

REFLECTION for the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

As we grow up and journey through our lives, there inevitably comes a point when we have to start asking some really big questions. Questions like what is my vocation/place/role in life? Why is there so much suffering in the world? Does my life have any meaning? Does God really exist? Should I entrust my life to God? But of all the questions we might have to face, the biggest question of all is the one that Jesus asks in today's Gospel: *'who do you say that I am?'* Just who is Jesus? If we look deep within and are really honest, our answer will resolve the restlessness. In today's mad sad world, many have no desire or stirring to even ponder such a question. This writer takes solace in the fact that if you read on, then maybe inner stirrings will unleash hope. Essential and indwelling voices sent from above will activate your faith.

In the Gospel Peter answers the question by Jesus using these words, *'You are the Christ of God.'*

When I celebrated Mass at the Long-Term Care Home, an elderly man used to shout out *'my Lord and my God'* when I elevated the consecrated species. He was answering the question. And for all of us, just before the reception of Holy Communion, the priest elevates the sacred species and declares *'Behold the Lamb of God...'* In contriteness we respond *'Lord I am not worthy...'*

There's a true fact here- by attending Mass, we are frequently invited to openly answer the question.

Once, in a group, people were asked to use one word or phrase to answer *'Who do you say Jesus is?'* Here are some of their responses: my Redeemer, my Savior, the Son of God, Emmanuel, my Comforter, my Protector, my Lord, my God, my Role Model, my Best Friend, Love, my Sustainer, the Way, the Truth, the Life, the Prince of Peace, the Wonder-Counsellor, Son of the Father, my All in All, the long-awaited Messiah, my Salvation, my Rock, and the Word made Flesh. Join in; take time now to ask yourself, *'But who do I say Jesus is?'* Take time in silent prayer and allow God to help you to answer.

It appears that our answers fall into two categories. For one category we are called to look up to find the divinity that is Jesus and for the other we are called to look in to find the humanity that is Jesus.

In looking up, our answers allow us to see Jesus as truly divine. In awesome wonder, we see the incarnated Jesus as the Word made Flesh, our Lord, our God, our Savior, our Messiah, and any other word that denotes our wonder, our praise, our glory, our joy, and our appreciation that God loves and saved us. That's the Jesus Peter saw when he answered *'You are the Christ of God.'* But notice that Jesus told him to be quiet about this. Jesus is that long awaited Messiah but that is not all Jesus is for us.

For then Jesus calls Himself *'the Son of Man.'* He is telling Peter that yes, that is who I am; but I am more than that, I am fully human and I am humanity's perfection. He goes on to speak of suffering, denial, and life. He is looking into what awaits Him as He goes onward to His Cross, to His end. He is saying watch me. Live how I live, do as I do, love as I love. His is The Way, the Truth, and the Life. We are called to study, ponder, and duplicate His example. Jesus seeks to be known. We are called to look inward, look into our hearts and our souls. There we will find our Comforter, our Role Model, our Guide, our Sustainer, our Rock, our All in All; indeed, there will be found awaiting us the fulfillment of our every need and desire.

Look up, say thank you Lord, my Redeemer and God, truly Jesus is my Christ; see you in church. Then Look in, say thank you Jesus, truly Jesus is my best friend, He has got my back, He walks with me.

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish In Love With Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Liturgical Celebrations

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

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

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.

June 19, 2016

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

June 11,12

Collection	\$1,421.00
Building Fund	10.00
Mass Stipends	150.00
Votive Candles	39.00
Cemetery Fund	80.00
Cost of Envelopes	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS

June 20, June 21	No Mass
June 22	Brian Griffin
June 23	Mercedes Coleman
June 24	Souls in Purgatory
June 25	Thomas Griffin/June Stone
June 26	Parish Community

TO ALL OUR FATHERS

Sunday is Father's Day. It is a day in which to thank fathers if yours is still alive and to fondly remember if yours has died. Wherever they may be, today we honor and bless all dads.

