

"Behold, you will conceive and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father . . . "

Luke 1: 26-38

The friendly blue whale lamp

It's one of the great television ads of the year. Touching, but real. In the 30-second story created for Home Goods, a little boy is going through the "monsters under the bed" anxiety stage. Each night at bedtime, his understanding mom and dad patiently check for monsters behind the closet door and under his bed. And to further assure him that he has nothing to be afraid of, they place a special lamp, with a friendly whale at the base, to keep him company at night as he falls asleep. The whale lamp works like a charm.

Well, the little boy soon becomes a big brother. And the first night his new baby sister comes home, he goes through all the doors of the nursery and searches under the baby's crib himself to make sure there are no monsters lurking. And then he gives his little sister his first big-brother gift: his friendly blue whale lamp to keep her company as she falls asleep.

This charming little commercial tells us a lot about what it means to be family: patience to help one another through life's scary passages, selflessness to walk together in hard times, generosity to give from our own need for the good of the family. On this Sunday after Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family, we celebrate what it means to be a family. Within our families we experience the heights of joy and the depths of pain. The memories we treasure and the values we embrace within our families are the most important and lasting lessons we will ever learn. Our belonging to a family means that each one of us - parent and child - reflects for one another the selfless, limitless and unconditional love of Christ the light (a light that can shine even from a friendly blue whale), both in good times and (more importantly) in bad times, in the joy of the birth of new brothers and sisters and the fear of monsters under the bed.

WWW.CONNECTIONSMEDIAWORKS.COM

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ



Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tues, Thurs 1:00 pm to 5 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: Wednesday after Mass, or 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

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

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.

December 31, 2017

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (Dec. 23 & 24)

Will be posted in the new year

MASS INTENTIONS

Dec 30	Sister Josette Hutchings
Dec 31	Parish Community
Jan 1	Parish Community
Jan 2	James Park
Jan 3	The Family of Felix & Monica Gallant
Jan 4	Teresa Tompkins
Jan 5	Isabelle Barry
Jan 6	Gerald McHugh Dr. Denis O'Connor
Jan 7	Parish Community

CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday, December 30	4:30 pm
Sunday, December 31	11 am
New Years Eve, December 31	4:30 pm
New Years Day, January 1	11 am

2018 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

These are now available at the rear of the church. Please note that some numbers have changed. To avoid confusion, please discard any unused envelopes from previous years.

PARISH COUNCIL The next meeting takes place on **January 8th at 7 pm.**

WINTER WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

RELIGIOUS CALENDARS

We have 2018 calendars featuring beautiful religious artwork available for \$5. All monies received will be donated to Catholic Missions.

HUMOUR

My wife took our three-year-old to church for the first time. Getting impatient while waiting for the Mass to start, he turned to her and asked, "What time does Jesus get here?"

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

December 30	
John Carroll Art Hall	Joanne Connolly Eileen Moore Joe Byrne
December 31 – 11am	
Debbie Allen Calvin Gillis	Amelia Dicks Wayne Dicks Don Gallant
New Year's Eve, December 31 – 430pm	
Basil English Janet Jackson	Art Hall John Carroll Eileen Moore
New Year's Day, January 1 – 11am	
Calvin Gillis Sherry Lynn Brake	Eileen Moore Gerard Brake Joan Penney
Communion to the Sick – Gerard Brake	
January 6	
Gen Quigley Edna Dwyer	Donna Mitchell Frank Lewis Marie Byrne
January 7	
Don Gallant Mike Leonard	Elizabeth Carew Brian Sparkes Margaret Dalley
Communion to the Sick – Tony Griffin	

WORLD DAY OF PEACE

On January 1, we celebrate the World Day of Peace. This observation was established by Pope Paul VI in 1968. Each year the Pope issues a message for the World Day of Peace, which has a specific theme chosen by him. For this the 51st World Day of Peace, the theme is Migrants and refugees: men and women in search of peace. To read the Pope's entire message, visit the Diocesan web page at www.rcchurch.com

4YOUTH

On the first Sunday after Christmas, the Church celebrates the feast of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The Holy Family is a model for us of how a family should live together – with respect, compassion, love and faith. How do you show your love and respect for the other members of your family? What can you do to bring the qualities of the Holy Family more fully into your family's life?

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

On January 1, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This, the highest title of the Blessed Virgin Mary, was given to her at the Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D. and is the oldest feast of Mary celebrated by the Catholic Church. In the Canadian Church it is a Holy Day of Obligation, which means that Mass attendance is required.

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

God, Thank you for a new year.

May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate.

We know that you are always ready to forgive us.

Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires.

Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do.

Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past,

So that we might live with you now, one day at a time.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

The primary purpose of The Feast of the Holy Family is to present the Holy Family as a model for Christian families.

In Italy there is a saying, "*La famiglia é tutto,*" which means, "the family is everything." Our Holy Father Pope Francis has made families one of the focal points of his papacy. He organized a conference on families in 2015. Speaking to the gathered families, he said, "You cannot have a family without dreams. I am very fond of dreams in families. For nine months, every mother and father dream about their baby. They dream about what kind of child he or she will be..."

You can't have a family without dreams. Once a family loses the ability to dream, children do not grow, love does not grow, life shrivels up and dies. So I ask you each evening, when you make your examination of conscience, to also ask yourselves this question: Today did I dream about my children's future? Today did I dream about the love of my husband, my wife? Did I dream about my parents and grandparents who have gone before me?" All of today's readings have to do with families and family life. The reading from Sirach, our First Reading, emphasized the Fourth Commandment, "Honor thy father and mother." We are commanded to respect and love our parents. However, it is a two way street. The Gospel Reading speaks of the development of Jesus, and that should inspire parents to understand that our prayers are the same as the prayers of Joseph and Mary – that our children will become strong in spirit and filled with wisdom.