

REFLECTION for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

'Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.' This is authentic Christian faith. It is the common sense answer we should honestly give when asked what is the most important thing in our lives. Yes, my dear friends, faith supersedes all our possessions, it even is more important than our health. Faith comes first and can lead to a restoration of our health. Many witnesses can attest to that. Trust in God has brought miracles. Faith, kept and lived, ultimately leads to our salvation, both in the here-and-now and in the future, extending all the way into eternity. Thank Jesus!

How do we live our faith? Well, let's look to our ancestors. In our first reading we learn a bit about how. The Israelites wandered forty years in the desert. They, especially their leader Moses, believed that the Promised Land was their destination. Though they sometimes bickered and faced unbearable obstacles, it was in their firm belief in the fulfillment of God's promises that they trusted. The Lord always delivers on His promises. We too have been promised such a Land- HEAVEN. Faith is the key; faith will keep us on the WAY. It may be a rocky way, it may be a challenging way, we may doubt, but the end result is worth it.

In our second reading, Abraham, who is the 'Father of Faith' for Muslims, Jews, and Christians, kept the faith and persevered through thick and thin. He trusted in God perhaps more than another other human being. He obeyed God's call to leave the comfort of his home and go lead others to a new home. He and his wife Sarah believed that she, though barren and advanced in age, would bear a son. Amazingly and unbelievably for us, he trusted and obeyed God even when asked to sacrifice that only son. For us, it is vital to know why he did all this- He had unshakable faith in the promises of God and the fact that he is a child of God and that God unconditionally loves Him. God is our Father/Mother and the Promise-Keeper.

Let us now spring forward to today and consider our lot in life. Keeping the faith is difficult. Society seems to have jettisoned religion. They tell us that we are stuck in the past. We believe in mystery, in waiting for and hoping in an unseen God, and that this God is some supreme divinity offering 'the moon' if we but live life His WAY. Today the individual is taught to believe that- 'I am the boss of me.'

The lure is to join in following the crowd. "Things hoped for, things not seen'- this sounds like gobbley-gook to modern humanity. There is no app for it. If they cannot have it right now and touch it, see it, then if is not worthy of pursuit. If there is a heaven, let's use Pokémon to locate it. Pray that those who are coming near our church these days may actually find God and Faith, along with Pokémon.

For us, the faithful, Jesus remind us to be dressed for action, to be ever alert, to have our lamps lit. Perseverance and assurance have to be our watchwords. Faith saves- so it was, so it is, and so it will be.

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Love with Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

465 Curling Street
Corner Brook, NL A2H 3K8
Tel: (709) 785-5025

Curlingparish@hotmail.com
website--www.sacredheartcparish.ca
Fax: (709) 388-1141

Liturgical Celebrations

Weekend Masses:
Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 11:00 am

Masses in Week Days:
Tues, Wed, Thurs 7:00pm
Fri 10:00am

Holy Hour of Adoration:
Third Sunday of the Month,
at 2 pm

Reconciliation
Wed after Mass,
or by request

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

Baptisms:
Celebrated at Weekend Mass
after preparation session.

August 7, 2016

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS	July 30, 31
Collection	\$1,600.00
Building Fund	\$31.10
Donation (windows)	1000.00
Pastoral Dues	65.00
Mass Stipends	10.00
Votive Candles	42.00
Garden Party Coll.	97.00
Cemetery Fund.	5.00
Catholic Missions	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 8	No Mass
Aug 9	John & Veronica Pike
Aug 10	Brian Griffin
Aug 11	Bernadette & Anthony George
Aug 12	A Payne & J Griffin
Aug 13	David Power/Avis Halloran
Aug 14	Parish Community

MINISTERS (Aug 13,14)

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Communion</u>
Sat.	J. Noseworthy Carol Reid	Marie Byrne Joan Penney Eileen Moore
Sun.	Mike Leonard Hedy Kenny	Doreen Jones Don Gallant John Carroll

* Joan Penney- Communion Minister to the Sick

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We remind you that Parish Council Elections will take place in September to fill three positions. Please give serious thought to joining Parish Council to do your part in keeping Sacred Heart a vibrant and healthy parish. Nomination forms will be placed at the back for this purpose. Please return them to the Parish Office.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ava Lynn Griffin was baptised at our Saturday Mass this week. We offer our continued assurance of prayers for her and her parents in the days, weeks, and years ahead. May God bless them all.

