

REFLECTION for Third Sunday of Easter

Fr. Don

Both Mary Magdalene and the two disciples on the road to Emmaus proclaimed 'I have seen the Lord.' In both instances they did not first recognize Jesus for, in some way after His resurrection, His physical appearance had changed. Recognition came only after being in His presence for some time.

Here's a Latin phrase to hold onto as I proceed---Carpe Diem. It means seize the day.

In our daily lives and our interactions with others, we experience those same moments of graced and blessed recognition of the face of Jesus as did the saints mentioned above. Seize them and take from them all that God will allow.

Allow me to give some examples from my daily life.

At a recent funeral liturgy I was sitting in the back of the church. The person next to me looked at me for a few moments. *Do you remember me* came the question. After a time, I recognized the person. We shared how our lives had evolved since our last meeting. In that brief encounter I believe both of us were graced and blessed. I thanked Jesus for the gift of our meeting and thanked Jesus that both of us had journeyed these past years on our separate faith paths but were now united, if only briefly, to share the joys of God acting in our lives.

That was a joy-filled 'I have seen the Lord' moment in my life; but they are not all joy-filled.

One day a few weeks ago I was sitting in my 'comfy chair' looking out the bay and enjoying solitude and peace. A phone call pulled me back into reality.

The person on the other end lambasted me for not being a faithful priest and warned that I was leading souls to hell along with myself. I tried to rationally discuss with the person but it was futile.

Here's the Good News. That person hung up believing he/she was on the right path to salvation and I was not. I too hope he/she is, for to quote Pope Francis, 'Who am I to judge?' Me, I'm a work in progress.

So through this encounter 'I have seen the Lord.' Albeit in a more challenging form, but for a reason.

Admittedly it is more of a challenge to 'see the Lord' in such moments but that is what makes living our Christian faith so fulfilling, graced, invigorating, indeed more Christ-like. Faith untested/unchallenged tends to wane; let's keep on our toes. That person was, in their way, and so am I, in my way.

Unlike the first more pleasant encounter, this encounter allowed both parties an opportunity to witness for the Lord. Amongst the two of us, who was the righteous one and who was more graced and blessed because of our encounter? Hopefully both of us, but really does it matter!

All of us are God's unique creation and our life's path is unique to each of us. Hopefully, at the gates of heaven, all of us, following our unique paths, will hear those words- 'well done good and faithful servant.'

So my message for this week is to look for those 'I have seen the Lord' moments and to thank God for them. In them lie great opportunities to see Jesus face to face in ways we would never expect.

They will make us 'fully alive in Christ.' Surrender to these moments----- CARPE DIEM.

Sacred Heart Parish

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 this Week:
Mon & Wed 7 pm
Tues, Thurs, Fri 10 am

Holy Hour of Adoration:
Third Sunday of each Month
2:00 p.m.

Reconciliation
Mon & Wed after Mass

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

Baptisms:
Celebrated at Weekend Mass
after preparation session.

April 19, 2015
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

Collection-----Apr 11, 12	\$1,471.50
Building Fund	100.00
Mass Stipends	10.00
Votive Candles	44.00
Dev. & Peace	50.00
Bingo	936.50
Parish Insurance	185.00
Lenten Folders	60.00

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

April 20	Carmelita Greene
April 21	Edward Buckle
April 22	Betty Dobbin
April 23	Fr. Bernard Buckle
April 24	Joan Hearn
April 25	Betty Dobbin
April 26	Parish Community

NOTE Our Mass times revert to Mon & Wed at 7 pm, and Tues, Thurs, Fri at 10 am.

HOLY HALF- HOUR

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 2:30pm this Sunday.

Note the half-hour time period.

Some have recommended that this devotion be condensed 30 minutes.

Well, we will give it a try. Hopefully more of you will be in attendance. Is this a change for the good-we'll see?

PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting will be at the priest's house on Monday April 20, following 7 pm Mass. All members are asked to please make an effort to attend.

CONFIRMATION 2015

Twelve candidates will be confirmed by Bishop Hundt at 11 am Mass next Sunday. There will be a social after the Mass for the newly confirmed. Parents will be contacted with the details of this social.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

This Wednesday evening at the Church we will have a practice for candidates, parents, and sponsors at 6:30 pm. Then all will attend our regular 7 pm Parish Mass. Following the Mass, the candidates will take part in a brief Reconciliation Service and go to Confession as part of their Confirmation preparation.

Please make this a priority.

All parishioners are invited to come to the Mass to show our support and to pray for them.

RESPONSIBLE MINISTERIES

In keeping with the policy of Responsible Ministries, we are attempting to register all our volunteers in the various ministries.

If you are a volunteer and have not registered, please pick up the forms and fill them out. See John Carroll or Fr. Don or call the Office 785-5025. Copies of the forms are available at the back; ask for one.

RECRUITING NEW MINISTERS

At our last Liturgy meeting it was suggested that the Parish hold a spring-summer recruitment drive to add new Readers,

Eucharistic Ministers, and other ministers, to our lists. So, please consider this notice the launch of this initiative. Think about volunteering and let someone know if you are interested. We will provide training and have a formal installation ceremony.

SAVE THE DATE! JUNE 26-28th.

Newfoundland Catholic Renewal will be hosting a retreat at Mint Brook Camp, near Gambo on the topic: Pray Lifting Up Holy Hands: The Prayer of Intercession. The guest speaker is Cyril John, who is an international speaker and currently serves as the Vice-Chair of the ICCRS council in the Vatican (International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services). All meals, snacks, and accommodations are provided on site, from Friday at suppertime to Sunday at lunchtime. The cost will be \$120 – everything included – no additional registration fee. Most Rev. Anthony Daniels, Bishop of Grand-Falls will be celebrating the Sunday Mass. Registration will start on the last week of April.

Sincere Sympathy

Our parish expresses sympathy to the family of the late Liz Parsons. We assure you of our continued prayers and spiritual support. We will miss her too and may God bless her.

PRAYER GROUP regularly meets at 7:30 pm on Thursdays at the Cathedral. Talk topic this week is Christian Endurance.

Collection for Ecclesiastical Students

On Sunday, April 26, there will be a special collection for ecclesiastical students. This year our Diocesan seminarian Andrew White will be ordained to the transitional diaconate with ordination to the priesthood to follow next year.

THANK YOU With the help of the following people, we raised \$936.50 at our April bingo. Debbie Allen, Mike Basha, Donna Beales, Evelyn Beales, Diane Bennett, Sharon Bennet, Marjorie Blanchard, Colleen Boland, Cathy Bolt, Audrey Brake, Dorothy Brake, Edward Brake, James Brake, Mary Brake, Regina Brake, W. C. Brake, Sandy Buckle, Camille Bruce, Eileen Buckle, Karen Buckle, Hilda Butt, Marie Byrne, Debbie Caines, Roberta Canning, Cathy Carroll, Marina Cashin, Mary L. Cashin, Joanne Connolly, Helen Cook, Lynn Coombs, Linda Corbett, Lena Curnell, Michelle Curnell, Gertrude Daye, Barbara Dicks, Theresa Dobbin, Vivian Dobbin, Rose Mary Doody, Sandra Dwyer, Donna Eldridge, Madonna Elford, Madonna English, Evelyn Ezekiel, and [last mo.] Glenda Neilson. **Thanks** to Pat & Chris Moore for their donation for Easter flowers.

TICKETS on a beautiful, hand made wooden chest are now available after weekend Masses in the [readers] room at the back of the church. Please take some to buy or sell. Chest can be viewed at the office during office hours.