

**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](mailto:bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com)**

**February 12, 2023**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### **Sunday Readings**

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46* and concerns the regulations enforced by the priests regarding certain bodily diseases which made a person unclean and a menace to the health of his neighbors.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 10:31, 11:1* and speaks of our imitation of Paul as he imitates Christ for the sake of the Gospel, as well as of the unity of the Church of God.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark 1:40-45*. We see both the divine power and the divine compassion of Jesus in this act of healing. The divine power was necessary in all instantaneous cures. Even if the diseases were curable, the ordinary process of nature took time to fight off the causes and to return to normality. Therefore, where there was an instantaneous recovery some power above nature, some supernatural cause brought it about. But where the disease was incurable, as real leprosy then was, to remove it by a simple word of command was more emphatically still the result of divine power. This divine power Jesus had, for he was himself divine, the Son of God.

His compassion for suffering humanity was, however, co-terminus with his power, it was also divine. It was out of compassion for the sad lot of the human race on earth that he descended to man's level, becoming man, equal to us in all things except sin, in order to suffer with us and for us. By his human sufferings he made an atonement, a satisfaction for all the sins of the world—a satisfaction which all mankind could never make—to his heavenly Father, and so obtained for us God's pardon. At the same time, 'by joining our human nature to his divine nature, he brought us into the divine orbit and made us adopted sons of God and heirs of the eternal life of the Blessed Trinity. Because this seems almost too good to be true, there are men who deny it or refuse to accept it. Such men make the mistake of

measuring the infinite compassion of God with the limited yardstick of their own finite and puny compassion.

Thanks be to God, for his infinite compassion! Thanks be to God, for Christ his Son, who came and dwelt amongst us! He put heaven and a share in the life of God within our reach; he has shown us how to attain them, giving in his Church and the sacraments, all the necessary aids. But we still need all of Christ's compassion if we are to get there. Because of our inclination to sin and because of the many times we unfortunately give in to that inclination, nothing but the mercy of God can save us from our own folly. However, that mercy is available, if only we ask for it. What we sinners need is the faith and confidence of the leper in today's gospel reading. He believed firmly in the power and the mercy of Jesus. "If you will, you can make me clean," was his approach to Jesus.

This should be our approach too, if we have the misfortune to fall into serious sin. Jesus does will and does want our salvation. His incarnation, and death on the cross, proves that. The fact that he left the power to forgive sins to his Church is another proof of both his will and desire to help us. "All power has been given to me in heaven and on earth," he stated. Part of that power which he left to his Church is in the sacrament of penance where the leprosy of sin can be washed away and the sinner restored to new and perfect spiritual health. What folly for any Christian then, to commit sin and isolate himself, like the unclean leper, from God. But it is greater folly still, to remain in this unclean state when the cure for his disease is so easily available to any sincere penitent.

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

### **Sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony**

**Please call the office:**

**902-535-2053**

**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

## Weekday Masses

### Tuesday, February 14, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM

+ *Special Intention*

### Wednesday, February 15, 2023

SP 9:00 AM

+ *Special Intention*

### Friday, February 17, 2023

HGA 11:00 AM

+ *Charles Leo Sampson*

## Weekend Masses

### Saturday, February 18, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM

+ *Burton MacDonald*

SP 5:30 PM

+ *Eva Landry*

### Sunday, February 19, 2023

SH 9:30 AM

HGA 11:00 PM

+ *Charles Leo Sampson*

## **The Season of Lent**

We read from the Church's Ordo, "The highest point in the Church's year prayer is the Sacred Paschal Triduum celebrating the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus. We prepare for this three-day period during the Season of Lent and prolong it for the great 50 days of the Easter season.

"Lent has a dual purpose. It helps catechumens prepare for celebrating Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil and it invites those who are baptized through penance and prayer to prepare to renew their promise a baptismal faith at Easter."

Ashes placed on believers' foreheads has been the traditional way to mark one's entry into the Season of Lent. Ashes will be distributed on the Sunday following Ash Wednesday and at the following Masses:

**Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2023**

**SJB 4:00 PM**

+ *Blair Brown*

(The vigil of Ash Wednesday using the readings for Ash Wednesday.)

**(Ash) Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023**

**SP 9:00 AM**

+ *Marion Maltby*

**Friday, Feb. 24, 2023**

**HGA 11:00 AM**

+ *Bernard Middleton*

**Receipts**

**St. John the Baptist (Due to winter storm Mass was cancelled)**  
**February 4, 2023**

**St. Peter's (Due to winter storm Mass was cancelled)**  
**February 4, 2023**

**Holy Guardian Angels**  
**February 5, 2023**

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 782.00
Candles	25.50
Solemnity of Mary	200.00

**Total**                      **\$ 1,007.50**

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Masses for February 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> are rescheduled for the following earliest available dates:** +Gerry Sampson, HGA, will be said on **March 26, 2023** and +Jeanette Landry, SJB, will be said on **March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. If the persons who

requested these Masses wish to cancel or request another date, please call our office. Thank you.

**HGA:** On Feb 11 the Church celebrates **World Day of the Sick**. This Sunday, Feb 12, at 2 PM at HGA church, the Holy Rosary will be prayed for the Sick and the Suffering. Everyone is welcome to join us.

**HGA:** The next meeting for the 200th anniversary of Holy Guardian Angels Parish will be Sunday, February 19th @ 2:00 PM at the L'Ardoise Community Centre. Everyone welcome.

**Tea & Tunes Sunday February 12 Bonnie Brae Club 2pm – 4pm**, Rob Smith. Admission \$5.00 Half and Half Tickets sold and a Light Lunch will be served. Come out and support our Seniors.

**SJB:** The “The Way of the Cross” will be prayed in the main church every Tuesday during Lent beginning on February 28<sup>th</sup> at 4pm followed by Mass. A cross bearer, two candle bearers, and a reader are needed. Sign-up sheets for these ministries are posted at the entrance of the church. Consider making acceptance of one of these ministries as a Lenten sacrifice.

**SP:** The St. Peter's and Area Food Bank Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday, March 5, 2023, at 1:30 PM in the basement of the Glebe House at 9785 Grenville Street, St. Peter's, Nova Scotia. All members of the public are welcome. Please note that because our last AGM was over three years ago, there will be an election of officers.

**Living With Cancer Support Group and Support programs:** 1. “Living With Cancer” support group - a support group for those who have had a diagnosis of cancer and their support person - will meet on Thursday, Feb. 15th 1pm-3pm at the Pier Legion, Victoria Rd., Sydney with facilitator Michelle Wheelhouse, CBCancer Center Social Worker. For more information, contact Courtney at the Cancer Center at 902-567-8551. 2. The Cape Breton Cancer Center has free weekly support programs for those who have had a diagnosis of cancer and their support person. Monday is Gentle Exercise, Tuesday is Yoga, Wednesday Tai Chi, Thursday is Drama and Friday is Music Therapy. For more information, times and locations, and to register please contact Courtney at the Cancer Center at 902-567-8551



## **In the Diocese**

### **Local Seminarians Admitted as Candidates**

With Cardinal Thomas Collins, Archbishop of Toronto presiding, David Jude Anthony Rankin and Joseph Alexander MacMaster were admitted as Candidates for the Sacred Orders of Diaconate and Priesthood for the Diocese of Antigonish at St. Augustine's Seminary on Sunday, February 5, 2023. Congratulations to David and Joseph! Candidacy is the rite by which our Church recognizes a seminarian is worthy of being ordained, hence the seminarian becomes a 'candidate' for ordination in the future.