

**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 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Sunday Mass Readings

Today's readings in the liturgy of the Word use the same theme of the poor, not only the needy but above everything else, those who founded their security and hope in God.

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Zephaniah (one of the twelve minor prophets) 2: 3; 3: 12-13*. It introduces the poor as those who are repressed by the inequities of the powerful and by injustice, those who never lose hope, who seek the Lord with trust and rely only on Him.

The **Second Reading**, taken from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 1:26-31*. St. Paul highlights that God's choices don't follow human reckoning. God does not single out the strong but chooses the small ones, the poor. God chooses the weakest and those who have no value or power in the eyes of the world. St Paul says 'that no human being might boast before God' (1 Cor 1:29) and it seems clear, therefore, that one's material goods and talents do not come from power or human virtues but only and exclusively from the Lord. The world is permanently scandalized, and yet called to conversion, by the apparent illogicality of Divine logic. The mystery and drama of the Word made flesh, is the scandal that is the stumbling block that some Christians have not yet fully comprehended.

The **Gospel** reading is taken from the *Gospel of St. Matthew 5:1-12a*. At the end of the Gospel of the Beatitudes, the poor appear as the privileged ones in the discourse, the definitive, true protagonists in the story.

The first recipients of the Beatitudes are, in fact, the 'poor in spirit', an expression that indicates those who have their hearts and consciences directed intimately to Our Lord. They are the expression of the just who are tried by moments of suffering and difficulties. However, they are called 'blessed' and 'happy' because God's merciful and compassionate gaze rests on them. These are the poor that the Bible text really refers to. The poor in the Bible are the humbled, the 'anawîm', who bear a burden on their shoulders. They are given God's favor and because of this the Word identifies them as just, meek and humble. All kinds of attitudes are included in the eight beatitudes. This way the true significance of the 'just poor' is revealed; the ones who don't confide mainly in themselves but in God. The poor are those who detach themselves concretely and interiorly from the possession of persons and things and above all of themselves. The poor don't find security in the gods of this world like success, power or pride but the true Lord God in Heaven.

Thus, the poor, meek and humble become a scandal before the world because they witness that one can found our lives on God, with the same certainty of His constant presence and so they confirm the existence and works of God. Each one

of us is invited to verify where our certainty rests and if our daily life and actions proclaim God's efficacious presence in the world.

—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

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM

+ Marion Maltby

Wednesday, February 1, 2023

SP 9:00 AM

*** Special Intention**

Friday, February 3, 2023

HGA 11:00 AM

+ Serena Clannon

Weekend Masses

Saturday, February 4, 2023

SJB 4:00 PM

+Jeanette Landry

SP 5:30 PM

***Special Intention**

Sunday, February 5, 2023

SH 9:30 AM

HGA 11:00 PM

+ Gerry Sampson

Receipts

Holy Guardian Angels

January 21, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 614.00
Candles	19.20
Solemnity of Mary	10.00
Missals	5.00
Initial Offering	5.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 653.20</u>

St. John the Baptist

January 22, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 905.00
Cemetery	150.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 1,055</u>

St. Peter's

January 22, 2023

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 796.00
Candles	9.00
Initial Offering	25.00
New Year's	5.00
Missals	5.00
Christmas	15.00
Maintenance	600.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 1,455.00</u>

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please note changes in Mass times: Beginning **Saturday, February 4th**, 2023 Mass at St. John the Baptist will be at 4:00 PM and St. Peter's at 5:30 PM. On **Sunday, February 5th** Mass at Sacred Heart will be at 9:30 AM and Holy Guardian Angels' Parish at 1 1:00 AM. This change is made to accommodate those parishioners who do not have the opportunity to attend Mass on Sunday at their own parish. We hope this will be satisfactory for everyone. Mass requests will be changed accordingly.

Thank You: The family of the late Kenneth Gregory Cosman, Jr. is deeply grateful for all the love and support provided during our time of bereavement. We truly appreciated the visits, the many donations of food, the help we received, the beautiful cards and the many messages of condolences. Your kindness in donating to charities in Kenny's memory is overwhelming and we thank you for your generosity. We are also so grateful for those who traveled to join us at this difficult time. Special thanks to CH Boudreau Funeral Home, paramedics, Father Yake and ministers for their compassion and help. They say, "it takes a village" and our village certainly came together to help us through our loss. Our hearts are truly grateful.

Joann, Debbie, Maureen, Brenda & families

HGA: In thanksgiving for our 200 years of *Ancestry, Faith and Family*, our church will be open for personal prayer on Sundays, 1 - 3 PM throughout 2023. We invite everyone to visit and to pray for your own intentions, for the intentions of parishioners, and for the strengthening of the faith of our future generations.

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.

Pope Francis' Emphasis on Synodality: The Gospel and Culture

(Why we pray the synod prayer)

Pope Francis has emphasized a new consciousness in the Church that is called synodality. This is not new but a neglected aspect of the Second Vatican Council that insisted that the Church not be defensive but to take its message of truth into cultures, into the world beyond the Church. In a lecture at Toronto's Regis College back in November 2021 Cardinal Michael Czerny focussed on this new perspective. He pointed out that in 1979 the decree, *Sapientia Christiana*, that addressed the neglect of theological studies in church institutions had been ignored for 40 years. In 2017 Pope Francis raised the same topic in *Veritatis Gaudium*. There Francis tried to revive the Vatican II project to open theological studies to dialogue with the world. This is the *aggiornamento* that St. Pope John XXIII wanted by calling the Council.

The Second Vatican Council had set a new path for theology. To quote Czerny, "The Church (at Vatican II) put a definitive end to an attitude that for centuries had conditioned its way of doing theology. I am referring to the defensiveness that, since the advent of modernity, had led the Church to conceive of itself as a stronghold besieged by internal and external enemies of the faith. Vatican II decided to discontinue the path traced by Catholic apologetics after Trent; it chose a more dialogical and constructive tone. Czerny warned against an inward looking, obsessive parsing of old formulas that do not address the world in which people live their lives. He said, "Faith without the struggle for justice risks abstraction from reality, insignificance, limitation to mere cult and ritual." He

insisted that if theology is going to be at the centre of the Church, dialogue and synodality will be key. Czerny concluded, “It is at the heart of the Church's renewal efforts now and will be in the years ahead.”

Congratulations to the Richmond County volunteers who won the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Medal for generous volunteerism.

GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

The following guidelines have been developed to provide guidance in selecting deserving candidates:

- The awarding of the medal should focus on the achievements of persons who have helped to build the Nova Scotia of today, including seniors, volunteers, veterans, and youth;
- A focus of the program is also to recognizing the contributions and services rendered by individuals throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic;
- Through their achievements and sustained contribution, the candidates have distinguished themselves from others volunteering in/employed in the same field;
- Recipients should be highly respected individuals within their community. The recipients’ names will be part of the public record;
- Nominees should be inclusive and reflect the demographics of their region or community;
- The medal is to be awarded to individuals only, not to groups or couples;
- Self-nominations are not permitted.

Medal Recipients

Anita Basque

Louise Campbell

Terrence Clements

Anne Digout

Robert Goyetche

Evelyn Landry

Richard Landry

Dr. Laurie MacNeil

Louise Marchand

(posthumously)

Allison Martell

Shirley McNamara

Sally Ann Mombourquette

Peggy Ouellette

Donnie Pottie

Debbie Sampson

Potlotek

Johnstown

L'Ardoise

St. Peter's

Louisdale

Louisdale

St. Peter's

Arichat

Petit de Grat

St. Peter's

Grantville

L'Ardoise

Arichat

River Bourgeois

Louisdale

