

REFLECTION for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

"I came to bring fire to the earth... do you think that I am come to bring peace on earth?" Quite honestly, we equate Jesus with peace and would hope and long for peace. Peace is comfortable, this talk of fire is unsettling. Lord, we have gotten so used to just sitting on our hands, being quite so as to not rock the boat, and frankly we like our faith served up easy and free.; again, we're not so comfortable with this talk about fire. Isn't Jesus the Prince of Peace?

Yet, when Jesus answers his own question in today's Gospel He says 'No, I tell you, but rather division.' Is Jesus calling us to radical conversion? We are Catholics, and Catholics just don't do that kind of stuff. Lord, are you challenging us. Please, can we just rest. Isn't it enough that in the Liturgy of the Mass we pray for peace; we can't recall asking for fire or division. Are you asking us to take risks in living our Catholic faith?

Wait, it suddenly dawned on me. OMG, is Jesus calling us to loosen the flame of fire of the Holy Spirit?

YES, He is! Did Jesus rest content with His faith? Let's look at Jesus' life for clues as to how peace and division can be reconciled. Jesus faced choices in his life; facing moments when he had a choice of two roads. There's the easy one of the prevailing culture or the lonely reforming one. Remember who He is.

He was our Saviour, our Redeemer, and our Way. Yes, Jesus was a reformer- a reformer of souls. His decisions cause divisions. Some of the division and turmoil is within Himself-the agony in the garden, and some between Himself and others- the Pharisees, his mother and relatives. Remember the rebuke of Peter on the way to Jerusalem (*get behind me Satan*), and the final of all divisiveness- the cross of scandal. In doing all this, Jesus had a fire within Him. It is the fire He eventually left us as Advocate- the Holy Spirit.

Jesus brought fire to the earth- a fire to bring all people to a knowledge of and love for God the Father. This message of Jesus is like a fire because it changes, it purifies and refines us. It will change us and change those we evangelize. We should not be afraid to evangelize. This message of Jesus makes us loyal to him. Today, the Holy Spirit enkindles this fire within; even when we try to ignore it, to snuff it out.

Christianity is loyalty. It is a faith in, and allegiance to, Jesus Christ who is the Son of God. It is the imitation of His life, teachings, and sacrifice in His life and on the cross. Yes, following Jesus authentically demands that we will sometimes have to sacrifice and carry our cross. It is not for the faint of heart. Faith is our way of life; it is our own *YES LORD I BELIEVE* that we constantly profess in our lives. In today's society this is indeed a radical profession; a Standing Up for Jesus. But the rewards, oh the rewards- they are heavenly. When all is said and done, deciding to Stand Up for Jesus has two effects.

First it divides us from those who won't take the step with Him (there's the division), and second, it moves us deeper into the peace that comes from being true to who we are (there's the peace). The peace Jesus talks about is not the wishy-washy, compromising, anything-for-a-quiet-life kind of peace we often settle for. It may cost us. But faith is like a box of Ganong chocolates- the ad tells us that *'they may cost a little more but they are worth it.'* Salvation is an even tastier treat.

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish In Love With Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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Liturgical Celebrations

Weekend Masses:

Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 11:00 am

Masses in Week Days:

No week-day Masses this week
(see note)

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Third Sunday of the Month,
at 2 pm

Reconciliation

Wed after Mass,
or by request

Marriages:

Six months' notice is required.
A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms:

Celebrated at Weekend Mass
after preparation session.

August 14, 2016

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS	Aug 6, 7
Collection	\$1,371.00
Building Fund	65.00
Mass Stipends	110.00
Votive Candles	95.00
Garden Party Coll.	95.00
Cemetery Mass Coll.	10.00
Donations (Windows)	2,000.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 15 -19	No Masses
(Priest in St. John's for medical reasons)	
Aug 20	Basil Donahue
Aug 20+	Ada & Reanie George
Aug 21	Parish Community

MINISTERS (Aug 20,21)

READERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Art Hall	Joanne Connolly
John Noseworthy	Joanne Hackett
	Shirley Noseworthy

Debra Allen	Patsy Payne
Mike Leonard	Elizabeth Carew
	Brian Sparkes

* John Carroll- Communion Minister to the Sick

CONGRATULATIONS

Baptisms: Augustus John (AJ) White and Logan William Paul Wayson who were baptised this week in our church. We assure each of them and their families of our continued prayers for spiritual growth throughout the coming years.

