

September 9, 2018 – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Ephphatha!" - that is, "Be opened!"

Mark 7: 31-37

“When Injustice Gets Personal”

Like most of us, they had seen and read about the undocumented immigrants being arrested in unlikely places all over the country. But in January it became real to them, when a member of their New Jersey Presbyterian parish was taken away. Roby was well-liked and well-known, a man of deep and sincere faith, a husband and father whose family had been in their church pews every Sunday. They changed from being a congregation of peaceful bystanders to becoming a community of active protesters. As the pastor writes, "our eyes were opened."

"We woke because Roby and his family grew up with us: in church, in school, in our town. They are part of our family. They have a place in our hearts. We support Roby as one of our own, in indignation at the injustice of it all."

Since Roby's arrest, the parish community has organized legal assistance for Roby and support for his family. Roby's plight has re-awakened the parish's tradition of assisting immigrants and refugees.

The experience has had an especially profound impact on the faith of the pastor.

"I wonder if I woke up from a deep spell of disbelief. Not about God, but about our ability to change anything. Or maybe it *was* about God. And my lack of faith was exactly that. Maybe I had never believed that God could change the heart of a legislator or a judge or a government agency, or that a protest in the rain could really make a kingdom-of-God kind of difference . . .

"We didn't know who these [immigrant] people were. It wasn't until they had children here and raised them up in our schools - where they became best friends with our kids, sharing sports and homework and marching band together - that they became real people for us. Then they became one of us. Now that we know who they are, we know that what's happening is not fair.

"Roby's future is still unknown. There is only one thing I can say for certain: the Spirit came to our community one cold winter day and opened our eyes and warmed our hearts."

[From "Injustice gets personal" by Ellen Clark Clemont, *The Christian Century*, August 1, 2018.]

Roby's arrest was an "Ephphatha" moment for this parish: a new awareness of the dignity and honour of the most vulnerable in their midst, a renewed appreciation that all men and women of every race and nationality and culture are made in the image and likeness of God. Throughout the Gospel, Jesus calls us to remain open - Ephphatha! - to the possibilities for transformation through selfless love, for re-creation enabled by humble generosity, for restoration brought about by perseverance and courage in the face of destruction.

www.connectionmediaworks.com

September 9th, 2018
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Robyn C. Gallant

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Friday: 1:00 pm-5:00 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: By request

Mass During the Week: Tues & Thurs at 7:00 pm
Wed & Fri at 10:00 am
First Fridays - 2:00 pm at the Lohnes Complex

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.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (Sept 2, 2018)

Regular Collection	1,233.75
Building Fund	160.00
Votive Candles	67.25
Garden Party Proceeds	10.00
Mass Stipends	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon, Sept 10	No Mass
Tues, Sept 11	Joe Gallant and Family
Wed, Sept 12	No Mass
Thur, Sept 13	Late Edna and Ignatius Power
Fri, Sept 14	Deceased Members of the Gallant Family
Sat, Sept 15	Late Barbara Ann Hynes
Sun, Sept 16	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

September 15	
Basil English Janet Jackson	John Carroll Art Hall Donna Mitchell
September 16	
Mike Leonard Calvin Gillis	Anna House Don Gallant Donna Eldridge
Communion to the Sick	
Tony Griffin	

WELCOME: Sacred Heart Parish warmly welcomes anyone who may be visiting our Parish this weekend. Whether you are visiting us just by chance or returning home, you're always a part of our family.

BIBLE STUDY: We continue to meet every Sunday at 7:00 pm at the parish house. Everyone is welcome.

MASS CANCELLED: Mass on **Wednesday, September 12, 2018** is cancelled due to the meeting of the Priests and Bishop taking place that day.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: The Parish Council meeting will take place on **Monday, September 10 at 7:00 pm** in the church meeting room.

PARISH BINGO: The next parish bingo will take place on Sunday, **September 9, 2018 at 2:00 pm** at Sacred Heart Elementary. The list of donors is posted on the church bulletin boards and include last names from A to E.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Sunday morning Children's Liturgy will begin again at Sacred Heart Parish on **Sunday, September 16**. All children are encouraged to attend.

4 YOUTH: September 8 is United Nations' International Literacy Day. This is a global observance, not a public holiday, the point of which is to raise awareness of literacy issues around the world. Statistics from UNESCO show that approximately 774 million adults world-wide do not have minimum literacy skills (2/3 of them are women) and 75 million children are not attending school. Poverty and illiteracy go together. Without literacy skills, people cannot get decent jobs, they have difficulty accessing services and they are vulnerable to being cheated or taken advantage of. There is illiteracy in our own community as well as in developing countries overseas. As you begin another school year, be thankful for your opportunity to learn and the advantages it gives you. Why don't you try to find a way to help someone else: read with a younger child, join a study group, volunteer as a tutor or donate some of your books to a community literacy program?

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY

CROSS: The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, celebrated annually on September 14, recalls three historical events - the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of the churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclitus II. But, most importantly, this feast celebrates the cross as the instrument of our salvation, as expressed in the words of the entrance antiphon for Mass on this day: *We should glory in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection, through whom we are saved and delivered*

SAINT PETER CLAVER: September 9 is



the feast day of Saint Peter Claver. Born in Spain, Peter Claver went to be a missionary in Cartagena in what is now Columbia, which was one of the major entry points for slave ships on their way to America. He worked tirelessly on behalf of the slaves, bringing them whatever food and medicine he could afford and assuring them of their human dignity and God's saving love. It is estimated that he baptized approximately 300,000 slaves in his 40 years of ministry. He is the patron saint of slaves, the Republic of Columbia and ministry to African Americans.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: The St. Vincent de Paul Society is desperately in need of mattresses for people who don't have a bed to sleep on. Twin, double, or queen preferred. Frames and box springs appreciated also. If you have any to offer please call 638-9010, we will pick up.



HUMOUR: Two lawyers that were walking through the woods spotted a vicious looking bear. The first lawyer immediately opened his briefcase, pulled out a pair of sneakers and started putting them on. The second lawyer looked at him and said, "You're crazy! You'll never be able to outrun that bear!" "I don't have to outrun the bear," the first lawyer replied. "I only have to outrun you."

BAPTISM SEMINAR: There will be a baptism seminar taking place on **Wed, September 12th, at 7:00 pm**, at the Cathedral. This is meant for parents and godparents. We offer an update on what it means to have a child baptized together with the understanding that there must be a well-founded hope that the child be reared in the practice of the faith. We also offer a walkthrough of the liturgy and provide an opportunity for questions and discussion.

HOLY REDEEMER KITCHEN PARTY: The Holy Redeemer Kitchen Party is planned for **Friday, September 21st at 8:00 pm** at the Royal Canadian Legion. All local talent for your enjoyment, munchies on the tables, and bar service. This is an excellent chance to get reacquainted after the summer vacation. Plan now to participate. Tickets \$10.00 each at the door, or, in advance at the Parish office. Prizes to be won!!

CHASE THE ACE: Chase the Ace is started in Humber Arm South again. Draws will take place Sunday evenings at 6 pm at the Humber Arm South community hall. The jackpot is \$4,900 and rising. This is a joint event between Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish and the Town of Humber Arm South.