

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

Fr. Don

*Choices, choices, oh, the choices life demands. Lord, help us with the choices we make daily.*

Today's readings are filled with examples of making choices. In our first reading, the Israelites have reached the Promised Land and Joshua gathers them together and asks them to choose-*'if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve.'*

In the second reading, the relationship between husband and wife in marriage is presented as one in which choices have to be made, concessions/respect given and received, and mutual love shared, in order to ensure the happiness and joy inherent in the marital relationship with its continual calling to make choices. Spouses must choose to humbly submit, one to the other.

Undoubtedly the most vital example of choice is presented in today's Gospel. Jesus is offering us the choice of following Him and His Way or the choice of rejecting that path of life. If we accept His Way we too must humbly submit to following His words- *'unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.'* Why should we humbly submit?

Jesus is the once-for-all Paschal Lamb, the Sacrificial Lamb. He came into this world to redeem and save fallen humanity. Just as the people in the Old Testament were made pure and holy by sacrificing and eating an innocent lamb, so too the people of the New Testament, and this includes us, are forever made pure and holy by eating the Body of the once-for-all Sacrificial Lamb of God- Jesus Christ. Our Sunday Mass is actually our 'doing this in memory of Him.'

Do you recall why the Passover feast was celebrated? Do you know the story of the sacrificial lamb? If so, notice the difference between the former sacrificial lamb and Jesus as New Lamb. The Paschal lamb had to be sacrificed yearly if not more frequently. With the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross, no more sacred Paschal sacrifices are needed as Jesus' once-for-all Sacrifice is forever. The Lamb once slain has redeemed humanity. This truly is the Paschal Mystery.

The prospect of choosing the gift of life eternal if we choose to follow Jesus is given to us.

Those followers of Jesus who were with Him when He spoke these words- *unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you*- can probably be pardoned for walking away. Time has proven the truth of Jesus' words. We now know the saving power of the Eucharist, the saving power of Jesus, and the saving power of the Holy Spirit.

With two thousand years of church teaching and examples of Jesus' saving intrusions into the lives of His believers available to us, we cannot be pardoned if we choose to walk away.

So Jesus is asking us today, *'Do you also wish to go away?'*

Let us like Simon Peter answer Him, *'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'*

Jesus says *gather today and every day, never forget My Sacrifice: Do this in memory of me.*

# 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

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website--www.sacredheartrcparish.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, 10 am, Fri 10 am

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.

**August 23, 2015**  
**21st. Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## **RECEIVED WITH THANKS**

### **Aug 16, 17**

Collection	\$1413.00
Donation [ Bible ]	200.00
Building Fund	95.00
Votive Candles	89.40
Mass requests	70.00
Stipend- Baptism	25.00
Word Among Us	12.00

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

Aug 24	No Mass
Aug 25	No Mass
Aug 26	Roche Family
Aug 27	Lewis Family
Aug 28	Bernadette McCormick
Aug 29	Patrick & Annie Quilty
Aug 30	Parish Community

## **PARISH REGISTRATION**

Now 116 have returned their completed registration forms. We have begun collating the forms already received. It is our fervent hope to have this process completed before September. Please fill yours out and return it. Fill in enough so that we can register your family. It will help us enumerate our parish community.

## **BAPTISM**

This Sunday we welcome Carter Leo Bertram Park into our Christian community as a baptized Catholic. We ask God's everlasting blessing on him and his parents Michael and Nancy (Clarke)

## **A SUGGESTION- COME and SEE.**

In September, we are planning a COME and SEE Campaign. We will be inviting those who have stopped coming to come and see. We miss them and want them to be part of our Parish family. We want them to join us for worship and for social functions. Perhaps you could mention this to persons you know and invite them to come with you during our Campaign. Start now. Please read the message that follows. It describes a vibrant parish.

## **WHAT IS A VIBRANT PARISH?**

Parishes are called to be missionary to those around them. This is the new evangelization. In order for this outward mission to be successful, the faithful must first be nourished and strengthened inwardly through the life of their parishes. This message is being emphasized in the Gospels during today and the last weeks. The commitment to mission is something the Lord requires not only of individuals, but also of families and of the whole parish community. It is no longer solely the pastor's work and rightly so. This mission is a communal process comprised of three types of activities: Missionary: directed toward non-believers and those who have distanced themselves from the faith/church. Catechetical: directed toward those who have embraced the Gospel and those who need to complete or strengthen their initiation/faith.

Pastoral: directed toward the Christian faithful growing in their faith and in their involvement in the heart of the Christian community/parish life.

## **PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

***Nomination forms are now available at the back of the church.*** Three (3) new members will be elected to Parish Council in September. Please consider either nominating yourself or someone else to fill this vital role in the life of the Parish.

## **K of C News**

**The annual Knights of Columbus golf tournament** will be held Friday Aug 28 in Deer Lake. The format will be 4-man scramble followed by lunch and awards presentation. Contact Dave at 639-7928.

## **CATECHIST WORKSHOP**

The Diocese is offering training for catechists. On **Saturday Sept 12**, facilitators will come to the Pepsi Center in Corner Brook to train those interested. All you need to do is express interest in attending and you are heartily welcomed.

## **MINISTRIES**

In the next month or so we will be updating our schedule of Lectors and Eucharistic ministers for the fall season. If you would like to volunteer for either of these ministries, let us know. If you were doing these in the past and have stopped, we

would heartily welcome you back. If you have never done these ministries, we would love to add your name to our lists. We can provide training if needed. And it will be spiritually enriching for you.

## **ST. AUGUSTINE, FEAST DAY - Aug 28**

He was the son of St. Monica and was born in Africa in 354 and spent his early life in wicked living. He was one of the most intelligent men who ever lived and though he had been brought up a Christian, his sins of impurity and his pride darkened his mind so much, that he could not see or understand the Divine Truth anymore. Through his mother's prayers and the influence of St. Ambrose, Augustine finally became convinced that Christianity was the one true religion. He was baptized, became a priest, a bishop, a famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious orders, and one of the greatest saints that ever lived. He suffered from guilt for his early lifestyle. *"Too late have I loved You!"* he once cried to God. His feast day is August 28th. Here are two of his quotes:  
*If you believe what you like in the gospels, and reject what you don't like, it is not the gospel you believe, but yourself.*  
And perhaps his most famous: *Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you.*

## **DIVINE MERCY MOTTO**

***Lord Jesus, I trust in you.***