

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

Fr. Don.

*'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'*

Today's Gospel reading emphasizes both the high points and low points in our efforts at being followers of Christ. To be a faithful follower is not easy nor is it for the faint of heart.

We glory in our faith, when like Peter we recognise and profess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God; and we doubt or feel shame in our faith when, all too easily, we fail to fully live up to this profession by failing to act as true Christians. This constant struggle with getting it right and then getting it wrong is so common in our daily quest to live so as to follow Jesus.

It is enough to cause believers to despair. But thanks be to God for the example of good old St. Peter. He is a saint yet he was a sinner of some degree.

Peter is a great encouragement for all of us. We can take heart that he could be rash, prone to the highs and lows in his living out of his faith; why he even went so low as to deny and betray Jesus in His hour of need- not once, not twice, but three times.

And yet Jesus saw fit to choose him to be the leader of the Apostles and the early church chose him the first Pope. We fondly consider him to be the ROCK on which the church was founded.

There is a lesson here. Peter was not perfect, Jesus did not expect him to be perfect; and we too are not perfect nor does Jesus expect us to be perfect. But we must persevere and be focused on LIVING OUR FAITH. We will stumble; it is the nature of humans to do so..

Like Peter, we will act in selfish and worldly ways, we have the mind of the world, rather than the mind of Christ. Like Peter, we often have the nerve to tear a strip off Christ himself and nit-pick at his teachings, and flatter ourselves about our own wisdom.

But, thanks be to God again, Peter like us had, deep in his heart and soul, a true faith in Jesus. His soul was sound but his mind and body were weak. He knew he had these low points or weak moments and admitted to them: such as when he says to Jesus, *'Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord.'*

This ambivalence (or presence of two opposing ideas, attitudes, or emotions at the same time) is true of believing Christians as individuals, as community, and as church as a whole. The church is made up of saints and sinners- and we are both, though at differing moments. I think those who walk away from the church and the practice of their faith should reconsider based on this.

The Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, has always maintained the truth of the faith, despite the individual and communal sinfulness of her members. Jesus gave Himself up for the Church to sanctify her. The Church is holy and the source of grace and salvation. She is specifically designed for sinners, *but, and here is the catch*, designed for sinners who know their need of forgiveness, mercy, and grace. *'Let the one who is free of sin cast the first stone.'*

# 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.sacredheartcrparish.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, Fri 10 am

Holy Hour of Adoration:  
Sunday **September 20,**  
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 13, 2015**  
**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## RECEIVED WITH THANKS

### Sept 5, 6

|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| Collection     | \$1522.00 |
| Garden Party   | 50.00     |
| Building Fund  | 126.00    |
| Votive Candles | 78.00     |
| Word Among Us  | 14.00     |

## MASS INTENTIONS

|         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| Sept 14 | No Mass              |
| Sept 15 | No Mass              |
| Sept 16 | Julia McHugh-O'Neil  |
| Sept 17 | Bernadette McCormick |
| Sept 18 | Jim Hayes            |
| Sept 19 | Edward Buckle        |
| Sept 20 | Parish Community     |

## PARISH REGISTRATION

Thank you to all who filled out the registration form. As Roman Catholics, we are all called to belong to a Parish Community and we are glad that you have chosen Sacred Heart Parish. Once we have the information collated we will have a listing of members of our Parish. 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.

## MINISTRIES VOLUNTEERS

This week 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.

## MENS' GROUP MEETING

A meeting will be held at the priest's house on Wednesday evening following 7 pm Mass. Plans for activities and projects for the next few months will be discussed. All men are invited to please plan to attend and support their efforts.

## LADIES GROUP ACTIVITIES

Please support their efforts by attending their events. Also they would love to have new members join them. Arms are outstretched waiting for you.

So if any ladies wish to join them please let the Priest or one of the Executive know. Theresa Dobbin, Patricia Jones, or Joan Penney would love to hear from you.

## 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.

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

## COME and SEE, PLEASE PARTICIPATE

September is upon us, we are beginning our COME and SEE Campaign. We are inviting

those who have stopped coming to church 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. Please support us by reaching out to persons you know and invite them to come with you during our Campaign. Bring them with you. Bring them to week-end Masses with you.

## COME and SEE PARISH EVENTS

We have some special activities planned for the month. Again we ask you to come out to support these. *Nothing says I care like actually being there.* Here are some of them:

**Saturday Sept 19 following 4:30 pm Mass we will have a pot-luck supper at the priest's house.** Please come and bring a dish.

-On **Sunday Sept. 20 at 2 pm we will have a Holy-Hour with Rosary and Benediction.** Please plan to come to each of these events yourself and bring a friend.

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

**Nomination forms are now available at the back of the church.** Three (3) new members will be elected to Parish Council at our Masses next weekend. Thus far six people 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.

## MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

We are looking for a volunteer to prepare our schedules in the future. If you are willing to help us, please let Fr. Don know.

## REFUGEES

The whole world is watching a potential

human disaster take place as people flee war-torn and economically bankrupt countries seeking peace, employment and a better quality of life. The diocesan website [www.rcchurch.com](http://www.rcchurch.com) has information on various ways you can help the cause. What can we do as a parish? Well, one thing is that we can pray for them and their situation. With this in mind, **our Mass this Wednesday, Sept 16 at 7 pm will be offered for these refugees.** Come and join us in prayer for them.

## 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.**