

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 15, 2023

**STAR OF THE SEA, CANSO
ST. AGNES, LITTLE DOVER
ST. JOSEPH, PORT FELIX
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

**PASTOR: FR. JONATHAN NNAJIOFOR 902-366-2927
CONGREGATION OF NOTRE DAME 902-358-2346**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donna Jackson, Janet Delorey, Cynthia Creamer,
Calvin Harnish, Agnes Casey, Corrine Munroe,
Gerry Parker, Gelly Parker, Paul Horne,
Sr. Alma, Marie Parker, Fr. Jonathan

*The complete text of this bulletin is also available on the parish's website at
www.cansoparishes.org*

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday, October 21 - 4:30 p.m. - St. Vincent de Paul - ♥*For the Faithful*
- 6:00 p.m. - St. Joseph - †*Arthur Noel Cashin*

Sunday, October 22 - 9:30 a.m. - St. Agnes Hall - †*Beattie Horne*
- 11:00 a.m. - Star of the Sea - †*Michelle O'Halloran*

WEEKDAY MASS TIME

Thursday, October 19 - 6:00 p.m. - St. Anthony's Chapel - ♥*For the Faithful*

COMMUNION CALLS - If you know of someone who is unable to get out to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the parish office to have their name added to the list.

REFLECTION ON TODAY'S READINGS - *The Wedding Invitation*

Jesus often uses the imagery of 'wedding feast' in his parables to teach great lessons on the eschatological banquet or the Kingdom of Heaven. God invites everyone to this banquet, but he does not want anyone to take it for granted. One has to make oneself worthy of it by a value-based life. A life lived in accordance with the Gospel values makes one worthy of the heavenly banquet. The parable portrays many invited ones rejecting it and one of the many who accepted it does not prepare himself for it, thereby insulting the honest. The Kingdom of Heaven is a big offer of God to humankind; moreover, it is a free gift God offers to all. It involves lots of struggles and opposition from different quarters. To enter this Kingdom, one has to live an unselfish life, love and forgive others unconditionally, and live in communion with God. The life of Jesus is a paradigm for a life worthy of the heavenly life. The question is: Am I living such a life? What challenges do I encounter in it?

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Star of the Sea (15)	335.00
Loose	6.00
Nativity Scene	120.00
St. Agnes (1)	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul (4)	95.00
St. Joseph (19)	252 .00
Loose	15.00

Thank you so very much for your ongoing support.

STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH - NATIVITY SCENE - requires a new Nativity Scene. The present one is in deplorable condition with some of the figurines taped together with duct tape. We are asking for donations to help with the cost of replacement. If each family could donate \$20.00, the bulk of the cost would be covered. Donations may be placed in Sunday Collection, Etransferred to support@cansoparishes.org, or dropped off at the parish office. Donations to date \$295.00, thank you.

EVENTS - STAR OF THE SEA

Prize Bingo - Will be held Sunday, October 22 at 2:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. We are short on prizes so we are asking parishioners to donate a prize. Thanking you in advance.

Trivia Night - Will be held Saturday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Canso Hazel Hill Fire Hall. Please pre-register with a committee member.

ST JOSEPH NEWS

Weekly Bingo - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

Card Plays - will resume Tuesday, October 17 at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome!

ST. AGNES NEWS

Bingo - continues Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall.

Fall Fund-raiser - **Profit was \$2,938.00!! Special thanks for donations and support!**

STAR OF THE SEA NEWS

Cemetery Clean up - Special thanks for your help! **Our cemetery looks great, special thanks to the caretaker, Russell Borden.**

Property/Finance Committee - will meet Tuesday, November 7 at 6:15 p.m. We welcome new members. Please help out!

Ministries Schedule, October 22

Lector - Ginny Boudreau

Cleaners - October 22 -28 - Irene & Juanita

Glebe Hill - There will be no public access through the glebe hill due to the condition of the road. **The church and Glebe can be accessed through Chapel Street.** Thank you for your cooperation. We are working on having the road repaired.

NOTES

Mass for Shut Ins - Mass for Shut Ins will soon begin its 61st season. Starting October 15, will air Sunday mornings on the CTV channel.

Contact coordinator, Nick Vince, at nick@dioceseofantigonish.ca for scheduling details or for donations.

