

**REFLECTION for the Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Fr. Don.

Consider these verses from today's Gospel. *'Whoever is not against us is for us' and 'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.* Mea Culpa! Mea Culpa!

I am a product of my times. I grew up in a predominately Irish NL Catholic community believing that Protestants were lesser Christians than I; they were lesser because they were not Catholic. God was on our side. God listened to us but their prayers were mere catcalls. That was then, this is now.

Times and beliefs have evolved. Now, I believe (to quote an Irish tune) *'all God's children got a place in the choir.'* We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord. *Whoever is not against us is for us.*

Who is against God, who is against Jesus, in our world today? There are many who are against Him, including those who openly crusade against religion and faith. However, as Pope Francis warns- who am I to judge. Perhaps those who are really against Jesus are those Christians who have ended up making themselves a stumbling-block to the faith of others. At least that is Jesus' point in today's scriptures.

In their minds they have become the model by which true discipleship is measured. They honestly believe that faithfulness to Christ is only effectively lived out by them. It is their way or the highway. This is not something peculiar to Jesus' disciples. It happens in our communities as we try to exclude others unfairly from Christ. It has gotten to the point that society today has judged our institutional Catholic Church as being like this. They accuse the Church of being exclusionary to the point of sinfulness.

Thankfully, although we can be, and often are, exclusionary, Jesus was not, is not, and never will be.

How are we exclusionary? How are we a stumbling block to the faith of others? Let us examine our way of living, our sense of compassion, our commitment to love for God and neighbor, and then let us access our behavior. Have we failed to live Christian lives in Church and out of Church? Do we exhibit a lack of reverence for Christ in others, or even worse, a lack of reverence for Christ in the Eucharist? If so, we have violated the two great commandments. We are living in opposition to the teachings of Jesus.

Today's gospel challenges us to find the good in others rather than the bad. We are called to rise above our feelings of self-righteousness and superiority which we all cling to so very much. We are called to renew our graces received at our baptism, to frequent Mass and Confession, and to grow in love daily.

This is living the WAY of Christ and this is being a faithful follower and disciple of Jesus. In humility we repent by God's grace and turn back to Him and show sorrow and repentance. We openly acknowledge our sinfulness and profess reliance on the mercy of God. We admit *'there but for the grace of God, go I.'*

Only then are we ready and capable of rooting out the unhealthy unspiritual parts within ourselves and allowing the good fruits of the Holy Spirit within us to nourish others. Let us never be stumbling blocks to others, but instead let us be the beacons of light our Lord wants us to be. Let our light kindle the light within others. If someone does good let us praise both the doer of the good and the source of the good- Jesus. It's the Christian WAY.

# Sacred Heart Parish

**Parish Information**

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard  
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

465 Curling Street  
Corner Brook, NL A2H 3K8  
Tel: (709) 785-5025

Curlingparish@hotmail.com  
website--www.sacredheartcrparish.ca  
Fax: (709) 388-1141

**Liturgical Celebrations**

Weekend Masses:  
Saturday - 4:30 pm  
Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

Masses in Week Days:  
Wed 7 pm  
Thurs, 10am, Fri 2 pm Lohnes

Holy Hour of Adoration:  
Third Sunday of the Month  
at 2 pm

Reconciliation  
Wed after Mass,  
or by request

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

Baptisms:  
Celebrated at Weekend Mass  
after preparation session.

**September 27, 2015  
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

### RECEIVED WITH THANKS

Sept 19, 20

Collection	\$2057.30
Building Fund	50.00
Votive Candles	107.00
Mass requests	20.00

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sept 28,29	No Mass
Sept 30	Nellie Hayes
Oct 1	Kathleen Power
Oct 2 (Lohnes 2 pm)	David Power
Oct 3	Georgina Power-Kartechner
Oct 4	Parish Community

### HOLIDAYS FOR PRIEST

Fr. Don will be away for a holiday for three weeks from Tuesday Oct 13 to Tuesday Nov 3. During that time Fr. Gash will be filling in during the weekends. There will be no weekday Masses during this time. Weekday Mass will resume on Wednesday Nov 4.

