register

Outside the U.S. Supreme Court, Catholics join diverse chorus on abortion

BY RHINA GUIDOS, CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

• May 4, 2022

WASHINGTON -- The man with the train conductor's cap gently wove through the crowd gathered outside the Supreme Court of the United States in the early afternoon May 3 while carrying a sign that read: "Stop hating each other because you disagree."

Hours earlier, just after midnight, punches had been thrown in the crowd that had gathered outside the highest court of the land. News sites published reports of angry demonstrators shouting at one another.

Some arrived shortly after the online news site Politico published a report late May 2 from a leaked draft opinion signaling that the majority of Supreme Court justices seem set to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark 1973 legal decision that legalized abortion in the country.

But the daytime crowd gathered just after lunchtime May 3 seemed more intent on talking and listening. Peppered among them were Catholics Jamie Manson and Norvilia Etienne, members of organizations with different points of view on abortion.

"This is amazing," Etienne, a 26-year-old Catholic from Fredericksburg, Virginia, told Catholic News Service, saying she was in favor of what was being reported in the draft opinion leaked.

"It gives the decision back to the states so regular people like myself can make the decision to vote (for) people that I want in my state and pass pro-life laws," said Etienne, fellowship and impact coordinator with Students for Life.

Nearby, Manson, representing Catholics for Choice, was telling a crowd: "We need the faith voice more than ever because we are fighting religious ideology that is being codified into law."

She spoke about the Catholics who hold similar beliefs, including the president of the United States.

A Pew Research Survey from 2019 revealed that 56% of U.S. Catholics said "abortion should be legal in all or most cases," even as it goes against church

teaching, "while roughly 4 in 10 (42%) said it should be illegal in all or most cases," the survey found.

"We heard the arguments on Dec. 1, and this looks to be the way they were moving," Manson told CNS, saying she wasn't surprised by the revelations of where the court was heading.

What the two Catholic women could agree on was the leak.

"I don't like ... the way it was released," said Etienne. "We have a system in this country and that system should be followed."

"I was so shocked by the leak, not surprised by the articulation of the decision," added Manson.

The women weren't alone in the surprising revelations that threw the country into a tailspin late May 2, which now have cast political implications on the upcoming midterm elections.

The court confirmed the authenticity of the content in the leaked documents and Chief Justice John Roberts called it a "betrayal of the confidences of the court."

"This was a singular and egregious breach of that trust that is an affront to the court and the community of public servants who work here," he said in a statement.

Though the breach unleashed tensions that already ran high, for those like Etienne and Manson, the mission continued to convince others of their stance.

To those who do not share the same point of view, "I would say that we love you," said Etienne.

"We want to provide the support and help that you need to carry your baby to term so that you can keep having, you know, keep going to school, keep having the resources you need to have a good career but also have your baby," she said. "It's not a curse to be pregnant."

"I'm just not seeing the amount of money and energy being put in ... by conservative Catholics ... I don't see it," said Manson. "Show me the money, show me the policies that are going to protect mothers and children, the policies that are going to preserve maternal health as well. I just don't see it."

But above all, Manson said: "What I really want is for us to be in dialogue with each other. I really do. If there is there any type of way to engage, but there's no space in the Catholic Church right now to have this conversation ... to start thinking about the mother, to think about the complexity of her life, trust her to be a moral agent."

And yet for Etienne, it's a conversation about her very existence.

"My dad actually told me that I was almost aborted," she said. "I'm here today in front of you because my mom ultimately chose life for me."