

**St. Peter, Holy Guardian Angels, and St. John the Baptist Parishes**  
(902) 535-2053

**Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei**

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**October 29, 2023**

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments" (Mt 22:34-40).*

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## **Mass Readings**

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of Exodus 22:20-26*. These verses cover the Israelites' duties toward strangers (non-Israelites), widows and orphans and the poor in general. They are a practical application of the law of charity in their dealings with their neighbors.

The **Second Reading** is from the *First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5c-10*. St. Paul continues to praise the Thessalonians, not only for accepting the faith in difficult circumstances, but for the wonderful example their Christian life had already given to most of Greece.

The **Gospel** is from *Matthew 22:34-40*. The Pharisees may not have had evil intentions when asking Christ the question as to the greatest commandment. But they have done us a good service by getting this crystal clear answer from him. In this answer he tells us that the man who loves God and neighbor fulfills all his obligations, and carries out all the duties that God's self-revelation in "the law and the prophets" imposes on him. God revealed himself to us in the Old Testament as our Creator and divine benefactor. He had no need of us, since he is infinitely perfect in himself, but out of his infinite goodness he wished to share his eternal kingdom of happiness with mankind and so he created us. That we should love such a benefactor and be grateful to him is not asking much of us; such love should surely be the spontaneous reaction of a rational being, and yet there were and there are many who fail to acknowledge any such obligation.

No Christian, worthy of the name, can ever be among such thoughtless and thankless people. We have greater proofs of God's love for us than "the law and the prophets" gave to the Israelites. We have the added proofs of God's infinite interest in us brought to us by the Incarnation. We have been raised to the sublime status of adopted sons of God.

Where Christians can, and too often do fail, is in their true love of neighbor. Yet Christ says that this commandment is like the first. Love of neighbor is an essential part of our obligations toward God. If we fail in this we fail in our love for God,

for we refuse to carry out this sacred duty. If we do not recognize our neighbor as our brother, we do not recognize God as our Father and we do not love him. As St. John puts it: "Anyone who says 'I love God' and hates (does not love) his neighbor is a liar" (1 Jn.3: 20).

Let each one of us ask himself today how seriously he takes this law of fraternal charity and how faithfully he carries it out. Not all of us may be able to give material help to a neighbor in need but the poorest of us can spare a kindly word, an encouraging word, for a neighbor weighed down with cares and troubles. All of us can pray for a neighbor who needs spiritual and temporal help. Most of us can deny ourselves some unnecessary luxuries in order to give a needed loaf of bread to a hungry fellowman, while those who have an abundance of this world's goods need not look far afield to find cases and causes worthy of their Christian charity.

Remember that whatever spiritual or material help is given out of true charity to a neighbor in need, is given to God, and whatever is given to God is soundly invested in heaven, and heaven pays handsome dividends.

—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**

### **Receipts:**

#### **St. John the Baptist October 21, 2023**

<b>Envelopes &amp; Loose</b>	<b>\$ 685.00</b>
<b>Cemetery</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Property Maintenance</b>	<b>25.00</b>

**Total** **\$ 810.00**

#### **St. Peter's October 21, 2023**

<b>Envelopes &amp; Loose</b>	<b>\$ 948.25</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>14.10</b>
<b>Missals</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>Cemetery</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>World Vision</b>	<b>170.00</b>

**Total** **\$ 1,157.35**

**Holy Guardian Angels**  
**October 22, 2023**

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 910.60
Candles	35.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 945.710</b>

**Schedule of Masses**

**Tuesday, October 31, 2023**

SJB 4:00 PM  
*+Bernard Pius Sampson*

**Wednesday November 1, 2023**

SP 9:00 AM  
All Saints Day  
*+ Rose & Ambrose Sutherland*

**Friday, November 3, 2023**

HGA 11:00 PM  
*+ Alphonse & Sarah Pottie*

**Saturday, November 4, 2023**

SJB 4:00 PM  
*+Bernard Pius Sampson*  
Requested by Phil, Barbara & Michelle Boucher  
SP 5:30 PM  
*+ Eva Landry*

**Sunday, November 5, 2023**

SH 9:30 AM  
HGA 11.00 AM

**Come celebrate the 70th anniversary of the St. Peter's Community Club** on  
October 29<sup>th</sup> at the United Church Hall at 6:30PM.

Thanks. Judy Madden

**SJB: Operation Christmas Child:** Boxes are now available for all three parishes. Boxes from Canada are being sent this year to Central America and the Ukraine. Please take and fill a box in support of this worthy cause. Last year 415,072 boxes were collected from across Canada. The deadline for their return is **Saturday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> for SJB and SP and Sunday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> for HGA.**

St. John the Baptist CWL

Contact Mary Fougere (902) 535-2699

**HGA:** On behalf of parishioners from Holy Guardian Angels Parish in L'Ardoise we wish to invite everyone to participate in a two-day Mission, starting on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> with Mass @ 7:00 P.M. Our special guest is Father Toochukwu from the Archdiocese of Halifax. On Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> we will again have Mass at 9:00 AM followed by individual confession, concluding with

an evening address and Adoration. Father "T" as he is affectionately known, reveals his faith and spiritual experiences that have had a profound effect on many. An excellent speaker, he has a great communicative ability to reach out and support us along our faith journey.

**HGA: All Souls Day commemorative ceremony** for the faithful departed will take place at Holy Guardian Angels Church on Sunday, November 5th, at our regular 11:00 AM Mass. While we use this occasion to remember our dearly departed, it is also an opportunity to pray for those members of our parish community and friends who have died during the past year. **SP and SJB** will also be celebrated at their regular Saturday Mass. All families will be notified.

**L'Ardoise Social Action** Tickets, \$2.00 each or \$5.00 for a book of 3, are available for a draw to win \$500.00 in Gift Cards. Contact Sally Anne, Elaine, or Mary Anne. Proceeds to support Food Bank Operations. The draw will be held on Sunday, December 3rd.

**HGA:** There is a limited number of 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary souvenirs, Souvenir Booklets and Vintage Calendars, available at reduced prices: one item for \$15.00 or two items for \$20.00. These souvenirs will make great Christmas gifts for family and friends. For further information, contact Steve Sampson (902-631-4460) or Blair Sampson (902-535-4107).

### **Three Days but One Feast Celebrating the Triduum in the Parish**

The Triduum liturgy is the culmination of the entire year and it makes sense that the community's Sunday experience influences their anticipation of Triduum. If our assemblies are not engaged by music, preaching, hospitality, or other sacramental encounters at the Sunday liturgy, they are not likely to seek out more of the same.

It is common to think of our Sunday liturgies as "Little Easters," particularly because we celebrate the Risen Christ in every liturgy. Perhaps we also could consider Easter Sunday, and thus Triduum, as "One Great Big Sunday" that is integrally connected to all other Sundays of the year. This larger framework can inform how we plan, prepare, celebrate the Triduum, and balance the dialogue between Easter Sunday and all of the Sundays of the liturgical year.

With this in mind, parishes and individuals are invited to join a Livestream talk *Three Days but One Feast- Celebrating the Triduum in the Parish* offered by Fr. Bill Burke, Pastor of St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Parish, Sydney. This talk will take place on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 7:00pm, at St. Joseph Church, Port Hawkesbury, NS. This presentation will be available to watch live on our Diocesan Website (<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/>). Pastors, parish pastoral councils, liturgy committee members and all interested parishioners are invited to login for this event.