Mass intentions for today are as follows: David Jones, Thomas Barry, John Griffin, George Joyce Joseph Jennex, Roy Reid, Pierce Brake, John M. Pike, Jack Neville, John Pike, Patrick Quilty, Roy Stone, Nathan Noseworthy, Phonse Noseworthy, John Griffin & Augustus Payne.

THANK YOU FROM MY HEART

I wish to personally thank each of you for your thoughtfulness towards me as I celebrated my birthday last week. Every now and then, It's nice to know you are appreciated. It keeps the spirit young even as the body ages.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS (updated)

Please mark these dates on your calendars and plan to attend these events. Nothing says I care like being there.

- **Canada Day- Beaumont-Hamel Service.** We plan to gather in the church at 8:30 am for prayer and hymns, ring our bells at 8:45, and follow this with Mass of Remembrance at 9am.

The 2016 Mount Cecilia Cemetery Mass is scheduled for Monday July 25 at 7 pm.

-The **2016 Mount Patricia Cemetery Mass** is scheduled for Wednesday July 27 at 7 pm.

PRIEST WILL BE AWAY

From Monday June 27 until Thursday July 7, your priest will be visiting family in New Brunswick. During that time Fr. Terry Boland will celebrate Masses on both Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and both 4:30 and 11 weekend Masses.

NEWFOUNDLAND CATHOLIC RENEWAL

This Group is announcing that its Annual Summer Conference will be held on the weekend of July 22-24 at the Mint Brook Campsite near Gambo. Come and experience the merciful love of God. For further details, please contact Amelia Dicks 388-1048. This is a great opportunity to seek/find the Spirit of God.

FAMILY CATECHESIS- IT IS NEW

In September, sacramental preparation will be the responsibility of parents. The parish will provide support and lead monthly meetings. But instruction of the children will be done in the home. This is NEW. It will be challenging for parents; we want to be of assistance. Please parents discuss this, please grandparents 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.

BIBLE STUDY

Our next session will be this Monday June 20 at 7 pm in the parish house. Come join us in studying and sharing God's Word.

FLOWERS AROUND CHURCH GROUNDS

A few perennials have been planted. One man is planting flowers to form a cross. A few ladies have come forward and agreed to take the lead in planting some more flowers. Please join them. We hope that people will donate and plant flowers in memory of loved ones. John is available and more than willing to be of assistance to any offer to plant. The success and the beauty of this project lies in your hands.

CMIC LOAN REPAID

Less than 2 years ago, we received a loan of \$30,000 from Catholic Missions in Canada to renovate the parish house. It was to be repaid in 5 years. Thanking God for our blessings, the Parish Council announces that next month (3 years early) this loan will be paid in full.

FOOD BANK NEED

The Food Bank needs its cupboards filled for the summer months. The Christmas in June Drive on Monday evening will help. But please consider bringing a few food items to Mass with you over the next few weeks. There is a box at the back in which to place them. Thank you.

T'IS SUMMER

It's that time of year when people are on holidays. This is a reminder to our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are going to be away, please try to arrange for another to cover

for you. It will make our job easier. Thanks.

OUR BELLS WILL RING

On the 100th anniversary of that fateful day at Beaumont-Hamel – Friday, July 1st, 2016, at 8:45 am, the moment when our young soldiers were given the order to advance into the battlefield 100 years ago, all churches in Newfoundland and Labrador with bells will ring them loudly to tell the world that we have not forgotten.

SUMMER STUDENT

Matthew has lots of work. He could use your help in two of his tasks. We hope to complete an accurate record of the layout of all the gravesites in the cemetery. If your loved ones are buried there, he would appreciate your contacting him at the parish house to be sure that it is recorded in our files. Also he is doing work to digitalize our archive material collected last year. If you have anything to add to make it more complete, he would love to hear from you. We need pictures of Fr. Collins, Fr. Kelly, Fr. Buckle. Remember Fr. Sheridan; anyone have a picture of him?

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.

PAPAL BLESSINGS

It has been a while; so another reminder. If a family member is 90 or so, or older, or if a couple is celebrating 50 years, or more, of marriage, papal blessings are available. Contact the parish office.

MERCY PRAYER

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