

December 15th, 2024: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

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PARKING LOT SIGNS:

Remember we have new parking lot signs, to ensure the safety and well-being of all members of our parish. These signs clearly indicate the No Parking Fire Lane, the Handicapped parking area, as well as how to properly enter and exit the parking lot. Please obey all signs to ensure a safe parking environment.

December 15th, 2024
3rd Sunday of Advent

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ



Parish Information

Pastor: Fr. Lee Lainey

Office Administrator: Roseann Janes

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

465 Curling Street

Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8

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www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

e-transfers:

sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com

Password "Church"

Note: include your envelope #

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am. **No mass on Dec. 28 & on the 29 at 10:30a.m. at Holy Redeemer only.**

Weekday Mass:

Tuesday to Friday 10a.m. **None on Dec. 26 & 27 or Jan 2**
Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.

Lohnes Complex*

First Friday of each month - 2 pm

***Note:** No mass at the church on this day.

Bible Study:

To be determined at a later date.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Postponed 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 709-638-9010.

**RECEIVED WITH THANKS
on December 7 & 8**

Regular Sunday	1986.00
Loose Offering	63.10
Parish Dues	190.00
Envelope Cost Contributions	10.00
Building Fund	65.00
Christmas	20.00
Advent Folders	182.00
Votive Candles	20.00
Sunday Missals	18.00
Mass Stipends	10.00
Shepherds Fund	30.00
In memory Flowers	45.00

MASS INTENTIONS Dec. 17 – Dec. 22

Dec. 17	The Late Florence O’Keefe
Dec. 19	The Late Joseph & Sylvia Hickey

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

December 21	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Art Hall	John Carroll
December 22	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Wayne Dicks	Margaret Dalley
Communion to the sick – John Carroll	

HOLIDAY OFFICE/CHURCH HOURS:

The church and office **will be closed** from Dec. 26 to 29, and Jan. 2 & 3, there will be no Mass on these days, but the Lohnes Complex Mass will be held Jan. 3 at 2pm.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The next meeting will be held Dec. 17th, 6:30pm at the Church.

BISHOP O’REILLY ASSEMBLY 0624 MEETING:

There will be a **meeting** at All Hallows Parish Humber Road Corner Brook on Tuesday December 17th at 7:45 P.M. could Sir Knights please try to attend.

ADVENT PENTENTIAL SERVICE:

Advent Penitential Service will be held Thursday, December 19th at 7pm at our church.

JUBILEE OF HOPE MASS:

Remember the **Jubilee of Hope mass** at Holy Redeemer on the 29th of December at 10:30a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS CORRECTION:

Raise your voice in song this Christmas Eve. Come join the Folk and Sunday choirs as they sing carols **inside** our church on Christmas Eve at 6:30p.m., for about 30 minutes before mass starts. We will have the words printed out for all who would like to sing. We look forward to seeing you there.

GIANT GIFT BASKET TICKETS:

Out of the 500 tickets that were for sale, all have sold. After some expenses, we brought in \$4649.??

A tremendous thank you to all the parishioners for donating prizes and helping sell or buy tickets. You did such an amazing job that we had none left to sell at the other store locations.

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY:

Stocking Stuffers:

This is the **last weekend** that SSVP will be accepting stocking stuffers for their Christmas Hampers. A list of suggested gift donations/gift cards can be found at the back of the parish along with the collection box. It is tax deductible and can be a cash donation. If you wish to sponsor a hamper or help out contact the Society at 709-638-9010. We are sincerely appreciative and grateful for your ongoing generosity.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS MASS:

Christmas:

December 24th, 2024,

4:30pm - *Our Lady Star of the Sea*

7:00pm – Sacred Heart Parish

December 25th, 2024:

11:00am – Sacred Heart Parish

December 29, 2024: JUBILEE OF HOPE

10:30a.m. - *Holy Redeemer Cathedral.*

New Years:

December 31st, 2024:

4:30pm – Sacred Heart Parish

January 1st, 2025:

11:00am – Sacred Heart Parish

SYMPATHY: is extended to the family & friends of Sr. Nellie Pomroy R.S.M., she was a professor at Grenfell College in Corner Brook during the 1970's and served as Principal thereafter. She lived by the motto: I do it all for you, My God. We pray for her and for all the lives she touched.

POTLUCK & GIFT BASKET TICKET DRAW:

Today, **Sunday, December 15th at 5pm** we will be having a **potluck at Sacred Heart School Cafeteria**. This will be our parishes Christmas Gathering and we shall also celebrate Father Lainey’s Birthday **AND** we will also have the ticket draw for the Giant Gift Basket. Please come and attend if you can.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you wish to donate towards Christmas flowers in a loved one’s name, add the envelope with their name to the collection or contact the office. We will print the list closer to Christmas.

Reflection:

Joy

*There is a clear note of joy in today’s liturgy.
Joy is a blend of laughter and tears.*

It consists in having a love affair with life.

*It is having a heart aglow with warmth
for all one’s companions on the road of life.*

*It is looking for the happiness that comes in
small packages, knowing that big packages
are few and far between.*

*It is making the most of the present,
enjoying what is at hand right now.*

*Joy is love bubbling over into life.
And it can coexist with pain.*

*Joy is the flag we fly when Christ,
the Prince of Peace,
has taken up residence in our hearts.*