



Sacred Heart Parish
Bulletin

Mass: 9:30 am – Sunday
Fr. John Yake, I. V. Dei
(902) 535-2053

June 09, 2024

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The **First Reading** is taken from *Genesis 3:9-15* and gives the background and reason for the call of Abraham.

The **Second Reading** is from *St. Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians 4:13-5:1*. St. Paul compares his life on earth to a temporary dwelling, a tent, something not very durable, whereas God has prepared for us a new body—a new, glorious and permanent dwelling or mode of living in heaven.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Mark 3:20-35*. The truth of the saying "pride goeth before destruction" (Prov. 16:18) is clearly demonstrated in the first and third readings today. Pride indeed induced the First Parents to disobey God. They wished to be independent of him, in fact, they hoped to be his equals. The evil results of their folly are still among us. It was their sinful pride, their sense of superiority, their utter contempt for all who did not conform to their standard of observance, that led the Scribes and Pharisees to oppose Jesus. Blinded as they were by this deep-rooted pride, they could see nothing good in him. Absurdly, they explained as the work of Satan the miracles he worked. To any honest mind, these miracles proved that he was, at least, a friend of God. That most of the Scribes and Pharisees continued in their blind pride even after their attempt to silence him forever had failed, is most likely, as Jesus' reference to the unforgivable sin would indicate. They could not be forgiven while they refused, through pride, to ask for forgiveness.

While we can thank God that perhaps none of us has the same exalted opinion of himself as

had the Scribes and Pharisees, there is still much pride in even the best of us. It is still the root of all the evil that is in our world. If faithfully observed the Ten Commandments of God would make the journey of all men to heaven easier, safer and surer. But they are violated daily. Why? Because proud men refuse to be restricted in their actions. They cannot admit that any higher power has the right to regulate their lives; they are the sole arbiters of their fate; they will do as they please.

Which of us would admit to violating the first commandment? "I am the Lord your God, you shall not have strange gods before me." We never even thought of adoring a false god, we will say, we would never think of setting up a statue of Mars or Jove or Venus and bowing the knee before it. Yet, every time we break the law of God, we are setting up an idol—one more absurd than any false god of the pagan world. We are setting up our own self, our own will, our own authority in the place of God. We will not have him rule over us!

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We are living today in what is politely called the permissive age—the age when God's laws are shamelessly flouted and despised; the age when men and women, old as well as young, do what they like regardless of whether or not their actions offend God and neighbor. This is a false philosophy, not of life, but of death; this is a philosophy or whim which has the ripe seeds of destruction of human society breaking through its crust. How long can we go on living together on earth, if each one claims the right to do as he pleases? If, with impunity, we can lay our hands on all the wealth and property we feel we want, what of our neighbors whom we despoil? If we can drive a coach and four through the laws of the state, which are themselves applications of the laws of God, how long can our state last? If, outside of marriage, we have every right to enjoy all the sexual pleasure of which we are capable, who is going to take on himself the responsibilities of married life: Who will produce the next generation of citizens and who will feed and educate them! If we have the right to all possible comfort, pleasure and ease in this life, then abortion, euthanasia for the old and defectives, in fact, the quiet removal of anyone who stands in our way, who interferes with our absolute freedom, is not only lawful but absolutely necessary! How many will survive this regime?

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

Collection

June 02, 2024

Envelopes	\$438.00
Loose	\$71.00
Initial Offering	\$5.00
	\$514.00

Notices:

1: Johnstown Landing Outdoor Farmer’s Market: The first Market will take place on Sunday June 30th, from 10:30am – 1:00 pm. See you there

2: Exciting News: A film crew has approached the parish about using the church and hall to film scenes for an upcoming movie. The Bishop has approved the use of the buildings. The filming will be taking place on Tuesday July 2nd and Wednesday July 3rd. They will be filming in the church on July 2nd and in the hall on July 3rd. They will also be looking for extras to fill the church and hall and will need all ages. Once I receive the link for the application to apply as an extra, I will pass it along. The movie is based on video by Adam Baldwin “The Lighthouse at Little Lorraine.”

3: Thank You: Thank you to Sacred Heart Ladies Group for getting gravel to fix the parking lot at the church.

4: Strawberry Festival: The Strawberry Festival is fast approaching, July 7th, and we will need bakers of biscuits, bonnach and oatcakes, and help with hulling the berries and workers serving the berries. If you can help, please call Louise at 902-535-3107 or email lcampbell1@bellaliant.net

5: Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass: Note: Fr. Yake will be away that weekend, Fr. Dan Doucet has graciously agreed to celebrate the Outdoor Mass.

6: Music Royal Concert – Tentative: more information to follow: Friday August 9 at 7 pm - Sacred Heart Church, Johnstown - Ensemble Urmawi Lamia Yared (vocals and oud), Nizar Tabcharani (qanun), Showan Tavakol (kamanche), Ziya Tabassian (percussion). The musicians will interpret songs from Syrian traditions (Muwashahat) as well as sacred chants from the early Christians of the Orient in Aramaic, and finally some pieces of traditional Persian music will also be included. This tour provides a rare opportunity for Nova Scotian audiences to hear these three traditions of music, which intersect both geographically and historically.

7: Providing Hope for End of Life Care

The international interfaith Symposium on Palliative Care took place May 21-23 in Toronto.
“Palliative care, while seeking to alleviate the burden of pain as much as possible, is above all a concrete sign of closeness and solidarity with our brothers and sisters who are suffering.” – Pope Francis to the Symposium

Meanwhile, Nova Scotia’s medical regulator has drafted a policy that could force physicians to refer patients for euthanasia.
“I would point out that authentic palliative care is radically different from euthanasia, which is never a source of hope or genuine concern for the sick and dying. Instead, it is a failure of love, a reflection of a “throwaway culture” in which “persons are no longer seen as a paramount value to be cared for and respected” (Fratelli Tutti, 18). Indeed, euthanasia is often presented falsely as a form of compassion. Yet “compassion”, a word that means “suffering with”, does not involve the intentional ending of a life, but rather the willingness to share the burdens of those facing the end stages of our earthly pilgrimage. Palliative care, then, is a genuine form of compassion, for it responds to suffering, whether physical, emotional, psychological or spiritual, by affirming the fundamental and inviolable dignity of every person, especially the dying, and helping them to accept the inevitable moment of passage from this life to eternal life.” – Pope Francis to the Symposium

The time for awareness and action is now.
To learn more:
<https://www.antigonishdiocese.com/providing-hope-for-end-of-life/>

8: List of events taking place at the Johnstown Parish Hall

Sunday July 7 - Strawberry Festival - 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Sunday July 7 - Guadalupe Mass - 2:00 pm
Sunday August 11 - Cemetery Mass - 9:30 am
Sunday August 11 - Pancake Breakfast - 10:15 am
Friday August 23 - Milling Frolic 7:00 pm - 12:00 am