

**REFLECTION for Corpus Christi Sunday 2017**

**Fr. Don**

'I am the living bread that came down from heaven.' These are Jesus' words and so the Word of God-the gospel truth. This *living bread* is part of God's omnipotence? Receiving this *living bread* is an outward sign (sacrament) of God's unconditional love. Mere reception of it can lead us to eternal salvation. The pinnacle of our Mass, the Elevation of the Body and Blood, stimulates our hearts to be full awe and thanksgiving.

Jesus physically, divinely, spiritually, but mystically, comes to us. We are in the Divine Presence.

Our church has developed many doctrines and practises around this teaching of Jesus. We catechise children before they can receive it, we celebrate it daily, we consecrate it at Mass, and we bring it to the sick and dying. We deny non-Catholics its reception, we withhold it from some divorced persons. It is fair to say that we have created awe and wonder regarding Holy Communion and at the same time created fear and trembling. We have used it for unity's sake and for the sake of division. All the while, Jesus calls it '*living bread*.'

For most Catholics, it is an essential life-nurturing gift. We leave its doctrine in the hands of hierarchs. It mysteriously heals, strengthens, reconciles, revitalizes, and saves us. As chaplain at hospitals and seniors' homes, I experienced its effects first hand. People with terminal illness were cured, depression was defeated, cancers dissipated, and souls were saved. There exists in the Catholic population are real hunger for Holy Communion, people know its potency, its nutritional value both physically and spiritually. We appreciatively smile when others exclaim: 'those Catholics, they truly love their Holy Communion and their Mass.'

The Mass is at the heart of our worship, because Jesus broke bread with his disciples the day before he died and said, '*do this in memory me*.' And so, we do. The Mass is a celebration of the communion of the people at a parish Mass and an outward sign of our communion with those doing likewise all over the world- it is again, the essence of our understanding of the living Body of Christ-the Roman Catholic Church. It defines us.

Let us consider the doctrine of Real Presence. The Eucharistic celebration (Mass) makes the Church; the Church does not make the Eucharist (Mass). The Real Presence is the sacrament of the unity of our Church. There is a Real Presence of the risen and glorified Jesus at every Mass-we fully believe that *the Lord is in our midst*, in our world. When the priest consecrates and elevates the bread, it mysteriously becomes the living Jesus. When we eat of it, we become Jesus-we become what we eat. Then, if we truly believe in the power of the Eucharist, we are sent to evangelize others, to bring them to the knowledge and love of God.

The feast of Corpus Christi reminds us that the Eucharist cannot be separated from the Mass; and we cannot be separated from either the Eucharist or the Mass. The Israelites would have starved without the manna from heaven. Holy Communion is the 'new manna.' Put our hands in the hands of the Man from Galilee. Crave the new manna, seek the new manna, be nourished by it, and let God into our lives. Let the strength found by consuming this *living Bread* from heaven fire in us the desire to make a positive difference in our world. Sow peace, justice, love, compassion, and be *living bread* nourishing those in need. Believe and celebrate the power of the Body and Blood of Jesus. It makes us a new creation; living in the image and likeness of God.

# Sacred Heart Parish

## **A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ**



### **Parish Information**

**Parish Administrator:** Fr. Don Leonard

**Office Hours:** Mon, Wed, Fri 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Tues, Thurs 1:00 pm to 5 pm.

465 Curling Street  
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**Weekend Masses:** Saturday 4:30pm, Sunday 11:00 am

**Reconciliation:** Wednesday after Mass, or by request

**Mass During the Week:** Wed, Thurs, Friday at 7:00 pm

**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:** Celebrated at Weekend Mass after preparation session.

**June 18, 2017**

**Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ**

### RECEIVED WITH THANKS (June 3, 4)

Collection	1783.65
Bldg. Fund	105.00
Cemetery Fund	200.00
In Memorium	50.00
Mass Stipends	80.00
Flower Donations	20.00
Variety Concert Proceeds	1650.00

### MASS INTENTIONS

June 19	No Mass
June 20	No Mass
June 21	Mona McCarthy
June 22	George & Theresa Collier
June 23	Bernadette & Anthony George
June 23+	Anne Birmingham
June 24	Thomas Griffin
June 24+	Josephine Green
June 25	Parish Community

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS (June 24,25)

#### READERS                      EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Basil English	Joan Penney, Joanne Connolly
Matthew English	Joanne Hackett

#### Communion to the Sick Joan Penney

<b>Calvin Gillis</b>	<b>Brian Sparkes, Patsy Payne</b>
<b>Mike Leonard</b>	<b>Elizabeth Carew</b>

### OUR PARISH FEAST DAY-FRIDAY JUNE 23

Note that Mass will be celebrated at 7 pm this Friday. It is a special day for us, please plan to attend and offer prayers for God's continued blessings upon our Sacred Heart Parish.