### CHAPEL TO BE USED

When regular weekday Masses resume on Nov. 4, the chapel will be used for their celebration until the warmer temperatures of Spring. This is another measure in our efforts to reduce heating costs for the church.

### VARIETY CONCERT

The Date has not been finalized but plans are underway for this event. We hope this event serves two purposes: as a fund-raiser and as a means of having our parish community gather as family to enjoy each other's company.

It is hoped to feature all local talent. To this end, we are requesting that if you

might be interested in performing or if you know someone who you want to suggest we approach to perform, let us know ASAP. Please contact Madonna English at 634-5141 or the Parish Office at 785-5025.

### LITURGY COMMITTEE

Members or anyone interesting in being a member are reminded of the Meeting this Monday Sept 28 at 7 pm in the priest's house.

### NEW PARISH COUNCIL

Our first meeting for Parish Council, including the newly elected members, will take place on Monday evening Oct 5 at 7 pm in the priest's house.

### NEWLY BAPIZED CATHOLIC

**Logan Pierce Clyde** was recently baptized at our church. We welcome him as a member of our Parish family. May God bless him and his parents Terri-Lynn (George) and Peter Clyde.

### FOR MINISTRIES VOLUNTEERS

The new updated schedules and the new guide-books with prayer pamphlets for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are now available at the back. Please pick one up.

**Rite of Commissioning** for our new ministers, this ceremony will take place at our Masses on Oct 3 and 4.

**Training:** a session for Lectors and Communion Ministers will take place after 7 pm Mass on Wednesday Sept 30. It should take thirty minutes or so. New ministers are asked to attend and other ministers are more than welcome to participate.

### MENS' GROUP TICKET SALE

Tickets are available this weekend. Please take a few books of tickets to sell to friends and relatives. The Men have them available for distribution in the porch as you leave the church. Also they are selling them at tables set up in Coleman's and Canadian Tire stores and are looking for people to volunteer a few hours at these sites. Consider helping out because this is a parish fund-raiser.

### HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

This group meets every Thursday evening at the Cathedral at 7:30.

### FOOD BANK DONATIONS

We have a box available at the back of the church for collecting food donations. Let's make an effort to bring some food each time we come to Mass from now until Thanksgiving.

### EUCCHARISTIC CHAPEL

It's nice to see that some people are taking advantage of this silent place for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Remember, to aid in this, there are pamphlets on a side-table in there with prayers specifically designed for Eucharistic Adoration.

### ST. THERESE of the CHILD JESUS

October 1 is the feast day of St. Therese de Lisieux, who is also known as the "Little Flower". Her little flowers are little sacrifices that nobody would really notice, except God, who notices everything we do. So when we smile at someone we really don't like too much or help out someone in our family when we'd rather be chatting

online with our friends, we are making small sacrifices that we can offer to God. We can pray to St. Therese for her help in living out this simple and beautiful approach to spirituality. By the way, did you know that St. Therese is one of our Diocese's patron saints?

### PAP TEST AWARENESS

The last week of October 25-31 is Pap Test Awareness Week. It is recommended that women have this test at least once every three years. Call your health care provider today to make your appointment and help us kick cervical cancer. For further information please call 637-5000 ext. 5918 or email: margiemccarthy@westernhealth.nl.ca.

### ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY.

In years gone by here in Corner Brook, there used to be storage area for food, bedding, furniture, clothes and the like. However, today we don't have a place. Instead, we are limited to providing food vouchers and some cash. We would like to do more. We need financial contributions to assist in carrying out this very needy work. So today we are appealing for your help. If you are able to provide space that we may use for storage please let us know. For everyone else we ask you to donate to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at **a special collection to be held the weekend of October 3-4th- use your special offering envelope.** Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by those who are in dire need. If you include your name and address with your contribution, a tax receipt will be issued. Thank you.