

April 29, 2018 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

"I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in them will bear much fruit . . . "

John 15: 1-8

“An Unexpected Reunion”

It was not your typical family reunion. They gathered in Philadelphia on a warm fall day for a cookout on a stoop in Philadelphia. Six siblings, ranging in age from 26 to 43. They were a mosaic of contrasts: black, white, tall, short, curvy, lean. At first glance, they didn't look like they could have anything in common. But they did: their mother Joan.

And this was the first time they had all met.

Lisa, the oldest, was born when Joan was 17. Lisa was placed in foster care five days after she was born. Joan visited her baby daughter regularly until Lisa was adopted by a couple.

Lisa was in her early 20s when she next met her mother. She found Joan living in boarded-up row house in Philadelphia. Joan told Lisa about her life: her own years in foster homes after the unexpected death of her own mother when Joan was nine, the sexual abuse, the heroin addiction, the fight to survive on public assistance and the grace of friends - and Lisa's five brothers and sisters, all taken away from her, as Lisa had been.

Joan said that she was proud of her children; the six were something good that she had done and loved Lisa and her brothers and sisters deeply and without hesitation. She wanted them to meet.

And so, Lisa went to work to bring together the family none of them knew. Lisa writes:

"I grew up in a fairly traditional working-class family in a suburban neighborhood, far from the cement stoop in Philadelphia where my siblings and I finally converged and even farther from the place where I started with my young mother. Nonetheless, I felt right at home with my brothers and sisters, their faces at once familiar and unknown to me. Like me, some of my siblings had only a brief amount of time with our mother; others spent years in her care. Collectively, we six have lived in foster homes and orphanages, with neighbors and relatives, and have been adopted into permanent families. As adults, some of us share a resemblance, a sense of humor, a talent, an outlook. We all share resilience.

"Our mother died in 2008, three years too soon to witness our reunion. But in a way, she was with us on that stoop, because although we were strangers, we had this in common - we had a mother, and we know she loved us, and somehow that is good enough."

["An Unexpected Reunion" by Lisa Greggo, The Boston Globe Sunday Magazine.]

This unlikely reunion mirrors today's Gospel: that in the love of God - love embodied in the person of Jesus - we are connected to one another, as branches of the same vine. While it is easy to recognize all that differentiates us and separates us, Jesus challenges us to seek what brings us together, what unites us, what makes us one in the Spirit of God's compassion and peace. As branches of Christ the vine, we are part of something greater than ourselves, something which transforms and transcends the fragileness of our lives into the full meaning of life in the compassion and peace of God's Risen One.

www.connectionmediaworks.com

April 29th, 2018

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Robyn C. Gallant

Office Hours: Monday and Friday 1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 8:30 am-12:30 pm

465 Curling Street

Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8

Tel: (709) 785-5025

curlingparish@hotmail.com

www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11:00 am

Reconciliation: By request

Mass During the Week: Tues at 7:00 pm
Wed, Thurs, Fri at 10:00 am
First Fridays - 2:00 pm at the Lohnes Complex

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

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

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

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (April 22, 2018)

Regular Collection	1667.10
Parish Dues	100.00
Parish Insurance	165.00
Building Fund	75.00
Lenten Folders	50.25
Votive Candles	17.00
Mass Stipends	20.00
Ecclesiastical Students	50.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Apr 30	No Mass
May 1	Late John Mendes
May 2	Late Jim & Dorothy Quigley
May 3	Late John F. & Evangeline Barry
May 4	No Mass
May 5	Late David Jones/ Intentions of Rita Connolly
May 6	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

May 5	
Gen Quigley Dennis Bruce	Donna Mitchell John Carroll Art Hall
May 6	
Sherry Lynn Brake Don Gallant	Elizabeth Carew Calvin Gillis Donna Eldridge
Communion to the Sick	
Joan Penney	

BIBLE STUDY: We continue to meet every Sunday at 7:00 pm in the Church meeting room. Everyone is welcome.

PARISH WEBSITE: Please check out our Parish website at www.sacredheartrcparish.ca. New information is being added each week.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Next meeting takes place Monday, May 7 at 7pm.