CURSILLO WEEKENDS - Men's: Nov. 2-5

Women's: Nov. 9-12; We're excited to be holding our first Men's Cursillo Weekend since Covid. It will be held at Camp Bretondean with Rector Kevin McSween.

Our Women's Cursillo weekend will be held at Camp Bretondean with Rector Sharon MacNeil. Please pray for our Rectors and teams as they prepare to start their meetings. For more info contact Sean O'Leary 902-565-9323 or Karen MacSween 902-317-5425

October 15, 2023 • 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A

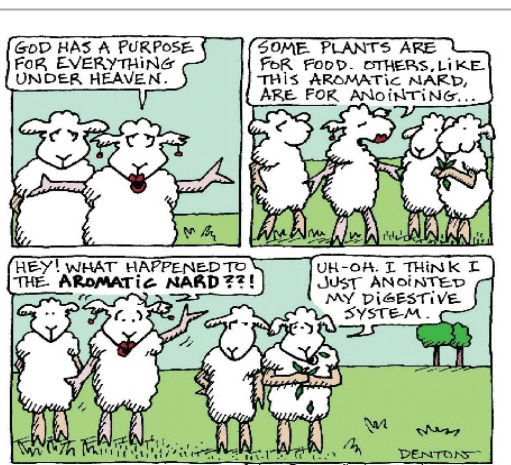
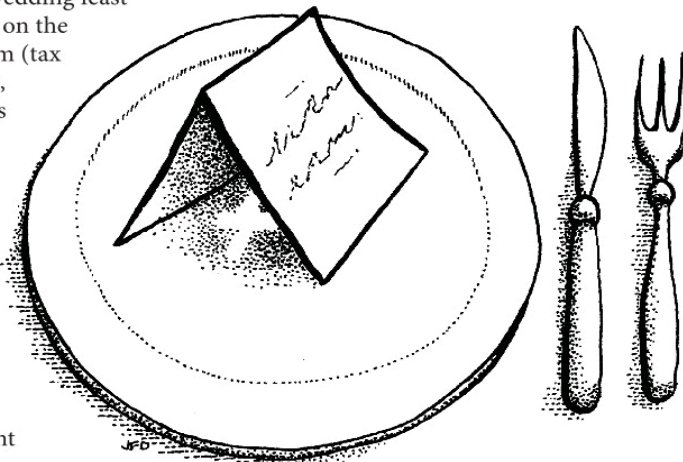
Puzzling Parable

This Week's Readings at Mass ▶ Isaiah 25:
6-10 - A feast for all peoples ▶ Philippians 4:12-14,
19-20 - Generosity ▶ Matthew 22:1-14 - The
wedding banquet

Matthew's Gospel was written about 50 years after Jesus walked the earth, and it gives us glimpses into the issues of the early Christian community of the day. Jesus' parable of the wedding feast would have helped explain to Matthew's audience the reality that some people accepted Jesus and his message while others did not. God issued invitations to a heavenly banquet through the prophets in the Old Testament (the servants in the parable), but they ignored them. Then God sent Jesus, who again invited people to live in the Reign of God (not just in a distant afterlife, but here and now on earth). Jesus was "mistreated" and "killed" by some of the invited guests (the chief priests and Pharisees).

The reference to the enraged king sending troops, destroying the murderers, and burning their city is probably a reference to the Roman troops who burned down Jerusalem and destroyed the Jewish temple in the year 70 AD, about a decade before Matthew recorded this parable. Matthew, and other early Christians, seemed to interpret this destruction as punishment for Israel rejecting Jesus and his Good News. The ones who accepted a belated invitation to the wedding feast represented those on the margins of Judaism (tax collectors, sinners, prostitutes, etc.) as well as Gentiles. They became followers and received Jesus with joy and gratitude.

The final verses about the wedding guest without the proper garment



"My God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus."

Sheepish Question:

What grace has God given me this week? What shall I do with it?

may have originally been a separate parable. The garment seems to have some symbolism that is lost to us today. We are left with the question of how someone who wasn't expecting an invitation to a wedding banquet would have the proper clothes on in the first place.

Questions of the Week

- 1 What is your first impression of this Gospel passage?
- 2 When have you experienced a joyous coming together of unlikely people responding to something good in life?

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