

January 12, 2020 – Baptism of the Lord

John tried to prevent [Jesus from being baptized, but] Jesus said to him in reply, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness . . .”

. . . a voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3: 13-17

### At the river’s edge

What would be the last thing you would give up?

What would be the last possession you would cling to before you had to let go?

Some of us would hold on to our phones or laptops or tablets for dear life — our entire lives are on that chip!

Or: *They’ll have to pry my credit card from my cold, dead hand!*

Or, though we would never admit it, we would cling to our pride: our professional credentials, the reputation and respect that we have earned over a long career, the expertise or craft or art we have worked so hard to master. To the bitter end, we would refuse to surrender those things that make us better than others (at least in our own eyes), that justify our standing apart and above those of lesser accomplishment, that put us (so we believe) in a position to judge those we consider lesser lights.

Maybe the last thing we would give up is our identity as a spouse or a parent or a grandparent. No one could ever take that away — could they?

But that is exactly what happens at the River Jordan. Jesus leaves everything at the river’s edge — including his very divinity. John, the fiery preacher who presides at those baptisms, is embarrassed by Jesus’ coming forward for baptism. But Jesus insists. He empties himself of all that he is. He becomes the slave, the poor laborer, the leper, the forgotten man or woman he is standing next to in line. He plunges headlong into the dark, dirty water of the human condition.

And, as Matthew the Gospel writer notes, some remarkable things happen.

But the most remarkable of all: God is in our midst. God plunges with us into the turbulent waters of our days.

It’s just a matter of what we’re willing to surrender — and in what amount.

***To be baptized into Christ requires, first, that we let go of those things that we place ahead of the holy; to empty ourselves of our self-importance and pride in order to embrace the life of God that is manifested in the selfless compassion of Jesus — but, because of such humility, something new is possible, not just for us but for all of humanity: justice for the poor and enslaved can be imagined, reconciliation among the estranged and divided becomes a reality; our compassion can heal the broken-hearted. Hope that gives birth to new life, light that shatters the darkness of despair, love that lifts the fallen all become realistic possibilities — if we follow the lead of Jesus and let go and surrender our interests and needs for something greater.***

connectionsmediaworks.com

January 12, 2020  
Baptism of the Lord

# Sacred Heart Parish

## A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

### Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Dianne Russell

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

curlingparish@hotmail.com  
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca



Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.

Reconciliation: By request

Mass During the Week: Tues & Thurs at 7 p.m. and Wed & Fri at 10 a.m.  
First Fridays - 2 p.m. at the Lohnes Complex

**Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.**

Holy Hour of Adoration: Third Sunday of the Month at 2 p.m.

Marriages: Six months’ notice required. A year’s notice is recommended.

Baptisms: Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

St. Vincent de Paul: To assist those in need. Call 638-9010.

**RECEIVED WITH THANKS**

	Jan 1	Jan 5
Regular Sunday	\$158.84	\$1531.75
Initial Offering	137.00	118.00
Building Fund	70.00	115.00
New Years Day	782.00	45.00
Christmas	20.00	25.10
Advent Folders	20.00	
Votive Candles		71.25
Sunday Missals		5.00
St. Vincent de Paul	35.00	
Bingo Proceeds		709.75

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Tues, 7 p.m.	Late Thomas, Edith & James Hackett
Wed, 10 a.m.	Special Intention
Thur, 7 p.m.	Late Brian Canning
Fri, 10 a.m.	Deceased Members of the Gallant & Hackett Families
Sat, 4:30 p.m.	Late Basil Donahue
Sun, 11 a.m.	Parish Community

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

January 18	
Carol Reid Joan Penney	Mona Specker Art Hall John Carroll
January 19	
Debbie Allen Calvin Gillis	Anna House Doreen Jones Barbara Neville
Communion of the Sick	
Barbara Neville	

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS:**

Donation made in memory by Edna Colbourne and family for the Late Patrick Joyce.