PARISH BINGO: The next parish bingo will take place on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 2pm at Sacred Heart Elementary. The list of donors is posted on the church bulletin boards and include last names from G to M.

4YOUTH: Terrible things are happening – natural disasters like earthquakes and hurricanes, wars, bus accidents, senseless attacks on innocent people and so on. It seems like wherever we look, the news is bad. If we check the Bible, we learn that things were much the same in Jesus’ time. People then, just like many today, wondered if these terrible things meant that the end of time was near. When bad things are happening, it is often hard to keep trusting God. But Jesus promised to give us the strength to continue to believe and He also promised that, by staying faithful to Him, “you will gain your souls”. We should also remember that by using the gifts of time, talent and treasure that God has given us, we may be able to help make some of the bad situations better. And let’s not forget to pray for **all** those affected by these terrible events.

GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE: On April 9, a new Apostolic Exhortation was promulgated. *Gaudete et Exsultate (Rejoice and Be Glad)* was written by Pope Francis to encourage all people to accept the call to holiness in daily life. To read this exhortation in its entirety or to read a summary, visit the Diocesan web page at www.rcchurch.com.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Parishioners are reminded that the monthly Poor Box collection for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be taken up next weekend, the 28th and 29th of April. Please be generous with your support.

6th ANNUAL CATECHETICAL CONFERENCE: On Saturday, May 5, the Diocese will host its annual catechetical conference at the Civic Centre in Corner Brook. At this conference, catechetical coordinators and catechists will engage in a time of spiritual renewal. Participants will also be introduced to a new resource to be used in Confirmation Year 1 and will participate in a session designed to assist in maximizing the use of all of the recently-implemented resources. Fifty-five people from all parishes of the Diocese are expected to attend the conference. Please include the participants and all the families of the diocese whom they serve in your prayers that all may be open to the graces and blessings of such an important ministry.

SACRED HEART SPRING CONCERT: Sacred Heart Spring Concert will take place on **Friday, May 25th at 7:30 p.m.** The concert will feature various performers. Admission \$5.

CHASE THE ACE: Chase the Ace has started in Humber Arm South again. Draws will take place Sunday evenings from 6-7 pm at the Humber Arm South community hall.

POPE’S PASTORAL WORKS: On the weekend of May 5th - 6th, there will be a special collection taken up for the Pope’s Pastoral Works. Whenever disaster strikes around the world, the Holy See always responds with food, water, medicine, blankets and trained personnel. The proceeds of this special collection are used to help finance those relief efforts. We would encourage you to be as generous as possible as we never know where or when a need will arise.



CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS: There are a number of adults who have not yet been confirmed. The sacrament of confirmation is required for those that wish to be godparents and is recommended for those that wish to be married in the Church. Father Jim will be holding a confirmation course beginning mid-April and going until mid-May. Bishop Hundt will be celebrating confirmation at Sacred Heart Parish in Curling on Sunday, May 27, 2018. It would be hoped that the adults will be confirmed at the same ceremony. If you wish to prepare and celebrate confirmation this year, please call Father Jim or leave a message at Our Lady Star of the Sea office (709-789-2212) or Sacred Heart Parish (709-785-5025).

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY: Our Ladies Group will be reciting the rosary each Tuesday in May at 6:30 pm. All are encouraged to participate.

ST. JOSEPH: In 1870, Pope Pius IX declared Joseph patron of the universal Church and instituted another feast in his honour. In 1955, Pope Pius XII established the Feast of "St. Joseph the Worker" to be celebrated on May 1st.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Knights of Columbus Archbishop Howley Council 2581 will meet at All Hallows on Tuesday May 1, 2018 at 7:45 pm. This meeting will take place after 7:00 P.M mass at All Hallows. All Brother Knights are urged to attend.

HUMOUR: A man speaks from behind the curtain and says: “Knock, knock.” His Wife answers: “Who’s there?” He replies: “The love of your life.” Quickly she answers: “Liar, Chocolate can’t speak!”