

REFLECTION for Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

Has one of our resolutions been to improve our spiritual life? Have we vowed to let Jesus into our life and to invite others to do the same by boldly say to them, like John does: *'Here is the Lamb of God.'*

Will John the Baptist's example and words in today's Gospel serve to inspire us. St. Paul was also a herald/evangelist of the Good News. Have we resolved to let these giants of scripture be our guides?

Through prayer and reading, we can communicate with them daily. But let us imagine this scenario.

If St. Paul were to visit our parish, how would he introduce himself and address us? We get a clue as to how in our second reading. In his time, it was customary for a visiting preacher to offer a Blessing. A Blessing such as this: *To the church of God which is at Curling in Corner Brook, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

St. Paul lived by high Christian standards. He took very seriously his perceived call to be the 'Apostle to the Gentiles.' And he expected those to whom he shared his Good News to live by such standards as well. He truly believed that we are all called to be saints; and that we have to be equipped with spiritual armour to achieve this. The saving power of this armour requires a great infusion of the *'grace and peace of God'* into our lives. We are free to choose to put on Jesus and be protected from all evil, or we can put it on and never really test its saving power, or we can choose to never pick it up and put it on. The choice is ours, but our choice will define us. They'll know we are Christians by our love.

There is an expectation of those who choose to put on Jesus. We become signs of the Good News.

Our lives then become signposts leading others to Jesus or away from Him. Being sanctified in Christ, we are all on our pilgrim journey together. It is not just about me, it is about us. We will show regard for each other, we will recognise the needs of our sisters/ brothers in the Lord.

Doubtless we have our own problems and challenges, but the true Christian does not tell others of the problems he/she faces. Others will see that the beliefs that we hold are not simply a set of words with little or no relevance. Sensing our joy, they will see the great richness that life with Christ-putting on Jesus- holds for all those who seek him. They will see our faith as alive and active in every aspect of our lives. These are the signs that make our faith attractive to others.

Don't feel worthy, or don't believe others we listen to you, or don't think you have what it takes to be a disciple of Jesus? Look at John. He was strange, he was different, he seemed to be a nomadic uneducated man. He dressed oddly, he ate oddly, he acted oddly, and yet his words were far from odd. He had the love of God deep in his soul. He had a passion for spreading the message of the coming Messiah. And all his signs pointed to the SIGN- Jesus- who would redeem fallen humanity.

John the Baptist was the first New Testament prophet, now it is our turn to be modern-day prophets. We are tasked with pointing others to Jesus by word, but most successfully it will be by our actions. Nothing says we care more than being a light for friends and neighbors, and especially for our enemies. Sometimes being that light means we have to challenge them, and ourselves, to give to Jesus the glory and praise due His name. We, if we remain faithful *'are honored in the sight of the Lord.'*

This is our reward- to be honored by God; let us live in hope, blissfully imagining these honors.

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

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Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 p.m. Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Wednesday after Mass, or by request

Mass During the Week: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Friday 10 am

Holy Hour of Adoration: Third Sunday of the Month at 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church

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

Baptisms: Celebrated at Weekend Mass after preparation session.

January 15, 2017

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (Jan 7, 8)

Collection	1424.00
Advent Folders	60.00
Bldg. Fund	65.00
Votive Candles	18.00
Dues	40.00
Envelopes	33.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Jan 16	No Mass
Jan 17	Jack Neville
Jan 18	Nathan & Elizabeth Noseworthy
Jan 19	Josephine Green
Jan 19+	Jack Hearn
Jan 20	Mary Leonard
Jan 21	Nellie, Joe, & Jim Hayes
Jan 22	Parish Community

MINISTERS (Jan 21,22)

READERS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Victoria Murphy	Joan Penney, Eileen Moore
Lynette Taylor	John Carroll
Joan Penney- Communion to the Sick	

Matthew English	Elizabeth Carew, Hedy Kenny
Basil English	Donna Eldridge

BINGO on SUNDAY

Our BINGO was cancelled last week. It will now be held **this Sunday afternoon at 2pm** in the School cafeteria.