### BIBLE STUDY

The group will next meet in the Parish house on **Monday evening, June 19 at 7 pm.** We welcome newcomers to join us in 'breaking open the Word.' This week's focus is Corpus Christi.

### FLOWER GARDEN

You will notice a large pile of topsoil outside. Please help us by bringing perennials to plant. We ask that you donate them either in support of the beautification or in memory of a loved one. We thank John Hancock who has volunteered to oversee the planting of annuals in the Cross.

### VARIETY SHOW- A SMASHING SUCCESS

What a marvelous way to build community spirit. What a marvelous night of entertainment. The talent was excellent, the atmosphere joy-filled, and the parish made \$1633 to boot. **THANK YOU** to Madonna and all who performed and/or organized the event, and to the Ladies Group who provided canteen, door prizes, and clean-up. It's worth the effort.

### TABERNACLE ART WORK FOR SALE

Limited edition Prints of the beautiful painting which adorns our tabernacle are being made available. The small prints will cost \$30.00. The medium prints are \$45.00. To order one, please sign the sheets which are available at the back. These would make a nice addition to your home or make a great gift for family living away.

### OLD PARISH PHOTOS

We are now in the process of sorting the photos so as to display them. We have some depicting our former pastors, some for the prayer group, snow walks, social club, Christmas socials, processions, and more. If you have some old photos that you think could enhance our display, please bring them. Contact the Parish Office.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Join Sacred Heart & Star of the Sea Parishes in celebration of **Father Don Leonard's 11th Anniversary as a member of the priesthood on June 28th.** Sacred Heart will be hosting a special mass in his honour @ 5pm, followed by POT LUCK SUPPER at the Sacred Heart School cafeteria. All are welcome; **Don't forget to bring your favourite dish!**

### MT. CELILIA CEMETERY MASS

We will gather in the cemetery on **Wednesday July 12 at 7 pm.** Please notify any friends or relatives who might want to attend.

### CROSS IN THE CEMETERY

FYI- The men of the parish have committed to erecting a large lighted cross in the cemetery

before the above Mass. We will bless and dedicate it at that Mass. Thanks in advance.

### ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The Society is still looking for new members. And there is a need for used furniture. Call: 638-9010 for more information. They thank you for your generous support of their 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday collections; which will be held again next weekend.

### MOTHER THERESA on CORPUS CHRISTI

*We cannot separate our lives from the Eucharist; the moment we do, something breaks. People ask, "Where do the sisters get the joy and energy to do what they are doing?" The Eucharist involves more than just receiving; it also involves satisfying the hunger of Christ. He says, "Come to Me." He is hungry for souls. Nowhere does the Gospel say: "Go away," but always "Come to Me."*

### FEAST of ST. THOMAS MORE- June 22

His life story is told in the movie- A Man for All Seasons. He opposed Henry V111's divorces and being named head of the Church of England. Four hundred years after he died, in 1935, Thomas More was canonized a saint of God. Few saints are more relevant to our time. He is the patron of political leaders. The supreme diplomat and counselor, he did not compromise his own moral values in order to please the king, knowing that true allegiance to authority is not blind acceptance of everything that authority wants.

### FEAST of the SACRED HEART--HISTORY

On June 16, 1675, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque had a 'great apparition' during the octave of the Feast of Corpus Christi. In that vision, Christ asked St. Margaret Mary to request that the Feast of the Sacred Heart be celebrated on the Friday after the Feast of Corpus Christi, in reparation for the ingratitude of humanity for the sacrifice that Christ had made for them. Christ's physical heart was pierced and He died for us. His heart is the representation of His divine love for humanity. It deserves our devotion/worship. It should be displayed prominently in our homes.

### SACRED HEART DEVOTION PROMISES

- (1) I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
- (2) I will establish peace in their homes.
- (3) I will comfort them in all their afflictions.
- (4) I will be their secure refuge during life, and above all, in death.
- (5) I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
- (6) Sinners will find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
- (7) Lukewarm souls shall become fervent.
- (8) Fervent souls shall quickly mount to high perfection.
- (9) I will bless every place in which an image of my Heart is exposed and honored.
- (10) I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
- (11) Those who shall promote this devotion shall have their names written in my Heart.

### JESUS PRAYER

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