Weddings: Roderick and Linda (Joyce) Fewer were married last Saturday and this Saturday **David and Stephanie (Harnum) Brake** were also married. We wish both newlyweds much love

and joy and a long happy marriage. Please join us at our Worship Services-Mass.

LADIES GROUP MEETING

This meeting will be held on Tuesday Aug, 23 at 7 pm in the parish house. All ladies interested in joining the group are encouraged to attend. Come and join in the fun and the ministry.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Nomination forms have been placed at the back for this purpose. Please return them to the Parish Office. We remind you that Elections will take place in September to fill three positions. Please give serious thought to joining Parish Council to do your part in keeping Sacred Heart a vibrant and healthy parish.

REPLACING WINDOWS- ORDER PLACED

We have ordered them from Premier Siding and Windows. Installation should begin by mid-September. They will cost \$1000.00 per window. We are asking that families consider donating the cost of one window. A plaque will be put on the window indicating in whose memory the donation was given. If you wish to participate in this venture, please contact Fr. Don or the parish office.

BIBLES and CATECHISMS

We still have 4 Catechisms of the Catholic Church (\$20 each) and 1 Large Print NRSV Bible (\$25 each) available for sale. They are in the vesting room at the back of the church. See John if you wish to purchase one

FAMILY CATECHESIS- IT IS NEW

In September, a new sacramental preparation program will be offered and will be done at home. This is NEW.

It will be challenging for parents; we want to be of assistance. Please discuss this with your children. We should be ordering texts now but honestly we have no idea as to the numbers we will need. Spread the word about this everyone.

SUMMER STUDENT

Matthew has completed an accurate record of the layout of all the gravesites. We hope to be able to put this information on our website. (We are checking on privacy issues surrounding this.) Now he is now completing the work to digitalize our archive material collected last year and also digitalizing all our sacramental records. Hopefully all our Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, and Death records will be completed and available digitally. (Again we are checking to see how much of this information we can put on our website. Privacy is a key issue these days.) We need pictures of several priests. How about pictures of events associated with the Sacred Heart Social Club, the Msgr. Stoyles K of C, the re-opening of the church after the two fires, or any other past parish event.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION -Aug 15

Though celebrated since the 4th century, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life was not a defined dogma of the Catholic Church until November 1, 1950, when Pope Pius XII, exercising papal infallibility, declared that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life (died), was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." In many countries, but not in Canada, this is a holy day of obligation.

MEMORIAL OF ST. BERNARD- Aug 20

He is a Doctor of the Church. His writings on spirituality and Mary are classics of Catholicism. Here is a quote from him concerning the Blessed Mother: *In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips, never suffer it to leave your heart. And that you may more surely obtain the assistance of her prayer, neglect not to walk in her footsteps. With her for guide, you shall never go astray; while invoking her, you shall never lose heart; so long as she is in your mind, you are safe from deception; while she holds your hand, you cannot fall; under her protection you have nothing to fear; if she walks before you, you shall not grow weary; if she shows you favor, you shall reach the goal" (St. Bernard).*

MARY'S KITCHEN:

Will be continuing to operate throughout the Summer months but will be changing its time starting Friday, July 15th, to 12 noon till 1:30 PM. Mary's Kitchen offers a free meal to anyone in need of food or some company. It is located in the basement of Most Holy Redeemer Cathedral.

FIRST AID COURSES:

These are being offered at the Cathedral on Aug 24th / 25th / 29th / 30th. Courses offered are Basic CPR Level C, Emergency First Aid (one- day course) and Standard First Aid (two- day course). Each first aid participant will receive a manual, a participant kit and a 3- year certification card. To register for a course or for any further information please call Janette at 660-0488 or email at janettelfoote@gmail.com

MERCY PRAYER

LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF THE LIVING GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER.