

REFLECTION for the Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday

Fr. Don

‘The love of God has been poured into our hearts and souls through the Holy Spirit dwelling within us.’ This is the entrance antiphon for today’s Mass. It is a statement of fact and truth for those who believe in Jesus and who live in commitment and confidence that He is our Lord.

The Trinitarian God fulfilled a promise when the Third Person- the Holy Spirit- was sent to guide us, to journey with us, and to lead us, through life’s joys and struggles here on earth.

What changes should we see? How does the Spirit help us? How do we recognize the Spirit working within us? How sure are we of the Spirit’s presence? Well, the simple answer to these questions is that we are called to trust in God, to trust in the indwelling presence of the Spirit.

As Christians we can acquire knowledge, wisdom, and understanding (all gifts of the Spirit) by studying scripture and learned from the lives of the earliest believers, and then imitate them.

In today’s first reading, and indeed through the readings all during Easter Season, we learn that the followers of Jesus were scared and fearful immediately after the Resurrection. Like us they were unsure and doubting. Their experience of Pentecost changed everything about them.

After they were filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, we are told that they were bold and fearless. They left the upper room and took to the streets boldly proclaiming Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. They were filled with fire and zeal (wonder and awe). They were *‘filled with the peace that only belief in Jesus can give.’* And they were bursting with the desire to share this new found life of empowerment, freedom, and love. There was a fire in their belly, a fire in their hearts, and a fire in their souls. They were now ready to *‘go to all the nations proclaiming Jesus.’*

Some will say, that’s them, God bless them, but I don’t feel that way.

And my dear friends, therein lays the true challenge as we strive to live our lives as authentic Catholics and as Christians. We are called to thank God for and to accept the presence of the Holy Spirit within us. We weaken the full power of our baptismal call by refusing to enflame that Spirit. Yes, it means leaving our comfort zone, it means being bold and proud in professing your Catholic Christian identity. It means being fearless and committed to living the Gospel message.

To live life in the Spirit will be transformative. As we use the gifts and the fruits of the Sprit we will experience happiness, contentment, and peace. We’ll be smiling from ear to ear. There will be a skip in our step and *‘joy, joy, joy, deep in our hearts; deep in our hearts to stay.’*

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish In Love With Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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Corner Brook, NL A2H 3K8
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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:
Tues, Wed, Thurs 7 pm
Fri 10am

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.

May 15, 2016

Solemnity of Pentecost Sunday

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

May 7, 8

Collection	\$1764.90
Building Fund	35.00
Mass Stipends	160.00
Votive Candles	66.55
Booklets	13.55
Pope's Pastoral Works	5.00
Ecclesial Students	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS

May 16	No Mass
May 17	Mary Leonard
May 17+	Intentions of Betty Caines
May 18	Brian Griffin/Basil Donahue
May 19	Mass of Thanksgiving
May 19+	Bernadette/Anthony George
May 20	deceased in Joe Griffin Family
May 21	deceased in Byrne/ Musseau Families
May 21+	Dr. Bernard Murray
May 22	Parish Community

TIMES : see front of bulletin

NEW DIOCESAN GUIDELINES for Catechetical Formation and Sacramental Preparation

In consultation with the Priests, Directors of Parish Life and Parish Catechists of the Diocese, the following guidelines have been promulgated to take effect as of September 2016: **Catechetical Curriculum:**

- ***Allelu***, a family based program for children age five;

- ***Alive in Christ***, a family based program for children age six to eleven.

First Reconciliation/Communion

Preparation:

- Minimum age for reception of these sacraments: **7 years of age;**
- Minimum immediate faith formation preparation: **2 years of catechesis.**

Confirmation Preparation:

- Minimum age for reception of the sacrament: **13 years of age;**
- Minimum immediate faith formation preparation: **2 years of catechesis;**
- Curriculum: ***Faith Fusion - Year 1*** and ***Called to Celebrate Confirmation – Year 2.***

More information regarding these guidelines may be found at: **www.rcchurch.com**.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

This Sunday before the 11 am Mass, five children will receive the sacrament of First Penance. We congratulate them and their parents. Again we pray that these families will continue to join us in worship.

ORDINATION ON SUNDAY

Andrew White will be ordained to the priesthood at the 5 pm Mass at the Cathedral this Sunday. Please try to attend this joyous event.

HOLY HOUR NEXT WEEK

Due to other commitments by many of the participants, the Holy Hour has been cancelled for this Sunday. It will now be held next Sunday May 22 at 2 pm in the church. Please try to attend.

HELPERS NEEDED.

We are asking you to consider volunteering for service with our Altar Servers, our Ushers, our Choirs, our Lectors, our Eucharistic Ministry, our Greeters, our Finance and Parish Council Committees, and any other task you may want to offer. Parish Council has sub-committees to match your talent.

We are in immediate need of persons to help our Responsible Ministry-where we need persons to count and record the weekly collection, And also for our Bereavement Teams who help prepare funeral liturgies and in comforting those in mourning.

Please don't underestimate the contribution your involvement can add in building up this parish. You are needed and your gifts and talents are wanted. Just let Fr. Don or the Office know and soon you will begin blessing us with **you**.

LADIES GROUP FUND-RAISER.

Please take a book of tickets to help the Ladies Group in their effort to raise funds for the parish. The beautiful hand-made quilt can be viewed at the back of the

church.

ROSARY FOR MAY

The Ladies Group will lead the recitation of the Holy Rosary before each Saturday Mass during the month of May. They will begin the rosary 20 minutes (4:10) before the start of Mass. Please plan to come early and join in this Marian devotion.

BIBLE STUDY

The session scheduled for this coming Monday evening has been cancelled due to prior commitments by attendees. The next session will be on Monday May 23 at 7 pm in the parish house.

THANK YOU

The family of the late Brian Griffin has asked that we pass on their heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of sympathy and help given to them during their most difficult time of loss.

WE HAVE GUESTS

Two priests and one deacon are staying at the parish house this weekend. They are in town for the Ordination. We welcome them.

PRAYER FOR YEAR OF MERCY

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

MAY is MARY'S MONTH

TRY TO RECITE THE ROSARY.