

*At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon . . . "*

*[Jesus] said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Matthew 15: 21-28*

#### Boundaries

From the moment we manage to get our little bodies to stand erect, we encounter boundaries. Mom and Dad set up safety gates to keep us within a well-defined, safe space; they "child-proof" cabinet doors and closets and electric outlets so we won't hurt ourselves. Often their own hands and arms and legs serve as the boundary, stopping us from running off into the street or into unsafe waters.

Growing up is about learning to recognize and deal with boundaries: how to safely negotiate our way through potentially dangerous places and situations. We learn to recognize social boundaries that keep defined and understood relationships functioning as they should: we recognize the boundaries that govern our different relationships with employers and employees, with teachers and students, with professional associates and acquaintances, with customers and clients.

But sometimes we hide behind boundaries. We stay within safely artificial boundaries that we believe God has established. We settle within our comfort zones, sometimes mistakenly seeing them as correct and proper distances. Fear becomes a boundary that shields us from encountering people of different races and cultures and religions and nationalities - such boundaries become walls that isolate us from those we prefer to have nothing to do with.

And there are those boundaries we establish to preserve our own status, our own wealth, our own sense of ego and self-importance.

We feel safer, but over time we begin to sense in our souls that we are missing something in our lives as we live on the edge of such "boundaries." Some boundaries enable us to function as a society and a community - but other boundaries, in fact, preserve dysfunction.

Without realizing it, even God becomes out-of-bounds in our lives.

***Today's Gospel is about crossing boundaries. First, Jesus travels through the region of Tyre and Sidon, a Gentile area considered "unclean" by the Jews. By crossing that boundary, Jesus manifests the love of God for all. A second boundary is crossed by the Canaanite woman, who dares to approach Jesus (something that just wasn't done) and speaks up for her daughter and her own self-worth as a woman of God. Her boldness is an act of faith in the mercy of God that she recognizes in Jesus' very presence; her faith results in the collapse of that boundary that unjustly and cruelly isolates her from the rest of society. The mercy of God enables us to break down boundaries and walls that paralyze us in dysfunction and estrangement. Pope Francis often speaks of reaching out to those on the boundaries or "peripheries," to those who are driven to the margins and edges of society by poverty, violence and illness. Jesus' encounter with the Canaanite woman illuminates our own vision to recognize those divisions and chasms between us and others and to go the peripheries and cross those boundaries that are obstacles to realizing God's kingdom of justice and peace in this time and place of ours.***

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# Sacred Heart Parish

## A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ



### Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Tues, Thurs 1:00 pm to 5 pm

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

[curlingparish@hotmail.com](mailto:curlingparish@hotmail.com)  
[www.sacredheartrcparish.ca](http://www.sacredheartrcparish.ca)

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

Reconciliation: Wednesday after Mass, or by request

Mass During the Week: Tues at 7:00 pm Wed, Thurs, Fri at 10:00 am ***\*NEW\****

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: Celebrated at Weekend Mass after preparation session.

## August 20, 2017

## 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

**RECEIVED WITH THANKS** (August 12/13)

Regular Collection	\$ 1791.35
Building Fund	\$ 40.00
Votive Candles	\$ 99.90
Mass Stipends	\$ 110.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Aug 21	No Mass
Aug 22	John Mendes
Aug 23	Francis Griffin
Aug 24	Edward Buckle
Aug 25	Francis Griffin
Aug 26	
Aug 27	Mass for the Community

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
<b>August 26</b>	
Joan Penney	Art Hall, Marie Byrne
Linda Tarbett	Barbara Neville
<b>August 27</b>	
Hedy Kenney	Wayne & Amelia Dicks
Mike Leonard	Calvin Gillis
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>	
Tony Griffin	

**NEW PRIEST IN DIOCESE**

We are pleased to welcome to our diocese Reverend “Joe” Pichai Pillai Vellankanni, C.M., a member of the Southern Indian Province of the Congregation for the Mission. Effective August 16, 2017, Father Joe will be appointed as an Associate Pastor of the Cathedral of the Most Holy Redeemer where he will begin a period of enculturation under the guidance of Father Edward Terry.

**CHANGE IN WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Starting this week we will be adding another mass to the weekday schedule and changing the times for them. This week, and the following weeks, the schedule will be: **Tuesday at 7 pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 10 am.** On days when there is a funeral mass, the mass for that day will be canceled and the intentions for that day re-scheduled. The Friday schedule to accommodate the mass at the Lohnes complex will remain as it is (i.e. mass at the Lohnes at 2 pm will replace the mass of that morning).

**MASS STIPENDS / INTENTIONS**

We currently have very few mass intentions on our books. This is a good time to schedule masses for our departed family members and friends. As well, there is always a need to have masses for those who are sick. Pick call the parish office to schedule masses.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

In July, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul conducted 17 home visits, assisting 22 adults and six children, and spending \$534.30 in service. Meanwhile, Mary's Kitchen served 112 guests at a cost to SSVP of approximately \$400. Our thanks to the CWL (Cathedral Parish) for their assistance with Mary's Kitchen in July. The monthly SSVP collection will take place next weekend, August 26-27. We are grateful for your continued support.

**BIBLE STUDY**

The group will continue to meet in the Church archive room on **Monday evening, August 21 at 7 pm.** We welcome newcomers to join us in ‘breaking open the Word.’

**CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY AT MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY-**

If you're going to MUN this fall, be sure to check out the Catholic Chaplaincy. My office is at UC 3006 (we're right beside the "ASK" desk in the UC - this will make sense when you get there). We have a Facebook page at MUN Catholic Community and my email is ej\_mroz@yahoo.ca Hope to see you there! Sincerely, Fr Joe Mroz SJ, MUN Catholic chaplain"

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT**

Today's Gospel from the Book of Matthew describes what occurred in Tyre and Sidon when Jesus cured the daughter of a Gentile woman. Tyre and Sidon were Gentile cities. The Apostles faithfully followed the Lord wherever He went, just as we are called to do. There was only one reason that the Lord made this trip (on foot, of course, as that was the only alternative at that time), and that was to cure the daughter of the Gentile woman. Making an effort like that is a sign of Christ's love, and His understanding of a need. He was also trying to teach His followers, which includes us, how important each individual and her or his faith is.

Jesus' Apostles found this situation, and perhaps even this entire trip, to be a fruitless and empty gesture, more of a bother than it was worth. They even plead with Jesus to ignore the woman and send her away. They said, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." However, Jesus is teaching a lesson to each of us, actually two lessons. He does not "send her away" but finally responds, saying "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

The two lessons (messages) Jesus provides to us are easily summarized. First, we need to know and understand that Jesus loves us and He is aware of our needs. The second is that when we pray and appeal for help (all the woman finally said was "Lord, help me!") a key to answered prayers is persistence. She had it, and we need to have it.

**HUMOUR**

One Sunday a pastor told his congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in the offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like the person contributed so much to please raise her hand so that he could personally thank the generous donor.

And there sat our Rosie all the way in the back. She shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three most handsome men in the building and said, "I'll take him and him and him!"