

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

January 15, 2023
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 49:3, 5-6* and is the second of the "suffering servant" prophecies, found in Isaiah. These were prophecies uttered during the Babylonian exile to encourage the Jewish exiles to persevere in their trust in Yahweh, who would soon liberate them from Babylon, and eventually send them the long-expected Messiah, promised to Abraham.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 1:1-3*. The opening verses of this letter have been chosen for the reading because they show the prophecy, read in the first lesson, as fulfilled among the pagans, as well as emphasizing the purpose of the Messiah's coming: the sanctification and true enlightenment of all nations.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John 1:29-34*. The pages of the Gospel present John the Baptist as a symbolic example of a 'bridegroom's friend', as Christ's excellent and exemplary witness. The Baptist's pre-eminent witness was affirmed in two ways: firstly with regard to the content of his testimony and secondly with respect to its style.

With regard to the content of his testimony, the Baptist identified Jesus as '*the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world*' (Jn 1:29). Anticipating Jesus' messianic and salvific role, each of the four evangelists start their Gospels with the Baptist's words. The Lamb refers to the idea of salvation. The Lamb is the gift of liberation that, following the flight from Egypt, the Israelites sacrificed to the Lord. The Lamb recalls the servant of the Lord, the messianic image described by the Prophet Isaiah, '*like a lamb led to the slaughter-*



house, like a sheep dumb before its shearers' (Is 53:7). The Lamb recalls the image of the Victorious Lamb in the Book of the Apocalypse who at the end of time will definitively destroy evil and sin. John the Baptist is therefore, an authoritative witness who knew Jesus' exact identity and why He came amongst men.

With regard to John the Baptist's style, St John's Gospel (cfr Jn 3:28-29) presents St John the Baptist through the image of the 'bridegroom's friend'. He gives witness, yet is not positioned central to the events that are unfolding. His testimony is totally centralised on Christ. John indicates the presence of the Lord and then steps into the margins. *'I am not the Christ' and he goes on to affirm 'I am the one who has been sent to go in front of him. It is the bridegroom who has the bride; and yet the bridegroom's friend, who stands there and listens to him, is filled with joy at the bridegroom's voice. This is the joy I feel, and it is complete. He must grow greater, I must grow less.'*(Jn 3:28-30)

Today's Gospel offers us an eloquent example to imitate, so that we can also become Christ's authoritative witnesses. A believer can only give an authoritative witness if it coexists in perfect harmony with two of the Baptist's evangelical qualities. Firstly, knowledge of Christ that is cultivated through prayer, the sacramental and ecclesial life, reading good books and edifying friendships. Secondly, the constant attributes of a 'bridegroom's friend' who goes in search of the Groom through the virtue of humility because always, in everyone's life, Christ must increase and we must decrease!

—From the [Dicastery for the Clergy](#)

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

Monday, January 16, 2023

SJB 11:00 AM

Mass of the Resurrection

+ Kenneth Gregory Cosman, Jr.

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

SJB 11:00 AM

Mass of the Resurrection

+ Marion Teresa Maltby

The 4:00 PM Mass is cancelled

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

SP 9:00 AM

+ Vincent Zapulla

Friday, January 20, 2023

HGA 11:00 AM

+ Charles Leo Sampson

Weekend Masses

Saturday, January 21, 2023

SH 4:00 PM

HGA 5:30 PM

+ Gerry Sampson

Sunday, January 22, 2023

SJB 9:00 AM

+ Wally Cooke

SP 10:30 PM

+ Eva Landry

Receipts

Holy Guardian Angels

January 8, 2023

Envelopes & Loose \$ 642.00

Candles 49.00

Holy Guardian Angels, pray for us.



Maureen

HGA: As part of our 200th Anniversary Celebration, our Parish has been invited to participate in Mass for Shut Inns. A taping of this program will take place on Saturday morning, **February 11th @ 10:30** from St. Marguerite Bourgeois Church in Sydney. We encourage families to consider attending and if you would be interested you are asked to contact Raymonde Burke @ 902-587-2675.

HGA: The next meeting of the 200th Anniversary Committee is **Sunday, January 22nd @ 1:00 P.M.** L'Ardoise Community Centre. New joiners are welcome to share their ideas.

HGA: On behalf of the 200th Anniversary Planning Committee, I, Steve Sampson, wish to express the Committee's appreciation to all who attended our opening celebration for the 200th anniversary of Holy Guardian Angels Parish. We are especially grateful to the many volunteers who helped with preparation, both at church and at the Community Centre. It is our prayer that as we are reminded of the sacrifices made by our ancestors, we will be renewed by our commitment to serve others and strengthen our relationship with our Creator.

HGA: Please come celebrate Rita May Sampson's 85th birthday on **Sunday, January 29, from 2 pm to 4 pm.** Best wishes only! Address is 3051 Point Michaud Road

From, The Sampson kids

If you need to contact me, I can be reached at 902-587-2376

Thanks so much,

Paula Watson (Sampson)

K of C fund raiser: Congratulations to Roxanne Richards on her winning of the Piano on our recent fund raiser. Many thanks to all who purchased tickets that raised \$1660 for our various projects. Special thanks to Margaret and MacNeil family for donating the Piano. Thanks to Carmelita Landry and Mary Sutherland for their assistance. Thanks to Kenny and Basque in Business for allowing us to sell tickets in the store. We were able to purchase coats for the "Coats for Kids" K of C program and to assist recovering alcoholics at Talbot House and Victims of Domestic Abuse at "Transition House" with these funds.

K of C meeting: The regular meeting of Council 14280 will be held on January 19, 2023 beginning at 6:30 pm in the basement meeting room of the St. Peter's Glebe house. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.



Sacramentum Caritatis:

On the Eucharist as the Source and Summit of the Church's life and mission

- Pope Benedict XVI, 1927-2022:

"As Saint Augustine put it: '*nemo autem illam carnem manducat, nisi prius adoraverit; peccemus non adorando* – no one eats that flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore it.' (191) In the Eucharist, the Son of God comes to meet us and desires to become one with us; eucharistic adoration is simply the natural consequence of the eucharistic celebration, which is itself the Church's supreme act of adoration. (192) Receiving the Eucharist means adoring him whom we receive. Only in this way do we become one with him, and are given, as it were, a foretaste of the beauty of the heavenly liturgy. The act of adoration outside Mass prolongs and intensifies all that takes place during the liturgical celebration itself. Indeed, 'only in adoration can a

profound and genuine reception mature. And it is precisely this personal encounter with the Lord that then strengthens the social mission contained in the Eucharist, which seeks to break down not only the walls that separate the Lord and ourselves, but also and especially the walls that separate us from one another." (193)