**4YOUTH: BAPTISM OF THE LORD:** Today the Church marks the end of the Christmas season with the celebration of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During the season of Christmas, the Church celebrates three feasts which mark the revelation of God to humanity: Christmas as the Incarnation of God, Epiphany as the revelation of God to the Gentiles through the visitation of the Magi and the Baptism of Jesus as the revelation of the Trinity (Jesus Son of God present at the baptism, the descent of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove and the voice of God the Father announcing that this was His Son in whom He was well pleased). For more about the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, visit [www.rcchurch.com](http://www.rcchurch.com)

**ADORATION AND BENEDICTION:** Adoration and Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament will take place Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. Adoration begins at 2 p.m. and concludes with Benediction at 3 p.m. You are invited to come pray with us.

**PARISH DUES: Received January 1, 2020** with thanks from: David and Dorothy Brake, Camila Bruce, Eileen Buckle, Shelia George, Tony Griffin, John Hayes, Les McCarthy, and Denise Bruce.  
**Received January 5, 2020** with thanks from: Nora Burton, Jim Park, Debra Elkins, Joe and Marie Byrne, Maxine and John Staples, Arthur and Margaret Barnes, Margaret McCarthy, and Catherine Musseau.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Continues Thursday, January 16, at 7:30 in the parish meeting room.

**PARISH MISSION- ADVANCE NOTICE:** Our parish will be taking part in a special mission during Lent. Retired Archbishop Sylvain Lavoie will be with us on the weekend of March 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and will lead us in a mission from March 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>. This will be a tremendous time to celebrate our faith with an Archbishop who has undergone great spiritual healing and has assisted many others in that same journey.

**NET MINISTRIES:** Sacred Heart and Holy Redeemer parishes are co-sponsoring events with NET Ministries for the weekend of **March 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>**. This is a great event for all youth in grade seven and higher. More specific details to follow. Confirmation candidates are expected to take part in these Net Ministries activities.

**HUMOUR:**

Why is Basketball such a messy sport? Because you dribble on the floor!

**BINGO THANK YOU:** It is only with the support of parishioners that our Parish Bingos can be the success that they are. Thank you to Debbie Allen, Mike Basha, Loretta Bennett, Sharon Bennett, Marjorie Blanchard, Colleen Boland, Cathy Bolt, Bill Brake, Dorothy Brake, Edward Brake, Mary Brake, Michelle Brake, William Brake, Eileen Buckle, Karen Buckle, Sandy Buckle, Nora Burton, Marie Byrne, Roberta Canning, Elizabeth Carew, Linda Cashin, Marina Cashin, Helen Cook, Linda Corbett, Lena Curnell, Gertrude Daye, Amelia Dicks, Theresa Dobbin, Vivian Donahue, Rosemarie Doody, Madonna Elford, Madonna English, Evelyn Ezekiel, Bill Peddle, and Veronica Stone. **Because of their generosity the parish bingo raised \$709.75 at the January 5<sup>th</sup> bingo.**

**BINGO:** There will be bingo at the Sacred Heart Gym on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 2 p.m. There is a volunteer list on the bulletin board located at the back of the Church.



Volunteers in the sections G through M on this list are asked to donate items. All your donations are greatly appreciated. Please contact the parish office if you want your name added to or removed from this list.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** In January Mary's Kitchen will be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Archbishop Howley Council 2581. This past Friday they served 34 guests with 12 Knights in attendance. Additionally, they have donated \$750.00 to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and for that, we are very grateful. The next meeting of the Society will be Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, in the basement of the Cathedral Residence at 7 p.m., new members welcome.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY -**

**JANUARY 18-25:** this celebration takes place annually throughout the world. It calls all Christian denominations to meet, to participate in various liturgical and other community activities, and to pray together that all may be one, as Christ desires. This should be a constant theme in our own prayer. In particular, The Bay of Islands Ministerial Association is inviting everyone to a gathering on Tuesday, **January 21<sup>st</sup>** at 7:00 pm at St Michael and All Angels Church, Park Drive.

