

REFLECTION for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.” In today’s Gospel Jesus reads these words from the scroll that was handed Him. They are not His words but rather the words of the prophet Isaiah had spoken centuries before. These words were written down in the Sacred Scriptures which existed in the time of Jesus. Like us today, He attended church, and there the Word of God was proclaimed. Notice that Jesus then proclaims, *“Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”*

As Christians we have no trouble accepting Jesus’s proclamation. He is our Savior and the Savior of our world. So truly He has been anointed by the Holy Spirit to bring good news to the poor and that includes each of us. In humility and in exultation of Jesus, we would freely admit that when it comes to the ‘Good News’ we are definitely poor.

During this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we should ask ourselves if we are really living our lives as followers of Jesus? Are we acting on our baptismal call to live our lives in imitation of Jesus? Yes, at our baptism we too were anointed, the Holy Spirit came upon us, and we were sent to bring good news to the poor.

In our daily words and actions can others see that *‘we walk the walk and we talk the talk?’*

Today many have abandoned Christian worship, claim allegiance to no church, and rightfully ridicule us who do. They point to the all-to-evident hypocrisy that is rampant in church circles- they can cite examples from the Popes all the way down to me and you. They say *we don’t walk the walk and we don’t talk the talk?*

And therein lies the challenge and key message of today’s and every day’s scripture readings. When the writings were proclaimed at worship gatherings in Ezra’s time, when Jesus Himself proclaimed them in His day, and when our lectors and the priests proclaim them in our churches in our days, the call to live our lives as true and committed believers remains the same.

Our call/duty is to assent to the Word of God.; to say YES Lord I’m listening. That is what Jesus meant when He said, *“Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”*

He wants you and I too be true followers. He wants us to believe in our hearts and souls that the Good News can be shared, can change our lives and the lives of others, and can lead to everlasting life. He lived and died to show us how to accomplish God’s work.

Do we glorify the Lord, do we, by our lives, show compassion, love, mercy, forgiveness, thanks, and confident faith? Or are we judgmental, discriminatory, self-absorbed, or apathetic?

Ezra, Jesus, and the readers at our Masses proclaim the Word of God. Let us begin living what we hear and spreading the Good News. It is our Baptismal Call- a Call to Action.

Sacred Heart Parish

A stewardship parish in love with Jesus

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

Curlingparish@hotmail.com
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 10 am, Fri 10 am

Holy Hour of Adoration:
Third Sunday
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.

January 24, 2016
The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

Jan 16, 17

Collection	\$ 1724.20
Building Fund	45.00
Mass stipends	70.00
Votive Candles	62.80
Certificates	10.00
Donation (memory Ada Myles)	50.00
Cost of Envelopes	33.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

MASS INTENTIONS

Jan 25	No Mass
Jan 26	No Mass
Jan 27	Joan Hearn
Jan 28	Roy Reid/Ada Myles
Jan 29	Bernadette/ Anthony George
Jan 30	Howard Brake/Denise Brake
Jan 31	Parish Community

ADVANCE NOTICE

The priest will be away on holiday visiting his son's family in the warm sunny south. From Monday Feb 15 until Thursday Mar 3, Fr. Terry Boland has graciously offered to fill-in at our parish. He will celebrate **the Weekend Masses and a Mass each Wednesday evening at 7 pm** during this time. Thanks to Fr. Boland for his ministry to us, here in his home parish.

PYX NEEDED

This is the container used to bring Holy Communion to our sick and shut-ins. We had a large supply of these on hand. But now we do not have enough for our need. If you had a pyx at home and are not using it now, please return it.

QUIET BEFORE MASS

Some people coming to Mass like to chat at the back before Mass begins. Some people like to use this time for silent prayer. We have been asked to mention this. Please let us compromise- try to be silent starting 5 minutes before Mass. This silent time can be used to focus our minds on the Sacred Mystery we are about to celebrate.

WEEKLY SESSIONS HONORING MARY

Our Liturgy Committee is offering a four-week series of presentations focusing on Holy Mary and the Rosary. **It will begin on Sunday evening Jan 31 at 7 pm in the parish house.** Each session will be an hour or so long. It will feature Prayer, Hymns, a 15 min DVD on Mary's role in salvation history, and recitation of the Scriptural Rosary. Of course a tea/coffee social is included.

BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible study group started last Monday evening. It is planned that we meet each Monday. This week our meeting will start at 7 pm. It will be in the parish house. Please consider joining us for a time of sharing. This is an initiative of the parish in celebration of the Year of Mercy.

LENTEN MISSION

Our Parish is working to provide a Lenten Mission here in our church for mid- March. Please pray that this will come to fruition. In the meantime, at Stella Maris Parish in Benoit's Cove there will be a **Lenten Mission each evening from Saturday Feb 13 through to Tuesday Feb 16**, Bishop

Hundt will lead this Lenten Mission. More details will follow for those interested.

THANK YOU

We want to acknowledge the work of Patricia Hall in making some altar linens for use at our Masses. We could have purchased these but it is so much better when someone for our parish offers to use their gift to make them for us. It is a good sign to all that we all are called to use what God has given us for the building up of our parish. Thank you Patsy for your example.

CONSECRATED LIFE CELEBRATIONS

Tuesday Feb 2nd, we will celebrate **World Day for Consecrated Life** and we will also mark the end of the Year for Consecrated Life. It is an opportunity for us to remember with gratitude the men and women who have dedicated their lives in service to the mission of Jesus and to pray that many others will hear and respond to the call to Consecrated Life.

In honour and celebration of Consecrated Life, Bishop Hundt will preside at the Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Benoit's Cove at 6pm on Saturday, January 30 and at the Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Piccadilly at 10:30am on Sunday, January 31 – parishes directed by Religious Sisters in vowed Consecrated Life. All are welcome to come and join in these celebrations.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS for Students

January 28 is the feast day of St. Thomas Aquinas. He was a very good student, tops in his class. He joined the Order of Saint Dominic against his parents' wishes and persevered in his vocation. He studied

under St. Albert the Great and he began teaching and publishing his first works at the age of 22. He received his doctorate at age 31. He wrote and preached often and many of his works are still studied today. He was one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time. As you continue your student work this month - be it exams, projects or presentations - say a special prayer to St. Thomas since he is the patron saint of universities and of students.

PAPAL BLESSINGS

Just a reminder that these beautiful certificates from Pope Francis are available for birthdays (90th, etc.) and wedding anniversaries (50th, etc.). If you wish someone to receive one of these, please let the Parish know with two months' notice. The Parish pays for the cost.

SYMPATHY

We offer our prayers to Camille Bruce, Assumpta Roche, and Stan Tompkins, as they mourn the death of their nephew **Gerry Donovan** who lived in St. Johns.

LADIES GROUP MEETING

The Ladies will meet this Sunday, Jan 24, at 7 pm in the parish house. All ladies are encouraged to attend as planning for the winter-spring activities will be discussed.

PRAYER FOR YEAR of MERCY

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

'JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU.'