

## MASS SCHEDULE - St. John

### Sat., Jul 15 Vigil 15th Sunday of O. T.

4:00 PM + Gerry Coughlin  
from Dorothy Anne Coughlin.

### Sun., Jul 16 15th Sunday of Ordinary Time

10:30 AM For all Parishioners.

### Mon., Jul 17 Weekday Ferial

St J 8:00 AM In thanksgiving for local  
employment.

### Tue., Jul 18 Weekday Ferial

SH 8:00 AM In thanksgiving for the right medical  
decision being made.

### Wed., Jul 19 Weekday Ferial

St J 8:00 AM For Martin Cullen  
from Claudia Francis.

### Thu., Jul 20 St. Apollinaris, Bishop, Martyr

SH 8:00 AM + Betty Sheehan from Dolly Bolger.

### Fri., Jul 21 St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest, Dr.

SH 8:00 AM For Dolly Bolger  
from George and Maria O'Kane.

### Sat., Jul 22 Vigil 16th Sunday of O. T.

4:00 PM For Rita Johnston from the family.

### Sun., Jul 23 16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

10:30 AM For all Parishioners.

**Weekly Collection** Jun 4 \$1,603 Jun 11 \$1,306  
Jun 18 \$1,101 Jun 25 \$ 1,001 Jul 2 \$ 1,166

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

I was speaking with a parishioner after Mass one day and the topic came up about blessing and whether or not blessings are only reserved for priest or can other people give blessings. The answer is, 'Yes and No'. 'Yes', in general (universally only priest can give blessings); but 'No', exclusively (as parents can give their children blessing).

In general, priest have been granted the grace to bless others because of the spiritual authority that they have been entrusted with...by their vocation and by the Sacrament of Holy Order. Similarly, is the case with parents. Parents can only bless their own children; as parents have a spiritual authority over their children and not over other people. For example, parents and

grandparents can bless their own child or grandchild; but – *for example* - an uncle cannot bless his nephew, niece or any other family member or friend even if they are older than them.

“Parental Blessing” consist in the ability to call down God’s blessing upon one’s own child. A scriptural example of paternal blessings is found in the Old Testament when Isaac blessed his son Jacob (*Genesis 27*). There is no specific formula or prayer for a paternal blessing, but a common one used is “May God in heaven protect you on the way and bring you back to me safe and sound; may his angel accompany you” (*Tobit 5:17*). *Spontaneous prayer or blessing is also possible.*

A common way to do a paternal blessing is to take a bit of holy water (*if possible*) then to trace the sign of the cross on the child’s forehead. While doing this you can also pray, “May God bless you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Paternal Blessings are typically done before bed, before going off to school or work, or before going on a long trip or journey. May this catholic custom provide an additional sense of peace and comfort knowing that you have entrusted them into God’s hands.

Together in Prayer

## WEEKLY NEWS

### Sacred Heart Church Clean-Up

We are looking for help (extra hands) to get rid of some junk from the Church. Clean-up date is July 29th from 10AM-12PM @ Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Help is greatly appreciated in order to clear out space for storage.

### Blessing of New Parish Sign

We will bless the New Saint John the Baptist Parish Sign at the front of the Church on Sunday, July 16th after the 10:30 AM Mass.

### On This Day We Give Thee Our Love

A concert of Sacred Music favourites by Grace Kennedy, soprano and Theresa Thompson, alto with David Avila, bass and Randy Mills, organist. Talented singers, Grace, Theresa and David are studying at Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom Academy, Barry's Bay.

Date: Tuesday, August 1st - 7pm

Location: Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Donation at the door for Sacred Heart Church, Organ and Music Program.

### Friday Adoration at Sacred Heart

Every Friday there is adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Sacred Heart in reparation for the offences made to the Sacred Heart of Jesus from 1:30 to 6:30PM and confessions from 5:00 to 6:30PM.

### Altar Boy Group at Sacred Heart

1st & 3rd Fridays of the Month, 6:15 - 8:30 PM.

Other activities in the Diocese Please see the bulletin board at the entrance of the church.

## GOSPEL Matthew 13.1-9 Sunday July 16

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables.

“Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Then the disciples came and asked Jesus, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” He answered, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

“The reason I speak to them in parables is that ‘seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.’ With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says: ‘You will indeed listen, but never understand, and you will indeed look, but never perceive. For this people’s heart has grown dull, and their ears are hard of hearing, and they have shut their eyes; so that they might not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and understand with their heart and turn – and I would heal them.’

“But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. Truly I tell you, many Prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately received it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.

“But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”