



Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin

Mass: 4:00 pm – Saturdays
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053 – Fax: 535-3127

October 22, 2022
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Readings, Year C:

The **First Reading** is taken from the book of *Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18*. The Lord is not deaf to the wail of the orphan, nor to the widow when she pours out her complaint. The one who serves God willingly is heard; his petition reaches the heavens.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Second Letter of Paul to Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18*. In his three pastoral letters to Timothy and Titus, St. Paul often quotes his own life and sufferings to encourage his disciples and successors to persevere in their apostolic labors. He now feels that his earthly life is nearing its end but he has full confidence in God, his just judge, who will give him his eternal reward.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke 18:9-14*. During His hidden life in Nazareth, and especially during His public life when He traveled through the towns and villages of Palestine, our Lord met sinners of all kinds. There is not a single record of a harsh word spoken by Him to any of them. In fact, He was accused of mixing too freely with them. His answer was that "it was those who were ill who needed a doctor, not those who were in good health." The sinners He met knew that they were ill. They regretted their sins. He forgave them.

There was one group, however, and only one, against whom He uttered condemnation and for whom He foretold an unhappy ending. These were the Pharisees. In Mt. 23, the whole chapter is devoted to Christ's condemnation of them. It contains eight "woes" which He utters against them. He calls them by many unflattering

names. One was "whited sepulchres, appearing beautiful to men on the outside but full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness within" (23: 27). Such harshness, coming from the gentle Christ, may surprise us, but knowing as He did that pride, the first and basic sin of mankind and the root of all other evil in the world, was so ingrained in their very hearts, that they could never seek forgiveness, He stated nothing but the truth concerning them or to them.

In this parable which He addressed to the Pharisees themselves, He tells them once more where their pride will lead them. They will be excluded from the kingdom of God, because they will not admit or repent of their pride and their lack of charity. Instead of thanking God for the many gifts He had given them, they almost demanded thanks from God for being such pious people. They had virtues. They avoided serious injustices. They did not commit adultery. They fasted often. They paid all their Temple dues, but it was all done, not for the honor and glory of God, but for their own honor and glory. They told the world about it. They demanded the first places in the synagogues, and special marks of reverence on the streets. They had to be called "masters" as they claimed to represent and interpret Moses to the ordinary people.

One thing that we can learn from this sad story of the Pharisees is that, while God approves of no sin, His mercy and His forgiveness is available for all sinners except the proud. It isn't that God cannot or will not forgive the sin of pride but that the proud man will not ask for God's forgiveness.

We must all be on our guard against this insidious and destructive vice. It is insidious because it can grow in us almost without our knowing it, and once it has taken root it is difficult to eradicate. It is destructive because it spoils every other virtue we practice and every good work we do. Charity, or

brotherly love, cannot flourish in a proud heart, for a proud heart is so full of self that it has no room for others. No true love of God can exist in a proud heart, for even the very acts of religion which a proud man performs, are done for the motive of self-glory and not for the glory of God. The Pharisee in this parable proves that fact. He boasted of his good works.

A few simple straight questions can tell us whether or not we are proud. Do we like others to see and hear of our good works, or do we prefer to do them in secret? Do we give as generously to charitable causes when no list of benefactors is published? Do we willingly take part among the rank and file in parish activities or do we feel offended if we are not the leaders? Do we criticize offhand those who are not all they should be, or do we thank God that we were saved from similar temptations? Do we always try to find an excuse for the failings of others or have we excuses for our own faults only? God forbid that any one in this congregation should be suffering from this, the worst of all vices. If anyone recognizes that he is, let him pray to God from the bottom of his heart for the opposite virtue, the true Christian virtue of humility, and look for every possible occasion to practice it. Let us all remember the two men praying in the Temple. One was full of himself and boasted to God and to all present, of his many good works. The Other just humbly beat his breast and asked for mercy-he had nothing to boast of. Yet, he left the Temple forgiven, the other returned home a worse sinner than when he had entered the Temple.

—Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings Cycle C*, Fr. Kevin O' Sullivan, O.F.M.

Collection
October 16, 2022

Envelopes	\$310.00
Loose	\$55.00
World Mission Sunday	\$50.00
	\$415.00

NOTICES:

1: In remembrance of our loved ones: November is the month of remembering those who have died. It is customary in our parish to remember our loved ones who have died since November of the previous year. Consequently, there will be a candle light service of remembrance on the Saturday mass on November 5th. As the names are read, a family member will be invited to come to the candle stand to light a candle. Those to be remembered can include parishioners who have died during the year, relatives of parishioners whose burials took place in other parishes or relatives of people who were buried in Johnstown. Please call or email Louise at 902-535-3107/ louise.campbell@stpeterscable.com.

2: Cape Breton Chorale: On Saturday, October 29, make plans to join the Cape Breton Chorale and guests for Moonlight Masquerade at the Membertou Trade and Convention Centre.
Start time: 7:30pm with cocktails and appetizers.
Special guest musical and dance performances.
Semi-formal dress code, Party masks optional.
Tickets are \$65.00 per person, up to 10 people per table, sold online at capebretonchorale.com or from chorale members.

3: Christmas Bingo: The annual Christmas Bingo will be held on Sunday November 13th, at 2pm in the Johnstown Parish Hall. Come win a great prize and have some fun. Door Prizes will be available.

4: Sacrament of Confirmation
The bishop of the Diocese of Antigonish, Bishop Wayne Joseph Kirkpatrick, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to those wishing to receive this sacrament who belong to the parishes: Holy Guardian Angels, L’Ardoise, Sacred Heart, Johnstown, Barra Head, St. Peter’s, St. Peter’s, and St. John the Baptist, River Bourgeois on Sunday, November 13 at St. Peter’s regular 10:30am Mass.

Candidates should register at the parish office.

The Sacrament of Confirmation, along with Baptism and Holy Eucharist, is a sacrament of initiation. The Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick are sacraments of healing, and the Sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders are sacraments of vocation.

5: Ultreya Meeting; All are invited to the upcoming first Ultreya meeting after the summer break!
Will be taking place Thursday, October 27 at Our Lady of Fatima Parish Hall, McMahon room in the basement.
Start time is 7:30pm and the event will be livestreamed on the Cursillo Facebook page.

6: From Bishop Kirkpatrick
Indigenous Reconciliation Collection continues in our diocese Pope Francis during his penitential pilgrimage to Canada gave a heartfelt and solemn apology to Indigenous Peoples on behalf of the Catholic Church and called on us to continue to assist survivors and families in healing from the traumas they have suffered. Together with every Canadian diocese, the Diocese of Antigonish has committed to raising revenue for the national Indigenous Reconciliation Fund over the next 5 years. Money collected in Nova Scotia will be used here to support local projects and programs to promote education and healing.
Envelopes are being provided. Donations may also be made through the Donate link on our website: <https://www.antigonishdiocese.com>: specify ‘Indigenous Reconciliation Fund’ in the parish box or comments.
For more on Truth and Reconciliation in our diocese:
<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/truth-and-reconciliation/>

7: Bonnie Brae Club: Tea and Tunes Sunday, October 23 at Bonnie Brae Club, St Peters Time: 2 to 4 PM with Evelyn MacRae and friends Admission \$ 5.00 ; Half and Half tickets sold; Light Lunch will be served