

REFLECTION for Easter Sunday

Fr. Don

Today marks the greatest, most glorious and joyful, day in Christian history. When the early church looked to find the foundation of all their liturgies, they chose the resurrection of Jesus and called it the PASCH. This Hebrew word means Passover, and they saw Jesus as the new Lamb of sacrifice. His was a new sacrifice for the sins of humanity. By rising He flung open heaven's gates and offered us the hope and assurance that we would never really die but live eternally in that place we know as Paradise. The WORD took flesh and once-for-all saved us. These fore-runners of liturgical celebration showed us the importance of celebrating the Paschal Mystery- we are invited to ponder the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection in our lives.

Liturgically as time passed, this celebration was extended to include the Triduum (Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday), and then to include Holy Week, and then to include what we celebrate now- the Great Ninety Days- 40 days of Lent and 50 days of Easter with the Triduum as the focal point. BTW, it was the 8th century before they called it EASTER.

God asks us, and by extension His church asks us, to be Easter people- God's people ever living in faith, hope, and love. A people who see life here on earth as transitory, for this is not our true home. Until we see God face to face, we are not home, the home won for us by Easter's victory.

We are asked to live our earthly lives as Christians, as Jesus lived His life. We too are called to be loving, to be forgiving, to be tolerant, to be merciful, to be prayerful, to be compassionate, to turn the other cheek, to accept life's sorrows, joys, pains, and sufferings as redemptive, and to be ever-longing to return to the Father in Heaven- the true home of all believers in the Way, the Truth, and the Life- Jesus.

These are lofty ideals; these are challenges for all of us. So then how do we live like this?

Here are some suggestions:

Set aside time each day for prayer. Too busy, why not do it while driving your car, or before you get up in the morning or go to sleep at night. How about reading scripture each day? Too busy, why not get a bible or Sunday Missal and put it near your favorite chair, your bedside, or even at your work place; then train yourself to read a little each day.

Familiarize yourself with the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Choose one each day or each week, and try to perform that work. For example, visit the sick- why not make time to visit a friend, relative, or neighbor who is elderly, lonely, or just in need of a smile. For example, counsel the ignorant- why not be bold and share with another person why you believe it is important to be a practising Christian.

Do this for a while, and you will begin to experience a peace and joy in your heart and soul. God has filled you with the ability to do these things. Some would say that this is the very reason for your being.

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.

465 Curling Street
Corner Brook, NL A2H 3K8
Tel: (709) 785-5025

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Fax: (709) 388-1141

Liturgical Celebrations

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

Masses in Week Days:
Wed 7 pm
Thurs 10 am, Fri 2 pm

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.

March 27, 2016
EASTER SUNDAY

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

March 19, 20

Collection	\$ 1,771.35
Building Fund	65.00
Mass stipends	30.00
Votive Candles	71.65
Pastoral Dues	40.00
In Memory Donation	1000.00
Bingo	789.00
Dev & Peace	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul	20.00
Knights Donation	250.00
Easter Flowers	60.00
Holy Lands	10.00

MASS INTENTIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

Mar 28	No Mass
Mar 29	No Mass
Mar 30	Special Intention
Mar 31	Josephine Green/ + Kenny Family
Apr 1 (2 pm)	Intention Rita Hall/John Mendes
Apr 2	Mary Snooks/Edward Bennett
Apr 3	Parish Community

NOTE Friday's Mass is at the Lohnes Seniors Home.

PARISH BINGO

Our next bingo game will be held next Sunday, April 3, at 2 pm. The list of donors is posted on the bulletin boards. Anyone wishing to buy tickets on a handmade quilt, or take some to sell may get them any evening after weekend Mass after Easter.

CONGRATULATIONS

Isabelle Maria O'Brien and **Blake Michael Pye** were recently baptised here into our Parish. Welcome, we are joyful to have you join us, and we invite you to regularly come worship with us. May God continue to bless these children and their parents.

PARISH COUNCIL

The next monthly meeting is on **Sunday April 3 at 7 pm in the parish house**. All members are urged to attend. The 2015 Financial Statement will be discussed.

BIBLE STUDY

This group of 10 or so meets each Monday evening at 7 pm in the parish house. We would like to encourage/ invite others to join us for sharing the Word of God in scripture and for fellowship. .

BIBLES AND CATECHISMS

An order has been placed and we will have more **NRSV Bibles** available soon. They cost \$25; if you want one, please let us know. We still have some copies left of the **Catechism of the Catholic Church**. They cost \$20. Every Catholic home should have a copy of both of these books.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in Benoit's Cove is seeking a part time Office Administrator. The preferred applicant will have prior clerical experience including computer accounting along with being a

reliable and conscientious person. Serious inquiries can forward a resume to staroftheseabenoitscove@yahoo.ca or mail to P.O. Box 70, Benoit's Cove, NL. A0L 1A0 on or before March 31, 2016.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

In 2000, Pope John Paul 11 designated the Sunday after Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. To celebrate this event, on Sunday, April 3, at 3 pm in All Hallows Church there will be a Holy Hour. Please join Catholics from all three Corner Brook parishes in honoring this devotion. See the insert in this week's bulletin for more information.

EASTER QUOTES

Most people are unaware that Easter lasts for 50 days. From now until the Feast of Pentecost, the church celebrates Easter. Here are a few quotes about this season that will hopefully inspire us to live in the joy of God's Easter People.

"Faith in the Resurrection of Jesus says that there is a future for every human being; the cry for unending life, which is a part of the person, is indeed answered."(Pope Benedict)

"The Gospel of Easter is clear: we need to go back there, to see Jesus risen, and to become witnesses of his Resurrection. This is not to go back in time. It is returning to our first love, in order to receive the fire which Jesus has kindled in the world and to bring that fire to all people, to the ends of the earth." (Pope Francis)

"In fact, everything that exists and moves in the Church - the sacraments, doctrine, institutions - draws its strength from Christ's Resurrection." (Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa, *Life in Christ.*)

ASSISTED SUICIDE

The Government is being asked to consider recommendations including extending physician-assisted suicide to people with non-terminal conditions, not excluding individuals because of psychiatric conditions and extending the process to "competent mature minors". For links to the full report and to statements made in reaction to it, visit the Diocesan webpage at www.rcchurch.com

THANK YOU

Our parish wishes to acknowledge and thank the Knights of Columbus for the donation to cover the costs of the Lenten booklets that were distributed on Ash Wednesday. Hopefully you grew in faith by praying with these booklets over the Lenten season.

PRAYER FOR YEAR OF MERCY

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

PRAYER FOR EASTER

*Alleluia, Alleluia
Give thanks to the risen Lord
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*