

1. From Father Yake - The Parish Councils of the parishes of Richmond County have worked hard to implement the Government's Health Guidelines. Two can celebrate Holy Mass this weekend, July 4/5: Sacred Heart, Johnstown and St. John the Baptist, River Bourgeois. Please note that because each church can only hold a certain number, attendees need to reserve a seat rather than just show-up as has always been the practice.

Because Jesus mandates his disciples to change history in favour of God's Will, to make the Kingdom a reality on earth, Christians need to be cognizant of the issues that oppose the Messiah. To this end I add some current issues that call upon our prayer and action.

2. From the Diocesan Website:

Five Questions: on what to expect when returning to Mass in person.

Churches begin reopening July 4 after nearly four months of closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The threat to public health posed by the virus remains. This means gathering in person for Eucharist will be a new and different experience, for all of us.

1. I want to attend Mass at church. What should I do to prepare?

Covid-19 is still a threat to public health. As a result, churches are opening to limited attendance and with specific protocols for everyone's safety. You should first check with your parish for Mass times, registration and any other requirements in place. Then, ensure you are in good health before attending. It is recommended that you wear a mask. If you feel unwell or have health issues that could put you at risk, it is recommended you worship at home.

2. If I am unable to attend Mass, am I still dispensed from my Sunday obligation?

Yes. Bishop Kirkpatrick has indicated that those who may not be able to attend Sunday Mass for health reasons or due to capacity restrictions are dispensed from their obligation to attend. Parishes are encouraged to continue livestream, video and radio broadcast of Masses so parishioners have the option to worship at home. **See Page 3 for Churches Online and An Act of Spiritual Communion**

3. Will there be singing and the Sign of Peace?

A cantor or priest may lead in song, but there is to be no congregational singing at this time. Hymn books, missals and other materials will be removed from the church as well. In Masses where the Sign of Peace is invited, offer a nod and a smile to your neighbour. Handshaking is not permitted.

4. What about collection?

The collection will not be taken at the traditional time. When you are exiting the main body of the church, you will be able to make your traditional offering. Ushers will stand by and provide security. You are also encouraged to donate through Pre-authorized contribution (PAC) and e-transfer to your parish. You can also use the Donate link on the diocesan website: our business office will forward donations to your parish.

5. How will I receive Holy Communion?

Communicants are recommended to wear a mask as they line up for Holy Communion, 2 meters (6 ft.) apart from others. They are to leave their mask on when they reply "Amen" (physically distanced) and during the period when the Host is placed in their hand. They

step to one side, and at that point remove the mask in order to consume the Holy Eucharist, affixing the mask after consumption and returning to their place. It is desirable that the priest remind the people that they are to place one open hand upon the other to reverently receive the Sacred Host. For the safety of the faithful and our clergy, as well as following the strong recommendation of medical authorities, Holy Communion is to be received only in the hand at this time. Since each communicant has the right to receive communion either on the tongue or in the hand, the traditional practice of the option of receiving on the tongue will be restored as soon as the public health situation allows for that.

Amid the joy of returning to public Mass, it is important to remember we are still in the midst of a pandemic, and our primary concern must be for the life and health of the whole community. We must continue to pray for the people in our community and our world, as we begin to move forward and heal from the devastation of this pandemic. **May God bless each of you and those that you love.**
<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/welcome-back-to-a-safe-worship-environment/>

3. From The Rebel:

You probably missed it, but **eight religious statues depicting the Stations of the Cross were beheaded in Sudbury, Ontario, in May.**

So why are we only hearing about this more than a month later?

This crime took place in broad daylight, and police are still looking for a suspect.

By all accounts, this has all the hallmarks of a hate crime.

But the Sudbury police don't see it that way and have already settled on it being a simple case of mischief!

...attacks on churches (are) by Black Lives Matter protesters.

Do you think a similar attack on a mosque or synagogue would be hand-waved away as quickly as this was?

I don't think so.

This gives more credence to the fact that Christians really are the most persecuted religion on the face of the planet.

Yours truly,

Sheila Gunn Reid

4. From CitizenGo:

Thanks to you and many others, **over 29,000 people have signed our petition** to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and International Development Minister Karina Gould demanding that they halt their plan to give \$8.9 million of taxpayer money to fund abortions overseas.

Unfortunately, the Trudeau government has doubled down on its support of a globalist anti-life agenda. **On June 22, the Hon. Karina Gould announced \$93.7 million in funding for abortion and contraception overseas.**

Despite the overwhelming initial response to our petition, the Trudeau government is still choosing to overlook your concerns. **Our political leaders need to understand that this is your money being given to these organizations**, and therefore, it is wrong to give taxpayer funding to support morally egregious causes like abortion. This should be easily avoidable during a pandemic; there is no shortage of worthy causes here in Canada that need funding.

It is vitally important that we are as impactful as possible with this petition. If Trudeau sees more support than opposition for paying for overseas abortion during COVID-19, then what is stopping him from continuing to fund the killing of the pre-born in developing countries in upcoming years? We must raise our voices together.