

**REFLECTION for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

Today we hear one of the most recognized and loved scripture readings in the Bible. It is a favorite at weddings. It is truly a 'Hymn of Love'. The words make us feel warm and fuzzy. They speak to our hearts and souls at a deep level with a hope that evokes a loud assent (YES). Even when we have grown cynical, lament the loss of faith in the world, and are just hanging on by a thread personally, this reading buoys us up and keeps us hope-filled for another while. We say to our soul, 'these words will move me and others to be sincere Christian in our actions/works.'

Remember that song, **We are the World?** It was sung by the best artists at BANDAID and was used to help raise money for those starving in Africa. That song took its inspiration from today's reading on LOVE. For that moment in time, people listened and help was given; but the hunger still persists. The challenge is for these scripture words of love to penetrate deeper and too remain. Hope springs eternal as we again remember these words, '*Love never ends.*'

The reality is that the requirement/the ability/the willingness for society to live these words of scripture has been a problem from the very beginning of Christianity. St. Paul's words were directed at the citizens of Corinth, living in possibly the first Christian community to exist.

But it did not take them very long to begin to act out their 'humanity.' They began to bicker, to form cliques, to discriminate, to be prideful, and to act unchristian. The poor and hungry were ignored, the rich became the powerful, and they put themselves in pompous positions.

St. Paul reminded them that LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR is one of the great commandments. They seemed to be forgetful and so he reminded them exacted how one loves their neighbor?

Well let's study today's reading. '*Love is patient, love is kind, love is never boastful...*

Yes, my dear people, we are all one in the Lord. God loves each of us equally. Each of us has a gift or a talent, each of us is called to ministry. Yes, it is true that some are not called to this ministry or to that ministry; but we are each called to some sort of ministry. That's how it is when we belong to the Mystical Body of Christ. And in order that this Body, the Church, function at its maximum capability, we are all essential and needed. We are a wounded hurting Body without all being involved, actively participating, and supporting each other. Equality, that's it.

St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians two centuries ago and gave them the blueprint/ the how-to-guide. Thanks be to God; his words are available to us today. It is all about that four letter word we know as LOVE. Love is an action word; we don't just say it, we have to live it.

Like the bride and bridegroom on their wedding day, let us look each other in the eye, look each other deep in our heart and soul, and say these words from the 'Hymn of Love.' Then let us go forward living expectantly as children of God in faith, hope, and love. But there is another challenge: we need to return to be nourished by the Word of God and the Body and Blood of Christ. Then God's grace will enflame us and bring us ALIVE so as to be '*patient, kind, gentle...*

# 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

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:  
Wed 7 pm  
Thurs 10 am, Fri 2pm

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

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 31, 2016**

**The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

Jan 23, 24

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Collection                  | \$ 1773.00 |
| Building Fund               | 30.00      |
| Mass stipends               | 150.00     |
| Dues                        | 145.00     |
| Certificates                | 25.00      |
| Donation (memory Ada Myles) | 20.00      |
| [ memory Margaret O'Keefe]  | 925.00     |
| Cost of Envelopes           | 22.00      |

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|       |                                     |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| Feb 1 | No Mass                             |
| Feb 2 | No Mass                             |
| Feb 3 | Souls in Purgatory/ Josephine Green |
| Feb 4 | Margaret Jennex/ Min Roche          |
| Feb 5 | Intentions Rita Hall/John Mendes    |
| Feb 6 | Irene Gillard                       |
| Feb 7 | Parish Community                    |

**NOTE:** Mass Friday 2 pm Lohnes

**INSTRUCTIONAL MASS**

This Wednesday's Mass (7pm) will be attended by the children preparing to receive sacraments this year. The priest will take time throughout to explain the various parts of the Mass to the children as we celebrate it. Adults may find this informative as well. Try to attend.

**BLESSING OF THROATS**

Wednesday is also the Feast of St. Blaise. At the Mass there will be the traditional blessing of throats. We encourage you to attend to receive this special blessing for

the healing of *'every disease of the throat and from every other illness.'*

**PARISH BINGO**

The next bingo takes place on Sunday Feb. 7 at 2 pm in the school cafeteria. Please attend this fun event and fund-raiser.

**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.

**BIBLES AND CATECHISMS**

The parish is buying a quantity of **NRSV Bibles** (that is the version we use at church) and **Catechisms of the Catholic Church**. Every Catholic home should have these two books- treat them as coffee-table books- always on display and available to be read and/or referenced (out in the open and not elsewhere gathering dust). Each will cost between \$20-\$25. If you are interested in buying one for your home (or your children's home), please let us know. BTW, The Bible is large-print.

**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.

**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 will meet each Monday evening. 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.

**DIOCESAN MASS OF CHRISM**

This Mass will be celebrated at **St. Stephens Parish in Stephenville on Wednesday Mar 16 at 7pm**. We need parish representation, other than the priest, to be present to receive the Blessed Oils. Let us know if you can do this for the parish.

**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.

**CONSECRATED LIFE CELEBRATIONS**

Tuesday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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.

**PAPAL BLESSINGS**

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

**BINGO DONORS**

The list for Feb. is posted on the bulletin boards. Please try to get your donations in early as we need to have prizes ready before the game starts. Thanks !

**PRAYER FOR YEAR of MERCY**

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