

August 27, 2023: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples. “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the Prophets.”

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

- Matthew 16:13-20

It is important to read today’s Gospel and next week’s Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew’s Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church. Next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus’ prediction about his passion and death.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter’s response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader.

In today’s Gospel, Peter’s recognition of Jesus’ identity is credited to a revelation by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus’ rebuke of Peter in next week’s Gospel. When Peter rejects Jesus’ prediction of his passion and death, Peter is said to no longer be thinking as God does but as humans do.

The use of the term *church* in today’s Gospel is one of only three such occurrences in Matthew’s Gospel. Peter in this Gospel is being credited as the foundation for the Church, a privilege granted to him because of his recognition of Jesus’ identity. The Church continues to be grounded in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord.

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Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: **Rev. Lee Lainey**

Office Administrator: **Chelo Escalona**

Office Hours: **Monday to Friday 9am-12pm**

465 Curling Street
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8
Tel: (709) 785-5025
curlingparish@hotmail.com

e-transfers: sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com
Password "Church"
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca
Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am.

Mass During Week:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7 pm.

Friday at 10 am. **No weekday mass from August 21st to September 1st.**

Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

Lohnes Complex

First Fridays - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex.

Bible Study:

Post-poned until further notice.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Post-poned until further notice.

Reconciliation:

By request.

Marriages:

Six months’ notice required. A year’s notice is recommended.

Baptisms:

Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

Family Connections:

At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.

St. Vincent de Paul:

To assist those in need. Call 638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

August 19th – August 20th, 2023

Regular Sunday	\$1,482.50
Loose Offering	113.00
Building Fund	20.00
Mass Stipends	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul	20.00

MASS INTENTIONS

No mass intentions from **August 28th to September 1st**.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

September 2	
Art Hall	Eileen Moore
September 3	
Calvin Gillis	Donna Mitchell
Communion to the sick – Tony Griffin	

PARISH OUTREACH: This committee, consisting of, Marie Pennell (709-388-5090), Gerard Deveaux (709-638-4411), Pat Moore (709-785-2440), and Tony Griffin (709-632-5755) are offering to bring communions and provide a pastoral visit to those who wish to have this ongoing contact. They are also exploring social activities for the parish as a whole. Please support them in their efforts. Please call them if you or a family member wish to avail of this service.

OFFICE CLOSURE: The parish office will be closed from **August 28th to September 1st**. Please feel free to send an email to curlingparish@hotmail.com or leave a voicemail for any inquiries and requests. Regular office hours will resume on **September 4th**.

EMERGENCY COVERAGE IN THE ABSENCE OF

THE PRIESTS OF THE DIOCESE: The priests of the diocese will be gone for an extended period for their annual retreat and some much-needed professional development (Study Days) from **Sunday, August 20th to Saturday, September 2nd. Bishop Emeritus John Corriveau, OFM Cap.** Has generously offered to provide pastoral services in case of emergencies (funerals and anointings) during this time. He can be reached at **Cathedral residence (709) 634-5161**. Because he is providing for the entire region (from Deer Lake to the Bay of Islands), it is unsure when and if he can provide daily Mass. Please consult the Cathedral Parish’s social media platforms or phone the Cathedral Parish office between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for daily updates on weekday Masses. **For those who are looking to attend Mass during the weekend (August 26th and 27th) Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 11 a.m. and at All Hallows’ at 9:30 a.m.**

PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS ON RETREAT:

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience Your presence in the Sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for Your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of Your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of Your Divine Grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS:

Soon our children will be returning to school. This is a time of great excitement, with numerous trips to the store to stock up school supplies, clothes, and other essentials. We would like to be part of your family’s return-to-school plans, dedicating the Sunday morning, September 3rd Mass to the families of our parish. We ask all our children to bring their backpacks (old or new, empty or full, it doesn’t matter) so that the priest can bless them and bless the children as well. Please mark your calendars.

GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT GROUP:

NL Health Services Western Zone will be offering an 8-week Grief & Bereavement Group (in-person) at Western Long-Term Care in Corner Brook. An online group will be held during the winter of 2024. This group is free and is open to anyone that has experienced the loss of a loved one. Preregister by calling **Sandra** at **784-2700 ext. 2669**.

SOWING THE SEEDS: September 15th - 17th,

Basilica Parish Conference Rooms, St. John’s - Connect with members from throughout the province, meet our youth representatives, learn more about our partners and ongoing projects. The weekend will include time to reflect on our role in caring for creation and ecological justice; youth engagement; discussion on synodal leadership; focused time on the development of diocesan councils, their roles, and the resolution process; and a kick off to the fall campaign. If you are interested in participating, please contact Patricia Walsh Warren, Animator for the Newfoundland and Labrador, pwalsh@devp.org

WESTERN ZONE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS:

Looking for meaningful ways to spend your spare time and feel a sense of purpose? The Western Zone of Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services (formerly Western Health) is looking for volunteers. You will get the opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our residents, patients, and clients. Spending time with volunteers makes our residents and patients happier and they feel less lonely. Share your skills, knowledge, and time. Work in a gift shop. Join an auxiliary. Prepare afternoon treats for palliative care patients and their families. Read to patients and residents. Be a dining companion. Plant a garden. Care for plants. Provide musical entertainment. There are many ways you can volunteer. If you are interested call 709 784 5369 or email volunteerresources@westernheath.nl.ca to find out more. You too will benefit as you will meet new people and experience personal satisfaction.

HUMOUR:

