

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

July 23, 2023

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Wisdom 12:13, 16-19* where the author reminds us that the kind of judgment we receive depends not on the scales of godless justice, but instead on the mercy and love of God for those who strive to live life in response to His love. —*A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary — A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:26-27*. The theme is the activity of the Spirit in helping us in our weakness to pray as we ought, for it is the Spirit who makes intercession for us and intercedes for us before God. —*A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary — A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 13:24-43*. Today's parable is Christ's answer to the question so frequently asked: "Why does God permit evil to triumph so often in this world, why are the wicked allowed to prosper?" The triumph of the wicked is short-lived, the reward of the Christian who suffers from their wickedness is everlasting. The very wickedness and injustices of evil-doers are one of the ways that God uses to perfect his elect. It is only on a battlefield that a true soldier can be proved.

In the parable, the weed does not destroy the wheat. It only makes it more difficult for the wheat to grow to maturity. So it is with the Christian. No one can take his faith from him, but living up to it is made more difficult by the evil influence and bad example of sinners. If some succumb to this evil influence and give up the practice of their faith, the fault is theirs. God can force no man to serve him.



The patience of the farmer in letting the weed grow on until harvest time, exemplifies the infinite mercy of God toward sinners. The weed could not change its nature, but the sinner can change his ways and God gives him every chance and every help to do this, up to his last moment of life. No sinner will be excluded from heaven because of the sins he committed but because he did not repent of these sins while he had the opportunity.

We must learn a double lesson of patience from this parable. First, to be patient with those who make our spiritual progress more difficult for us—they are actually helping us to be better Christians if we bear with patience the injuries they inflict on us. Second, we must try to imitate the patience God shows in his dealings with sinners. While we must not approve of their evil deeds, or their sins, we must still look on them as our brothers and do all in our power to put them back on the right road to heaven. We can do this by good example, and by fervent prayer for their

conversion. This is not easy for human nature, but we can be certain that God will give us the necessary grace and strength to subdue our natural weakness and aversion, if we try to act with charity and true brotherly interest toward our erring fellowmen.

By acting thus, we will not only be helping a weak brother on the rugged road to heaven, we will also be making doubly sure of our own arrival there, for God will never be outdone in generosity.

—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

Vera Doucette, HGA (902) 785-4018

Receipts:

St. John the Baptist

July 15, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,015.00
Cemetery Donation	80.00
Property Maintenance	125.00

Total **\$ 1,220.00**

St. Peter's

July 15, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 971.00
Candles	23.00
Cemetery Donation	150.00

Total **\$ 1,144.00**

Holy Guardian Angels

July 16, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 806.00
Candles	18.75

Total **\$ 824.75**

Schedule of Masses

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

SJB 1:00 PM

Mass of the Resurrection

+John Maurice MacNeil

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

SP 9:00 AM
+*Michael J. MacNeil*

Friday, July 28, 2023

HGA 11:00 AM

NOTE THE CHANGE IN MASS TIMES FOR HGA AND SP

Saturday, July 29, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM
HGA 6:30 PM
+ *Robert P. Sampson*
+ *David & George Sampson*

HGA:

Blessing of Crosses 10:30 AM
Blessing of the Fleet 12:00 PM
Acadian Festival Mass 6:30 PM

Sunday, July 30, 2023

SH 9:30 AM
SP 11:00 AM
+ *Frank & John Sutherland*

COMMUNITY NEWS

HGA: L'Ardoise Acadian Festival is fast approaching, July 27 -30. We are once again asking parishioners to help by donating food items (if possible) such as Frozen vegetables, sweets/pies and or rolls. We thank you in advance. Festival Committee.

HGA: NOVENA to St. ANNE:

From July 17 to July 25, HGA will be praying a novena to St. Anne at 10:30 each morning at Holy Guardian Angels Church. Everyone is welcome.

Nicolas Denys Days 2023 is coming up from July 31st to August 6th! It's a full week of fund for the whole family with lots of music, children's activities, tours, and of course, our favourite - Swim The Canal!

Stella Maris Parish (Inverness) Annual Dinner on Sunday, July 30th, 11 am - 2:30 pm at Inverness Firehall. Turkey Dinner/Strawberry Shortcake/Eat-in or take-out/Adults \$20.00 & children under 12 years \$10.00. Tickets available at the door or by contacting Isabel MacEachern 902-258-2724/5676 or Darlene MacKenzie 902-258-3494/902-915-7602. Drop in on your way to the 67th Broad Cove Concert to enjoy a delicious meal. Your support is appreciated.

Family Picnic

Join Grand Mira Community Hall for a Family Picnic, Saturday, July 29 from 1-5pm.

Includes a Raffle Table, New-to-You Table, Games of Chance, Bake Sale, Bingo, and Roast Beef Dinner for lunch.

Cost is \$18.00 for Adults, and \$10.00 for Children.

Contact Marie Martin at (902) 727 2515 for more details.

The Broad Cove Scottish Concert is deemed as the largest outdoor Scottish concert in Cape Breton. This yearly celebration of Scottish music, culture, and heritage gathers talented musicians, dancers, and performers in Broad Cove to entertain our audiences. We are dedicated to preserving and promoting Scottish culture, and this event is a tribute to the lasting impact of Scottish music and dance. Whether you are a passionate follower of Cape Breton music or seeking to discover a distinct cultural experience, we cordially invite you to join us for an unforgettable experience. The Annual Broad Cove Scottish Concert has the distinct pleasure of welcoming The Barra MacNeils as our headliner for this year's 67th concert along with many respected and revered performers from across the island.

LOCATION: On the grounds of St. Margaret of Scotland Parish: 178 Broad Cove Marsh Rd, Inverness, NS B0E 1N0 **DATE:** Sunday, July 30th / 3pm-9pm /Rain or Shine. **ADMISSION:** \$25 and persons under 12 are free.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Sept. 16-26, 2023

Package includes flights from and return to Halifax, ground travel to and from airport in Europe, accommodations, breakfast and dinner daily, and opportunities for both group and individual activities. Cost is \$2,899 including taxes per person (\$300 additional charge for single if available).

A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required by July 20, 2023 to hold your seat. Space is limited. For more information and to register, call group leader Rhonda-Lynn Cormier-Clarke, 902-448-3660.