BIBLE STUDY

The group will next meet in the Parish house on **Monday evening Jan. 16 at 7 pm**. We encourage newcomers to join us in 'breaking open the Word of God' as found in the Gospels.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

To assist those in need - 638-9010

PARENTS of CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

This is our beginning. All parents of candidates are asked to meet immediately **after Sunday Mass on Jan 22**. Any new parents (who have not yet registered) are invited. Please spread the word. Information is available by calling the Office.

HOLY HOUR- EXPOSITION/ADORATION

Our next Holy Hour will take place **on Sunday, Jan 22 at 2 pm**. It will include the Rosary and Benediction. We encourage families to attend this traditional Catholic devotion. Children should experience this most sacred and ancient expression of our faith.

NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULES

Copies of the new schedules, covering the next several months, are available at the back of the church. We ask all Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers to pick up a copy. If there are any concerns, please contact the Office.

PARISH SECRETARY.

We are advertising for this position. There is a job description available on our website for anyone interested. The deadline for applying is Monday, Jan 16. If interested, please contact the Parish Office.

CALLING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

We are planning to offer a Youth Mass on the last weekend of February. To do this, we require our young people to participate. At this Mass, they will take the lead in the many ministry roles. *We have some more good news.* In March, NET Ministries will spend some time working with youth in our parish.

APPRECIATION SOCIALS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

The Ladies Group have agreed to host/initiate these get-togethers for our volunteers. We plan to have two socials/dinners so that everyone can attend at the time more convenient to them. It is hoped that we can announce the dates in next week's bulletin.

REVERENCE IN CHURCH

Now that the Blessed Sacrament is in the sanctuary area, we wish to remind you of the need for holy reverence. It is recommended that you genuflect (or bow) and make the sign of the cross before entering your pew. And we wish to begin a period of reverent silence before Mass begins. Please try to be silent for a few minutes.

DIOCESAN RESOURCE CENTER

The Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador Resource Centre is located next door. It has a wide range of theological, spiritual and catechetical resource materials in both print and video format available for use by parishes and individuals. A catalogue of these resources can be viewed on-line at www.rcchurch.com under the heading "Services". For further information or to inquire about the loan of these resource materials please call 709-639-7073 ext. 222.

ST. ANTHONY, ABBOT, JAN 17

This is not the St. Anthony to whom we pray for lost items; that is St. Anthony of Padua. This Anthony was a third century hermit who, though poor and illiterate, is celebrated as the 'Father' of monks; those who live solitary lives. He truly lived St. Paul's teaching that we *'die daily to the Lord.'* He spent his days praying for peace, justice, and harmony in the world. He did this alone as a *Desert Father*.

PRAYER TO ST. AGNES, VIRGIN, JAN 21

St. Agnes, although you were only a child, you believed that Jesus was always with you; help us to remember that He is also with us, and to remain true to His presence. You refused to give up your faith; help us to be proud of our faith, to love it, to be strong in it, and to give witness to it daily. St. Agnes, patron saint of children, watch over the children of the world; keep them safe from harm; be with them in their hour of need; and always pray for them.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This is an annual ecumenical celebration traditionally held from January 18 (Feast of the Confession of St Peter) to Jan 25 (Feast of the Conversion of St Paul). We join with the people around the world to pray for Christian unity, in worship, reflection, study, and fellowship. This year, we pray with the Christians of Germany. They have chosen as the theme "*Reconciliation – The Love of Christ Compels Us,*" inspired by 2 Corinthians 5:14-20. They invite Christians around the world to celebrate God's reconciling grace, call us to recognize the pain of the deep divisions which afflict the Christian Church, and urge us to become ambassadors of Christ's reconciliation. On **Tuesday, Jan 24 at 7pm** at the Seventh Day Adventist Church on Philip Drive, Christians from our area will gather for a Christian Unity Prayer Service. All are welcome/encouraged to attend.

FOURTH DEGREE K of C

Bishop O' Reilly Assembly will meet on Tuesday evening at All Hallows Church starting at 8:00 p.m. All Sir Knights are asked to attend.

JESUS PRAYER

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