

**REFLECTION for 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Fr. Don**

*'Those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified'.*

Lotto dreams, lotto hopes, many of us pray to hit the Lotto jackpot or to win Chase the Ace, believing that it will bring us the true happiness that we are missing. Most of us buy into the notion that only the poor or the super-rich say that money can't buy happiness. Most say, give me money and I'll be the judge of its worth.

Truth be told, history is full of individuals who though wealthy have led lives of quiet desperation, without peace or happiness; even despairing of life itself. Truth be told, stories abound of poor people, who, in their poverty, found the Kingdom of God. Their lives are full of ecstatic peace, unconditional love, and immense joy.

Who really is the richer of the two, richer in the scriptural meaning of riches? Money does bring change but how do these changes affect our lives? Do they increase our physical, mental and spiritual well-being? Answering these questions requires wisdom. For Christians, it begins with turning to God and asking for an understanding mind and the ability to discern good and evil. In essence, this represents a desire for the *'wisdom of Solomon'*. Now, he was one wise cookie, able to judge right from wrong.

In today's Gospel parables of the treasure and the pearl, the focus is on the worth of the Kingdom, that is, the ultimate good that comes from knowing and loving Jesus Christ. *(Note that this depiction of the Kingdom differs slightly from the view presented by last week's readings)*. Once we come to know the riches that faith in Jesus brings, we would give up all we owned to possess him. Literally, we become safe in the arms of God, in the arms of Joseph and Mary. It is that safe harbor which our souls are divinely programmed to seek.

It involves a degree of self-emptying. The true comfort and security comes when we realize that no one can possess Jesus, it is he who embraces and possesses us with his unconditional love. Yes, there is nothing we can do or say that will separate us from the love of God. But first there must be a surrender. Jeremiah says we must pluck up and then plant anew. We must let go of all the *'lures of the world'* so that we can *'rest in God alone'*. This requires the wisdom which the scriptures proclaim as leading to Jesus and to salvation.

Christian commitment can fully open for us the fulfillment that truly makes us happy and free, a heavenly happiness and freedom that lasts forever and can never be lost. In terms of evangelization, this is the Good News that we are called to proclaim from the rooftops. It is the one *pearl of wisdom that is of great value*.

We can search all our lives, work diligently but, without God's help, all we make and do will still leaves us longing. St. Augustine said it best: *'our souls are restless, Lord, until they rest in you'*. Only when we discover God's truth will we find something foundational, something which shows us the wisdom of the ages. God's wisdom is precious because without it we have only fleeting happiness, lives that can be tired and groundless.

This wisdom isn't something we can make on our own or even deserve by our hard work. We receive it, simply because by God's love we have the great fortune to do so. We come upon it because God in his goodness shares his wisdom with us. Though these gifts are free and undeserved, they are not cheap.

Finding this great treasure requires personal sacrifice, being humbled, giving up all that separates us from the love of God, all the vain inventions in our lives. We give them all up for the one thing that will give us true joy. Once found, like Archimedes, we shout Eureka. We accept the life that God gives, this newness which will make us the people we were always meant to be since the foundation of the world.

# Sacred Heart Parish

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



### Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard

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

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

[Curlingparish@hotmail.com](mailto:Curlingparish@hotmail.com)  
[www.sacredheartrcparish.ca](http://www.sacredheartrcparish.ca)

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

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

**Mass During the Week:** Wed, Thurs at 7:00 pm, Fri at 2pm Lohnes

**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.

**July 30, 2017**

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**RECEIVED WITH THANKS** (July 22, 23)

Collection	2089.55
Parish Dues	50.00
Bldg. Fund	10.00
Cemetery Fund	20.00
Garden Party	55.00
Mass Stipends	20.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

July 31	No Mass
Aug 1	No Mass
Aug 2	Sean McCarthy
Aug 3	James, Aloysius, Sadie, Dominic Quigley
Aug 4	(Lohnes) Intentions of Rita Hall
Aug 4+	John Mendes
Aug 5	Rosalie & Joan Quigley, Joe Gallant
Aug 5+	Byron Brown
Aug 6	Parish Community

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS** (Aug 5,6)

**READERS**                      **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Joan Penney	Art Hall, Shirley Noseworthy
John Carroll	Marie Byrne

*Communion to the Sick*                      John Carroll

**Hedy Kenny**                      **Wayne Dicks, Eileen Moore**  
**Amelia Dicks**                      **Calvin Gillis**

**WELCOME TO Fr. JIM ROBERTSON**

Next week, we welcome our new pastor. On behalf of Parish Council, Finance Committee, and all parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish, we extend a warm welcome to Fr. Jim as he begins his ministry here with us

**GOODBYE TO Fr. DON LEONARD**

It has been a blessed and joy-filled 3 years. Hopefully, my efforts and works have built-up the faith in this parish. Please continue to have a strong voice in the running of your, and my, parish. Employ the power of the People of God. Though you will not see me much in church, I will remain here, except when the weather turns cold. Thank you for your many kind words and actions towards me over the years. I leave truly believing that I did my best to serve God and you. To quote St. John Vianney, 'A good shepherd, a pastor after

*God's heart, is the greatest treasure which the good Lord can grant to a parish' and, to use his quote from further in the bulletin, 'only in heaven will he fully realize what he is.'*

**NEW MINISTRIES SCHEDULE AVAILABLE**

Because our present schedule ends in a few weeks, we have prepared one for the rest of August and September. This will allow Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers to be in place until the transition of priests is complete and Parish Council and its Committees start up again.

**BIBLE STUDY**

The group will next meet in the Parish house on **Monday evening, July 31 at 7 pm.** We welcome newcomers to join us in 'breaking open the Word.'

**OUR CHURCH HISTORY PHOTOS**

We have prepared all the photos which you have provided over the past few years. We are looking for some showing CWL activities for the 10 years it thrived in our parish. As well, we need some for Scouts and Guides, and any others showing parish events through the years.

**TABERNACLE ART WORK FOR SALE**

We have three of the medium prints left. These sell for \$45.00. To order one, please sign the sheets which are available at the back.

**CEMETERY RECORD FOR UNKNOWN**

We have many unmarked gravesites. This summer we are asking families with loved ones buried in unmarked graves at Mt. Cecilia to submit their names. We plan to erect a large memorial plaque displaying these names. Given the circumstances, it is the best option for memorializing them available to us. Please support this effort.

**THANK YOU**

We would like to extend our thanks to the volunteers and participants of our Qalipu Mass. This special mass and beautiful supper would not have been possible without your support.

**ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society will be taking their monthly collection this weekend. In June, the SSVP was quite busy. We made 32 home visits, meeting the needs of 32 adults and 16 children. The volunteer hours spent on visiting amounted to 67 hours and the cost of provisions (groceries, etc) was \$1,464.70. Mary's Kitchen served 146 adults and 7 children. The Knights of Columbus staffed Mary's Kitchen and provided the desserts. The cost of Kitchen food was \$440.67. Thank you for your continued support.

**FEAST of SAINT IGNATIUS of LOYOLA- JULY 31**

He is the Founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Like Saint Francis of Assisi, he had a conversion experience while recuperating from a serious illness. During this time, he went through a harrowing trial of scruples. He wrote down material to help his faith grow which later became his greatest work, the *Spiritual Exercises*. Being a military man, these Exercises demand followers to show the discipline and rigor of a soldier, but a soldier of faith with the mercy and compassion of the Gospel. The method of discernment developed by Saint Ignatius is used to this day by many in the Church. It is called the Ignatian Spirituality

**FEAST of ST. JOHN VIANNEY- AUG 4**

He is best known as the Curé d'Ars, the little French town where he was pastor. Saint John had great trouble with his studies and almost did not get ordained. He failed to comprehend Latin lectures which were essential. He persevered and after he became the pastor in Ars however, he gained great fame as a confessor, hearing confessions sometimes 12 hours a day. He is the patron saint of parish priests

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY QUOTES**

*"Prayer is the inner bath of love into which the soul plunges itself."*

*"We are each of us like a small mirror in which God searches for His reflection."*

*"Remain humble, remain simple. The more you are*

*so, the more good you will do."*

*"All the good works in the world are not equal to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass because they are the works of men; but the Mass is the work of God."*

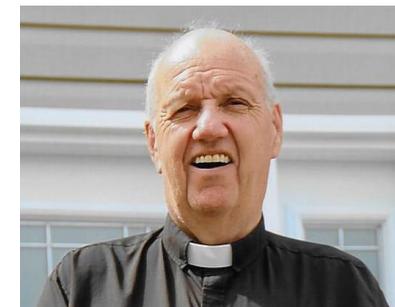
*"I tell you that you have less to suffer in following the cross than in serving the world and its pleasures."*

*"In your work, offer your difficulties and troubles quite simply to God...and you will find that His blessing will rest upon you and on all you do."*

*"We should consider those moments spent before the Blessed Sacrament as the happiest of our lives*

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY on WHAT IS A GOOD PRIEST**

*"O how great is the priest! If he realized what he is he would die... God obeys him: he utters a few words and the Lord descends from Heaven at his voice, to be contained within a small host. Without the Sacrament of Holy Orders, we would not have the Lord. Who put him there in the tabernacle? The priest. Who welcomed your soul at the beginning of life? The priest. Who feeds your soul and gives it strength for the journey? The priest. Who will prepare it to appear before God, bathing it one last time in the blood of Jesus Christ? The priest— always the priest. And if the soul should happen to die (because of sin) who will raise it up, who will restore its calm and peace? Again, the priest. After God, the priest is everything. Only in heaven will he fully realize what he is."*



**JESUS PRAYER**

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