

April 22, 2018 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

"I am the good shepherd [who] lays down his life for the sheep."

John 10:11-18

"Rocking God's children into eternity"

To the Marines in Anbar Province in Iraq, he was called "Chaps."

Patrick McLaughlin was the Lutheran chaplain, a tall, affable man, a father of five, always ready with a smile or joke. The most difficult part of his ministry was the small combat hospital that treated everyone - Marines, Iraqi military, Iraqi insurgents and civilians. Chaps and the surgical staff saw some horrific things. The worst was seeing what the war did to children.

Too often, a child would be brought in, so badly wounded that nothing could be done. That's when Chaps went to work. When there was nothing doctors could do beyond providing morphine, Chaps would hold those kids in his arms and rock them gently as they died.

At first, he did this standing, or on his knees, outside the hospital. The first child was small, maybe six or seven, dying of a traumatic head wound. There was no family around. Chaps rocked the nameless little boy until he died, and then kissed his forehead.

Then there was a three-year old girl, whose body was all but destroyed by an IED blast. Chaps whispered calm words in her ear as a female corpsman, who had a daughter the same age, held her hand.

After her death, Pastor McLaughlin asked the Seabees to make him rocking chairs, so he could rock the dying children as long as they held on to life.

Over the course of his time in Iraq, Chaps McLaughlin would rock 11 children in those chairs. Before leaving Iraq, Chaps took those rocking chairs to a unit bonfire and threw them in. He watched as the embers rose to heaven, he said, "to the children that once occupied them in my arms."

[From "Tales of War and Redemption" by Phil Klay, The American Scholar, Winter 2018.]

A military chaplain rocking war's youngest victims into eternity is the very image of the Good Shepherd of today's Gospel. Christ calls all of us to the work of the such "good shepherding": to extend the reach of God's grace in whatever ways we can to every human being, whom God calls his own. Our "shepherding" may be as simple as providing a meal to the poor, sitting with a troubled friend, or hold a dying person's hand and not letting go. In all of our acts of selfless charity and kindness, the voice of Christ the Good Shepherd speaks the compassion and love of the Father.

www.connectionmediaworks.com

April 22nd, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Robyn C. Gallant

(NEW) Office Hours: Monday and Friday 1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 8:30 am-12:30 pm

465 Curling Street

curlingparish@hotmail.com

Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8

www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Tel: (709) 785-5025

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11:00 am

Reconciliation: By request

Mass During the Week: Tues at 7:00 pm
Wed, Thurs, Fri at 10:00 am
First Fridays - 2:00 pm at the Lohnes Complex

Holy Hour of Adoration: Third Sunday of the Month at 2 p.m.

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

Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (April 15, 2018)

Regular Collection	1667.10
Parish Dues	25.00
Parish Insurance	50.00
Building Fund	10.00
Votive Candles	67.00
Lenten Folders	45.25
Good Friday (Holy Lands)	5.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 23	No Mass
Apr 24	Late Tom Collier
Apr 25	Late Bernadette & Anthony George
Apr 26	Late Marie Pennell
Apr 27	Late Edna Dwyer
Apr 28	Late Brian Griffin/Late Mary Wheeler
Apr 29	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

April 28	
Art Hall Lynette Taylor	Marie Byrne Joan Penney Joe Byrne
April 29	
Hedy Kenny Patsy Payne	Brian Sparkes Wayne Dicks Amelia Dicks
Communion to the Sick	
Tony Griffin	

BIBLE STUDY: We continue to meet every Sunday at 7:00 pm in the Church meeting room. Everyone is welcome.

PARISH BINGO: The next parish bingo will take place on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 2pm at Sacred Heart Elementary.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Next meeting takes place Monday, May 7 at 7pm.

PARISH WEBSITE: Please check out our Parish website at www.sacredheartcparish.ca. New information is being added each week.

4YOUTH: Did you ever wonder how the priest decides what color vestment to wear when he gets ready to celebrate Mass? Well, it all depends on the liturgical season. White vestments are worn during the seasons of Christmas and Easter as well as at funeral masses. Green vestments are worn during Ordinary Time. Purple vestments are worn during Advent and Lent. Red vestments signify the outpouring of blood and are worn on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and the feast days of Apostles and martyrs. Red also symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit and is worn on Pentecost and for the sacrament of Confirmation. So what color vestment is Father wearing today? And why is he wearing that color?

GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE: On April 9, a new Apostolic Exhortation was promulgated. *Gaudete et Exsultate (Rejoice and Be Glad)* was written by Pope Francis to encourage all people to accept the call to holiness in daily life. To read this exhortation in its entirety or to read a summary, visit the Diocesan web page at www.rcchurch.com.

CELEBRATE: is a dynamic Catholic faith-filled weekend for the whole family or for individuals. Inspiring talks, children's age appropriate streams, Mass, worship, and a variety of workshops. To be held July 14th and 15th at All Hallows Church and Immaculate Heart of Mary School. Theme is *Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God*. For information call Amelia at 388-1048 or www.celebratenl.ca

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR ECCLESIASTICAL STUDENTS: There will be special collection this weekend. The money collected will be used to help support Vocation Ministry as well as for the training of priests for our diocese. This collection is held annually on the fourth Sunday of Easter, known as Vocations Sunday, a day when all Catholics are encouraged to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. **These envelopes are found in your box of envelopes in the May section.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS: The fourth Sunday of Easter is often referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday because in the Gospel reading for this day Jesus describes himself as the Good Shepherd. It is also the Sunday when Catholics throughout the world are invited to reflect on the meaning of God's call and to pray for vocations.

What is a vocation? It is the call from God to join with Jesus in "shepherding" his people. We are all called to participate in this shepherding, each in our own unique way. Some are called to be Priests, others to be Religious Sisters or Brothers, others to married life and still others to the single state; each called with their unique gifts and abilities to live holy lives.

If you think God may be calling you to a vocation in the Priesthood or the Religious Life, and you would like more information on discerning this possibility, please feel free to contact Bishop Hundt by phone at 709-639-7073 or by email at diocese@nf.aibn.com.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Parishioners are reminded that the monthly Poor Box collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be taken up next weekend, the 28th and 29th of April. Please be generous with your support.

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS: There are a number of adults who have not yet been confirmed. The sacrament of confirmation is required for those that wish to be godparents and is recommended for those that wish to be married in the Church. Father Jim will be holding a confirmation course beginning mid-April and going until mid-May. Bishop Hundt will be celebrating confirmation at Sacred Heart Parish in Curling on Sunday, May 27, 2018. It would be hoped that the adults will be confirmed at the same ceremony. If you wish to prepare and celebrate confirmation this year, please call Father Jim or leave a message at Our Lady Star of the Sea office (709-789-2212) or Sacred Heart Parish (709-785-5025).

SPRING CONCERT:

The Sacred Heart spring concert is just around the corner. A few people have come forward and asked to take part. However, there are a few spots left open. If you are interested in participating, or you know someone who might be interested, please call Madonna English at 634-5141



HUMOUR: One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for church, to which he replied, "I'm not going."

"Why not?" she asked.

"I'll give you two good reasons," he said. "One, they don't like me, and two, I don't like them."

His mother replied, "I'll give YOU two good reasons why you SHOULD go to church. One, you're 54 years old, and two, you're the priest!"