

**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)**

**March 26, 2023**

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Note the special collection today is in support of the work of the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace.**

### **Sunday Readings**

The **First Reading** from the Old Testament prophet *Ezekiel 37:12-14* is taken from the chapter about pouring forth the Spirit upon the "dry bones" in the valley of his vision. The prophet speaks of restoration through an act of God through the Spirit and that it was through him that the people first were saved from their oppression in Egypt, and by his power they will be saved again and restored as the people of God. The symbolic meaning of the reading is the resurrection of the people to new life, a theme clearly reiterated in succeeding apocalyptic literature and finally present in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

The **Second Reading** from *St. Paul to the Romans 8:8-11* states that through Christ the whole person of the believer is saved, raised up, and redeemed. The realm of the flesh is the realm to be left behind, and the realm of the Spirit is where true life is to be found. But there is no hellenistic dichotomy here between flesh and spirit since the believer lives with the Spirit of God enfleshed in his body so that his whole person will live in conformity with that Spirit. The indwelling of the Spirit refers to the baptism of the person and his consequent moral life.

The **Gospel** reading from *St. John 11:1-45*, opens up in front of us a scene of unprecedented sorrow. The Lord Jesus receives the message from the sisters of Lazarus who, when confronted with the gravity of his condition, tried the only thing possible, they turned to the Lord of who it was said: '*Everything He does is good, he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak*' (Mk 7:37). It is the cry of each one of us who would like their loved ones to live forever without ever leaving us.

The Lord Jesus, inexplicably, waited a further two days before heading for Lazarus' home. Even then, He only left with His disciples when he divinely knew of His friend's death. This particular detail from the Gospel tells us that the Word of God was made Man for the love of all of us. Also that His look of love is always upon us waiting for that meeting of immense joy that will happen in eternity.

Upon Jesus' arrival in Bethany there was a new apparently inexplicable development in the story. First Mary, then her sister Martha and behind them all the Jews who were united with them, converge on Jesus with the certainty that if there was a response to their sorrow it would come from Him. They were not irreligious people who were looking to Jesus for a solution. They profoundly accepted Israel's faith in the final Resurrection and so even this event was not ultimately inexplicable. In fact Martha said to the Lord, '*I know that he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day*' (Jn 11:24). However, knowing that in relation to the Lord, nothing that was authentically human in them or their cry of

sorrow be would be lost. Prior to that, their only consolation came from the eschatological faith of the time.

In this last sign, worked by the Lord before His triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, everything seems to flow to that ‘new reality’ inaugurated by Emmanuel, God with us. Sharing our existence, Jesus had loved us with a supreme passion, with that virginal love that doesn’t seek to possess the heart of the other, but to love it in truth with delicate insistence right up to sacrificing Himself for us. In this infinite delicacy and attention to everyone, He was able to be moved by those who were linked to Him by ties of the most profound friendship who understood that it could not be anything but God’s presence amongst them. *‘I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this? She said to him, Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.’* (Jn 11:25-27)

Christ then performed the great miracle of Lazarus’ resurrection. He announced, through the work of the Father, that He, Himself, God made man, is the Resurrection and the Life. He is also the Lord of biological life. His voice can reach those who, like Lazarus, have exceeded the threshold of four days from their death and arrived at the point where bodily corruption commences. Faced with this sign, the words with which He foretold His Resurrection become clearer: *‘I lay down my life, that I may take it again’* (Jn 10:17). He really can *‘take up [His life] again’* as He is the Word of Life. If Lazarus’ resurrection didn’t stop the Lord’s beloved friend from embracing *‘our sister death’*—to use St Francis’ expression—when God finally called him again from this life, then how much greater is the Life that the Lord has earned for Lazarus and everyone of us in the Paschal Mystery that we are preparing to celebrate a few days from now.

It was Martha and Mary’s faith, even when confronted with Lazarus’ death that gave rise to the extraordinary miracle worked by Christ. This is not only a consoling story narrated in the letters of the Gospel, but it is also accessible to us today in the Church from the day of our Baptism until when we are incorporated to Him by means of the Spirit that He has given to us. *‘If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit who dwells in you.’* (Rom 8:11)

Most Holy Mary, the mother of the Risen One, give us the grace to look towards and live the light of this extraordinary reality—the promise of Resurrection in Christ. Amen.

—From the [Congregation 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) 785-401

**Weekday Masses**

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023**

**SJB 4:00 PM**

**+*Lorraine Pottie***

**Wednesday, March 29, 2023**

**SP 9:00 AM**

**+ *Elaine Burns***

**Friday, March 31, 2023**

**HGA 11:00 AM**

**+ *Christina "Jean" MacDonald***

**Saturday, April 1, 2023**

**SJB 4:00 PM**

**+*Lorraine Pottie***

**SP 5:30 PM**

**+ *Frank & Mike Sutherland***

**Sunday, April 2, 2023**

**SH 9:30 AM**

**HGA 11:00 AM**

**+ *Gerald A. Martell***

**Receipts**

**St. John the Baptist**

**March 18, 2023**

**Envelopes & Loose \$ 672.00**

**Donation 165.00**

**Cemetery 185.00**

**Total \$ 1,022.00**

**St. Peter's**

**March 18, 2023**

**Envelopes & Loose \$ 951.20**

**Candles 28.00**

**Total \$ 979.20**

**Holy Guardian Angels**

**March 19, 2023**

**Envelopes & Loose \$ 755.00**

**Candles** 22.50

**Total** **\$ 777.50**

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**SJB: Lenten Prayer Books** are available free of charge at the church entrance and in the vestry.

**SJB** Any donations towards the cost of Easter flowers would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be placed in the weekly collection in an envelope marked "Easter Flowers." **St John the Baptist CWL.**

**HGA:** We continue to have the church open for personal prayer each Sunday from 1 to 3 PM.

**HGA parish council is inviting you to become a member.** For those of you who are not sure what Parish council does, we invite you to sit in on our next meeting. Please take the time to think about joining. Hope to see you there. For more information, contact Raymonde Burke 902-587-2675

**HGA Parish is hiring a permanent - part time cleaner** for our parish buildings. \$15:00 per hour and a minimum of ten hours per week. Interested parties can contact Raymonde Burke @ 902 227-8552 or 902 587-2675 please leave a message. Deadline is March 30.

**Indoor Yard Sale, Saturday, April 1st L'Ardoise Community Centre, 9:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.** Proceeds to support the L'Ardoise Cemetery Fund. Table Rentals available, contact Blair Sampson (902-535-4107)

# *Mother's Day Dinner*

## **L o b s t e r M e a l**

(complete with salads, dessert, coffee or tea)

**Or Ham Cold Plate Alternative**

**~ Take Out Available ~**

**Sunday, May 14th**

**11 AM - 1 PM**

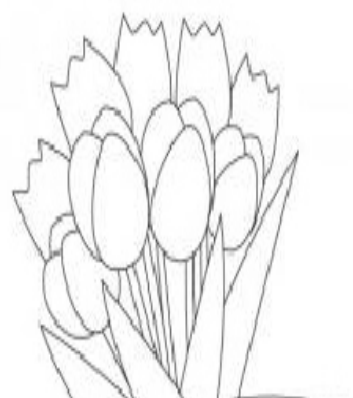
**L'Ardoise Community Centre**

**Admission: \$30.00**

**To Purchase Tickets Contact:**

Sally Anne Mombourquette @ 587-2171

Leona Middleton @ 587-2617



**St. Peter's Parish Altar Society** would like to thank everyone for the support of our recent fundraiser, St. Patrick's Gift Card Basket.

The winner was Jennifer Mombourquette. To all ticket sellers and those who donated gift cards, thank you!

## **Holy Week Celebrations**

### **Chrism Mass**

Monday, April 3, 2023, at 3:00 pm

Celebrated at St. Ninian Cathedral and hosted by Holy Guardian Angels Parish that is celebrating their 200th Anniversary.

Note: Parishioners of all parishes are welcome to join all Holy Week celebrations.

### **Thursday of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday)**

Thursday, April 6, 2023

SH 5:00 pm

SJB 7:00 pm

There will be no foot-washing.

### **Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)**

Friday, April 7, 2023

SP 3:00 pm

(TBA: Officiants for HGA, SJB, and SH.)

Note: Holy Mass is not permitted on Good Friday or Holy Saturday. The Good Friday service consists of three parts: The Liturgy of the Word with Intercessions, the Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. There should be no physical contact with the Cross, but veneration may be expressed by a reverent bow or a genuflection.

### **The Resurrection of the Lord**

#### **At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night**

Saturday, April 8, 2023

SP 8:00 pm

#### **Easter Sunday**

Sunday, April 9, 2023

SH 9:30 am

HGA 11:00 am

No weekday Masses Monday, April 10 – Friday, April 14, 2023.

### **Ultreya**

All are invited to the upcoming first Ultreya.

Will be taking place Thursday, March 30, 2023, at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, McMahon room in the basement.

Start time is 7:30pm and the event will be livestreamed on the Cursillo Facebook page.

## TEA and TALK

Sydney Tuesday, March 28, 2023 1:30 -3:30 pm

An invitation to join with other women to share TEA and TALK at Holy Redeemer Convent, 24 Neville St. Whitney Pier. This invitation is open to women of all ages.

This is an initial attempt to provide an opportunity for women to join with others to share a cup of tea and to experience the joy of being together, especially after living through the restrictions of COVID.

For further information phone 902 270 4840 or 902 539 6331.

CND Sisters and Associates



# Baptism & Confirmation

## *The Big Picture*



## A Virtual Conversation

with Mgr. Paul-André Durocher  
Archbishop of Gatineau

author of [Called by Name, Sent in His Name](#)



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