REPLACING WINDOWS- YOU CAN HELP

Some of our upper large windows in the church leak and so heat is lost/cold comes in during the winter months (the windows are 35 years old). They need replacing. We have a quote from a company who will replace them for us at a cost of \$1000.00 per window. **Five families** have come forward thus far to donate the cost of one window. A plaque will be put on the window indicating in whose memory the donation was given. If you wish to participate in this venture, please contact Fr. Don or the parish office.

BIBLES and CATECHISMS

We still have **4** Catechisms of the Catholic Church (\$20 each) and **3** Large Print NRSV Bibles (\$25 each) available for sale. They are in the vesting room at the back of the church. See John if you wish to purchase one

FAMILY CATECHESIS FOR SACRAMENTS

With a leap of faith, we have ordered the necessary textbooks. The preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion will be two years long and it will be done by parents at home. Julia Myles and her other volunteers will meet with parents and children to facilitate this preparation. But it is primarily a parent initiative. We will begin registering children in September. Spread the word about this everyone and please pray for its success.

ST. LAWRENCE Feast Day Wed, Aug 10

He was a deacon in the 3rd century during the Roman persecutions. A grand legend arose concerning him. After the Pope had been killed, they sent St. Lawrence to bring all the treasures of the church to turn them over to the Empire. He asked for three days to do this. He returned with a large group of poor people and proudly exclaimed that these were the Church's treasures.

ST. CLARE Feast Day Thursday, Aug 11

Born into a wealthy Italian family, St. Clare heard St. Francis of Assisi preach when she was 18 years old. With his help, she left behind her life of ease and became a recluse, living a life of poverty and service to others. It is said that she and Francis loved each other, she saw him as a spiritual father. They shared their love of Jesus and the spiritual life. She founded the Poor Clares- a ministry to poor younger women.

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS

Our next Bible Study is this Monday evening at 7 pm in the parish house. We have a core of regular attendees but would encourage others to join us. We study the Readings for the next week-end's Mass. And we have a lunch after.

SUMMER STUDENT

Matthew has completed an accurate record of the layout of all the gravesites. We hope to be able to put this information on our website. (*We are checking on privacy issues surrounding this.*) Now he is now completing the work to digitalize our archive material collected last year and also digitalizing all our sacramental records. Hopefully all our Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage, and Death records will be completed and available digitally. (*Again we are checking to*

see how much of this information we can put on our website. Privacy is a key issue these days.)

We also need pictures of several priests. How about pictures of events associated with the Sacred Heart Social Club, the Msgr. Stoyles K of C, the re-opening of the church after the two fires, or any other past parish event.

MARY'S KITCHEN

Will be continuing to operate throughout the Summer months but will be changing its time starting Friday, July 15th, to 12 noon till 1:30 PM. Mary's Kitchen offers a free meal to anyone in need of food or some company. It is located in the basement of Most Holy Redeemer Cathedral.

FIRST AID COURSES- Still being Offered

These are being offered at the Cathedral on August 8th / 9th / 24th / 25th / 29th / 30th. Courses offered are Basic CPR Level C, Emergency First Aid (one- day course) and Standard First Aid (two- day course). Each first aid participant will receive a manual, a participant kit and a 3- year certification card. To register for a course or for any further information please call Janette at 660-0488 or email at janettefoote@gmail.com

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

The parish in Benoit's Cove recently began a 50/50 ticket sale. Draw date is Sept 27, 2016. They are selling 1000 tickets at \$10 each. So, the prize could be \$5000. Fr. Don has some tickets if you would like to help out with this fundraiser by buying one or by selling some tickets.

MERCY PRAYER

LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF THE LIVING GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER.