

REFLECTION for the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

'Christ is the image of the invisible (unseen) God' (our 2nd reading). To know and to see God is our life's hope and ultimate goal; we seek heaven. So, if we want to see God, we are called to look to Jesus for He is our God in human flesh and form. We are to see in Him the attributes of the almighty God and since we are made in the image and likeness of God, to see Jesus is to see God and to see Jesus is to see ourselves. If we believe what we profess, that He is our reason for living and our hope for attaining eternal life, then we 'hang our hats' on Jesus.

Jesus *'is very near to us, He is in our mouths, and in our hearts for us to observe'* (our 1st reading). The key to success is to follow Him and to strive to become like Him. He loves us so much that He is at our beck and call. The problem is we have trouble putting Love into action- we struggle to love God and to love our neighbor. Allow me to give a lived example of this: *'Some assembly required.'* I cringe when I see those words. I flash back to many Christmas mornings when I was overwhelmed with the near impossible task of assembling toys. Well, that's why we struggle with Love- some assembly is definitely required; for love, we must persevere and follow instructions.

Now that we understand this, let us examine the instructive parable Jesus uses in the Gospel. Let us imagine ourselves as the lawyer in today's Gospel. We get the courage to go up to Jesus and ask Him, *'Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?'* The answer He gives is simple- Love is the answer-love for God and love for our neighbor.

The robbers certainly did not love their neighbor. They beat him to near-death. Unfortunately, there are neighbors like these robbers. We probably would not befriend them but we are called to love them, pray for them, be good example to them when occasion arises.

The priest and the Levite did not love their neighbor. They passed by ignoring a man in obvious need to assistance. They justify this by their religiosity. They were on their way to church and avoided defilement by touching someone near death. They allowed the Law to dominate their call to Love. Unfortunately, this type is all too prevalent in many of our churches. They are the 'holier-than-thou's. They show love only when it is convenient to them. For them, self denial, self-sacrifice, and mercy have conditions attached. Unconditional love is a foreign concept to them.

And speaking of foreigners, the good Samaritan certainly loved his neighbor. He probably did not know the Law which the two others invoked as excuses. He was filled with the divine spirit; how, we do not know. But he exhibited unconditional love for this man in need of a loving helping hand. He, alone, showed us how to truly love our neighbor.

ASK- who am I - the robber, the priest, the Levite, the Samaritan? **Take instruction from Jesus!**

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish In Love With Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 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 am

Masses in Week Days:
Wed, Thurs 7:00 pm
Fri, 10:00 am

Holy Hour of Adoration:
Third Sunday of the Month,
at 2 pm

Reconciliation
Wed after Mass,
or by request

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

Baptisms:
Celebrated at Weekend Mass
after preparation session.

July 10, 2016

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| July 2, 3 | |
| Collection | \$1,321.00 |
| Building Fund | 145.00 |
| Mass Stipends | 50.00 |
| Votive Candles | 45.00 |
| Cemetery Fund | 10.00 |
| Donation [K of C] | 505.00 |

MASS INTENTIONS

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|------------------|---------------------------------|
| July 11, July 12 | No Mass |
| July 13 | Brian Griffin |
| July 13+ | Souls in Purgatory |
| July 14 | Paul Hepditch/Special Intention |
| July 15 | Mary Wheeler |
| July 16 | Kevin Whynott/Marilyn Borden |
| July 16+ | Leo & Mary Wheeler |
| July 17 | Parish Community |

CONGRATULATIONS

Samantha Park and Jamie Hackett were married in our church this Saturday. May God bless and give them many years of marital bliss. **Kaiden Robert Lowe** was baptised at our Sunday Mass. We pray for God's blessings on him and his parents.

