

REFLECTION for Pentecost Sunday 2017

Fr. Don

'There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; different forms of service but the same Lord.'

Today, Jesus instituted the church on earth. Today, Jesus sent down the Holy Spirit to guide us in our Christian duty. Today, we are made disciples of Jesus; made capable of doing works equal to, if not greater than, He did. Today, all excuses are rendered false. From now onwards, we are sent as the messengers of the Good News.

Is Sacred Heart Parish the ideal Christian community? Can we rest on our laurels, thinking we have achieved success? Does the Holy Spirit reign in the hearts of our parishioners? Do we go out into the mission fields that are calling us as we leave Mass and pass through the church doors? Or do we just go twiddling our thumbs?

Many would argue that no ideal Christian community exists on earth; they argue that it certainly is to be found in heaven, but not here on earth. To build such a community on earth requires divine intervention and our active participation. Today the divine gift of the Holy Spirit can help us build it. By cooperating with the merciful love of God in our world, it is achievable. But the rub is- we have to co-operate with the Holy Spirit.

'See how they love one another.' St Augustine reminds us that a community is united by the things it loves, the values that its members share. When we look at our own parish we can see the many ways we accomplish this. But, to be a faithful community, we need to reach out to seek more who share the same values as we do.

Undeniably, there is a remnant of faithful, those who support and participate in our parish life. Years ago, we had 500 families; today only 220. Are we to be satisfied with declining numbers? Jesus seeks lost sheep.

I believe we are a faith-filled parish- vibrant and healthy. Generally, it is still possible to find genuine pockets of community here and there but, these days many people chose to lead private lives motivated by largely individualistic values. Parish life holds little value. Attracting them is a challenge. Where is our help!

Pentecost is the day when we commemorate the divinely-fueled huge outburst in which the Church came to birth. The gift of tongues was on display. It is the day when we remember the countless ways in which the Holy Spirit shapes the Church as an institution and ourselves as individuals. It is the day when once again we are reminded that, having received the Holy Spirit, we are required and enabled, in whatever circumstances we find ourselves, to take a stand for good and against evil. We are equipped to bring the Good News to all.

And this gift is not to be put *'under the bushel basket.'* It is a gift that cries out to be shared. Indeed, the more it is shared, the more it blossoms. The gift of the Holy Spirit, which is life in God, enables us to break out from our fear and face the world around us. *'Go out into all the world and proclaim the Good News.'*

At the parish level, it has personal meaning. We are transformed from *a group turned in on itself to a community sent on a mission.* We become apostles who are sent by Jesus to bring a message of mercy, love, compassion, forgiveness, joy, and freedom, to the world. It must have seemed an impossible task to those first disciples, just as it can often appear that way to us today. Let us realize that success is achieved when we allow God to reign- we remain merely the instruments- the Spirit works in and through us; sometimes despite us.

It takes true faith to believe that we can be instruments of our own salvation and the salvation of others. But other Christians have done it before us. The early disciples, with the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit, represent all Christians in every generation. They were sent, as Christ was sent, into the world by the Father, on a mission. They, and we, are charged with the responsibility of revealing and fighting sin in the world. We have the power to heal, forgive, and sanctify. **Seek the gifts and fruits of the Spirit.** Be bold, be Christian!

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ



Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 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

www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

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

Reconciliation: Wednesday after Mass, or by request

Mass During the Week: Wed, Thurs at 7:00 pm, Friday at 10 am

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.

June 4, 2017

Pentecost Sunday

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (May 27, 28)

Collection	1560.00
Bldg. Fund	30.00
Pamphlets	5.00
Mass Stipends	40.00
St. Vincent de Paul	20.00

MASS INTENTIONS

June 5	No Mass
June 6	No Mass
June 7	Tara Lynne Joyce
June 7	Joseph & Margaret Jennex
June 8	Special Intention
June 9	George & Fletcher Joyce
June 10	Jack & Joan Hearn
June 11	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS (June 10,11)

READERS EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Gen Quigley	Joe Byrne, Art Hall
Linda Tarbett	Frank Lewis
<u>Communion to the Sick</u> Tony Griffin	
Wayne Dicks	Hedy Kenny, Doreen Jones
Amelia Dicks	Don Gallant

FATHERS DAY MASS- June 17,18

We encourage families to request Mass and to submit names of fathers you want to remember at the weekend Masses this year. Contact Katie at the office.

BINGO

Our next bingo will be held this **Sunday, June 4th @ 2pm**. Donation lists are posted at the rear of the Church. **We will also be drawing the winning ticket for the cash prize draw of \$1000.**

BIBLE STUDY

The group will next meet in the Parish house on **Sunday evening, June 4 at 7 pm**. We welcome newcomers to join us in 'breaking open the Word.'

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Our next meeting, the final meeting until September, will be held **on Monday June 5 at 7 pm**. Members are asked to make a special effort to attend.

VARIETY CONCERT

Sacred Heart Parish in Curling will be having a variety concert on Friday, June 9th and it will take place in the Sacred Heart School Auditorium at 7:30. Admission is \$ 5.00. Please keep this night open and come to our parish for a wonderful evening of music. We hope to see you there!

FLOWER GARDEN

We are in the process of revitalizing this project again. You will notice a large pile of topsoil outside. Please help us by bringing perennials to plant. We ask that you donate them either in support of the beautification or in memory of a loved one. Let the Holy Spirit move you. Those with a green-thumb are welcomed to assist.

TABERNACLE ART WORK FOR SALE

Limited edition Prints of the beautiful painting which adorns our tabernacle are being made available. The small prints will cost \$30.00. The medium prints are \$45.00. To order one, please sign the sheets which are available at the back. These would make a nice addition to your home or make a great gift for family living away.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

We have someone hired for the job. However, parish maintenance must to be the concern of us all. If you have some time, or could you make some time, to come help clean the church inside or to tend the grounds outside. The flower beds will soon need some tender care. Thank you in anticipation of your help.

OLD PARISH PHOTOS

We are now in the process of sorting the photos so as to display them. We have some depicting our former pastors, some for the prayer group, snow walks, social club, Christmas socials, processions, and more. If you have some old photos that you think could enhance our display, please bring them. Contact the Parish Office.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Father Don Leonard will be celebrating his birthday on **Monday, June 12th @ 5pm** with a **special mass, followed by a potluck supper** at the parish house. We will be celebrating Everyone is invited to attend and celebrate!

Don't forget to bring your favourite dish!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Join us in celebration of Father Don Leonard's 11th Anniversary as a member of the priesthood on June 28th. We will be hosting a special mass in his honour @ 5pm, followed by POT LUCK SUPPER at the Sacred Heart School cafeteria. All are welcome!

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The Society is still looking for new members. And there is a need for used furniture. Call: 638-9010 for more information. They thank you for your generous support of their 4th Sunday collections. Money donated goes to fund some vital projects. \$158.40 was collected last week.

WORDS FROM POPE BENEDICT

It is necessary to improve pastoral structures in such a way that the co-responsibility of all the members of the People of God in their entirety is gradually promoted. ... This demands a change in mindset, particularly concerning lay people. They must no longer be viewed as 'collaborators' of the clergy but truly recognized as 'co-responsible,' for the Church's being and action.

MEDITATE ON THESE PENTECOST TRUTHS:

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord (wonder).

FRUITS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity.

THE EFFECT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is like our mother/father who comforts and leads us into all truth, and who

brings and keeps us home to God. If we listen to the Spirit we will never offend anyone, we will love everyone, and we will always have a guiding and encouraging advocate. The Spirit unites all Christians, unconditionally and forever.

ORDINARY TIME RETRNS

The Great Ninety Days (Lent and Easter) are over and we return to Ordinary Time this Sunday evening. It will continue until the beginning of Advent leading to Christmas. It represents 'numbered time'- there are 33 or 34 weeks of Ordinary Time in the church year. Now, green becomes the liturgical color. Technically, it is one liturgical season, though it is divided into two periods-first the weeks after Christmas until Lent and then the weeks after Easter until Advent.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful. And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit

you have taught the hearts of your faithful.

In the same Spirit, help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



JESUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on me, a sinner.