

REFLECTION for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (an excerpt from a recent Pope Francis Interview)

“I see clearly that the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds.... And you have to start from the ground up.

The church sometimes has locked itself up in small things, in small-minded rules. The most important thing is the first proclamation: **Jesus Christ has saved you.**

And the ministers of the church must be ministers of mercy above all. The confessor, for example, is always in danger of being either too much of a rigorist or too lax. Neither is merciful, because neither of them really takes responsibility for the person. The rigorist washes his hands so that he leaves it to the legalist commandments. The loose minister washes his hands by simply saying, ‘This is not a sin’ or something like that. In pastoral ministry we must accompany people, and we must heal their wounds.

How are we treating the people of God? I dream of a church that is a mother and shepherdess.

The church’s ministers must be merciful, take responsibility for the people and accompany them like the Good Samaritan, who washes, cleans and raises up his neighbor. This is pure Gospel. God is greater than sin. The structural and organizational reforms are secondary—that is, they come afterward. The first reform must be the attitude.

The ministers of the Gospel must be people who can warm the hearts of the people, who walk through the dark night with them, who know how to dialogue and to descend themselves into their people’s night, into the darkness, but without getting lost. The people of God want pastors, not clergy acting like bureaucrats or government officials. The bishops, particularly, must be able to support the movements of God among their people with patience, so that no one is left behind. But they must also be able to accompany the flock that has a flair for finding new paths.

Instead of being just a church that welcomes and receives by keeping the doors open, let us try also to be a church that finds new roads, that is able to step outside itself and go to those who do not attend Mass, to those who have quit or are indifferent. The ones who quit sometimes do it for reasons that, if properly understood and assessed, can lead to a return. But that takes audacity and courage.”

This vision of church is what Catholics are ready, longing, and waiting to see become a reality. (Fr. Don)

Sacred Heart Parish

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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Liturgical Celebrations

Weekend Masses:
Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 11:00 a.m.

Masses in Week Days:
Wed 7 pm
Thurs, 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.

**September 20, 2015
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

Sept 12, 13

Collection	\$1924.00
Dues	50.00
Building Fund	50.00
Votive Candles	96.00
BINGO	1014.90

MASS INTENTIONS

Sept 21	No Mass
Sept 22	No Mass
Sept 23	Gerry Donovan/ Sarah & Leo Hynes
Sept 24	Joe Hayes Sr.
Sept 25	Ignatius Power
Sept 26	Liz Parsons
Sept 27	Parish Community

HOLY HOUR

It will take place this Sunday Sept. 20 at 2 pm and includes **Rosary and Benediction**. *Please plan to come and bring a friend.*

Collection for the Needs of the Church in Canada: Why is there such a collection?

Every year, the Bishops of Canada make an appeal for financial assistance to support their work and the work of each diocese by means of this collection. Any additional revenues raised help the diocese support its own diocesan pastoral programs and other activities. The Collection will be taken September 26 and 27, 2015. Through your contribution to the Collection, you too can collaborate with the Bishops in their ministry to teach, sanctify and govern.

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

This committee meets regularly to discuss/plan worship activities, ways to involve people in the Mass/ liturgy, and oversees the catechesis of children and adults in the parish.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday Sept 28 at 7 pm in the priest's house. All members are urged to attend and we welcome anyone

interested to come join us.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Thus far it appears we have 200 or so families registered. If you or someone you know have not, but wish to register, it is not too late.

FOR MINISTRIES VOLUNTEERS

The new updated schedules and the new guide-books with prayer pamphlets for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers are now available at the back. Please pick one up.

Rite of Commissioning for our new ministers, this ceremony will take place at our Masses on Oct 3 and 4.

Training: a session for Lectors and Communion Ministers will take place after 7 pm Mass on Wednesday Sept 30. It should take thirty minutes or so. New ministers are asked to attend and other ministers are more than welcome to participate.

MENS' GROUP UPDATE

At their meeting plans for activities and projects for the next few months were discussed.

Annual Ticket Sale: tickets go on sale this weekend. A meeting for all those interested in helping out with this activity is scheduled for this Wednesday evening (after Mass) at the priest's house.

Variety Concert: it will feature local talent and promises to provide a memorable and entertaining evening of music and song. Further details will follow.

Maintenance: work is ongoing by the men to fix the water problems on either side of the church exterior, the replacement of church windows, and the improvement of heat efficiency in the church and priest's house.

Open Invitation: all men of the parish are welcome to join the group in their work to promote ownership and stewardship within the parish community. We are the parish!

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

REMEMBER our music concert this summer and our offering collected at it. Well, other churches held the concerts throughout the summer also. Offerings were taken at each and over \$5700.00 was given. However demand at the Food Bank is increasing every week. We are called to respond.

We have a box available at the back of the church for collecting food donations. During the month of September, please make an effort to donate some food.

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

Pope Francis is in the USA this week for the World Meeting of Families. Wayne and Amelia Dicks from our parish are there as representatives of this Diocese. Not all families can be there, so let us make this a special week in our church when the focus is on family life with its joys and sorrows and its triumphs and tragedies. Please try to make time this week to pray for your family and for all families. Let us strengthen our resolve to live more in Jesus as a parish family. Our dependence should always be focused on the Risen Christ.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Three (3) new members will be elected to Parish Council at our Masses next weekend. Thus far Carl Bennett, Mike Canning, Ed Dobbin, Patricia Jones, Carol Reid, and Gen Quigley have been nominated. It is still not too late. Please nominate yourself or someone else to fill this vital role in the life of the Parish.

WEBSITE MANAGER

We are looking for a volunteer to oversee our parish website. If you are willing to help us, please let Fr. Don know.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Next Sunday we will begin offering the

children's Liturgy of the Word. We encourage all families to bring their children or grandchildren to Mass and have them participate in this activity. It is a means of teaching them the faith. God knows, they will need to possess faith as they grow-up in this world with all its difficulties and its challenges.

EUCCHARISTIC CHAPEL

Are you looking for a place to pray quietly in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass! The chapel at the front left of the church is the place to you. The room has been refreshed. The door will be closed to keep out noises from the main body of the church. You are encouraged to go in there and in silence pray for a few minutes or longer if you desire.

To aid in this, there are now pamphlets on the altar in there with prayers specifically designed for Eucharistic Adoration.

Holy Spirit Prayer Group meets every Thursday evening at the Cathedral at 7:30.

PARISH BINGO

This was a smashing financial and social success last Sunday. We thank those who volunteered to help out, those who donated prizes, and those who attended. Bingo is a fun fund-raiser, but is vital to our finances. Please continue to support it in any way possible.

BOOK OF GOSPELS

The new Canadian Edition of this Book of Gospels has arrived and will be used for the first time this weekend. We thank those who contributed to its cost. The In Memoriams have been added to the inside cover of the Book.

BTW, the little extra monies donated were used to cover the cost of the guide-books for our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers.