CEMETERY MASS SCHEDULE

The Star of the Sea (Benoit's Cove) Cemetery Mass is scheduled for Sunday July 24 at 2 pm.
-The Mount Cecilia (Curling) Cemetery Mass is scheduled for Monday July 25 at 7 pm.
The Mount Patricia Cemetery Mass is scheduled for Wednesday July 27 at 7 pm.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee will meet at 7 pm this Monday evening at the parish house. Please note that this is a rescheduling due to prior commitments.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Mike Leonard, Joe Byrne, and Jack Pennell have completed their terms of office. We thank them for their service. Now, we remind you that Elections will take place in September to fill their positions. Please give serious thought to joining Parish Council to do your part in keeping Sacred Heart a vibrant and healthy parish.

NEWFOUNDLAND CATHOLIC RENEWAL

This Group is announcing that its Annual Summer Conference will be held on the weekend of July 22-24 at the Mint Brook Campsite near Gambo. Come and experience the merciful love of God. For further details, please contact Amelia Dicks 388-1048. This is a great opportunity to seek/find the Spirit of God.

OPEN-AIR WORSHIP SERVICE

You are invited to attend a worship service of hymns and praise at St. Michaels Anglican Church on Park Drive this Sunday evening at 6:30 pm. It will take place outdoors in the parking lot (or inside the church if it rains). An offering to aid the Food Bank will be taken.

FAMILY CATECHESIS- IT IS NEW

In September, sacramental preparation will be the responsibility of parents. The parish will provide support and lead monthly meetings. But instruction of the children will be done in the home. This is NEW. It will be challenging for parents; we want to be of assistance. Please parents discuss this, please grandparents discuss this with your children. We should be ordering texts now but honestly we have no idea as to the numbers we will need. Spread the word about this everyone.

FOOD BANK MESSAGE

"As you know, we just had our Christmas in June Food Drive. Our shelves are now stocked for the summer months. Thanks!
Joy"

FLOWER GARDEN- IT'S READY

There is still some space remaining in our flower garden. If you would like to plant one in memory of a loved-one, please do so. John can help if you need help.

T'IS SUMMER-- MINISTRY SCHEDULE

The new July-Oct schedule is now available at the back. It's that time of year when people are on holidays. This is a reminder to our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are going to be away, please try to arrange for another to cover for you. It will make our job easier. Thanks.

SUMMER STUDENT

Matthew has lots of work. He could use your help in two of his tasks. We hope to complete an accurate record of the layout of all the gravesites in the cemetery. If your loved ones are buried there, he would appreciate your contacting him at the parish house to be sure that it is recorded in our files. Also he is doing work to digitalize our archive material collected last year. If you have anything to add to make it more complete, he would love to hear from you. We need pictures of Fr. Collins, Fr. Kelly, Fr. Buckle. Remember Fr. Sheridan; anyone have a picture of him?
How about pictures of events associated with the Sacred Heart Social Club, the Msgr. Stoyles K of C, the re-opening of the church after the two fires, or any other past parish event.

PAPAL BLESSINGS

It has been a while; so another reminder. If a family member is 90 or so, or older, or if a couple is celebrating 50 years, or more, of marriage, papal blessings are available. Contact the parish office.

MAJOR FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

On Monday we celebrate the feast day of St. Benedict. He is the father of monasticism. In the 5th century he began opening monasteries and attracting monks to join him in a life of prayer and work (ora et laboura). Today, his Rule of Benedictine spirituality- pray and work- is practiced by many Catholics..
Try this exercise: Meditate on His 12 steps in the ladder leading to heaven:
(1) Fear God; (2) Subordinate one's will to the will of God; (3) Be obedient to one's superior; (4) Be patient amid hardships; (5) Confess one's sins; (6) Accept oneself as a "worthless workman"; (7) Consider oneself "inferior to all"; (8) Follow examples set by superiors; (9) Do not speak until spoken to; (10) Do not laugh; (11) Speak simply and modestly; and (12) Be humble in bodily posture.

On Friday we celebrate the feast day of St. Bonaventure. He was born in the 13th century (Middle Ages) and belonged to the Franciscan Order- ministry to the poor. With St. Thomas Aquinas, he clarified Catholic doctrine and steered the Church through some difficult times. Perhaps we need to pray to him for assistance in these trying days in which we live.

MERCY PRAYER

LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF THE LIVING GOD,
HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER.