

July 26th, 2026: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

It is a joy, at any age, but especially when we are no longer young, to discover, as John Paul I said, that we are the recipients “of undying love on the part of God. We know: he has always his eyes open on us, even when it seems to be dark. He is our father; even more he is our mother” (Angelus, 10 September 1978). Even if it does not come naturally to think this way, the truth is that even in old age we do not cease to be sons and daughters; therefore, the invitation to return to the arms of God — whose love is both paternal and maternal — remains worthwhile at any age.

For many, the discovery of God’s tenderness takes place over the course of their lives, sometimes even in its final stages. Indeed, unlike in the past, it is increasingly common to reach old age without having had a genuine experience of faith. In such cases, old age — beginning with the questions that arise with greater urgency during this season of life — can become the right time to begin or resume a spiritual life. On this new journey, one can recognize that God, as Saint Augustine says, “is a mother because he cherishes, because he nourishes, because he nurses, because he protects” (Commentary on Psalm 27, II, 18). It is an awareness that helps us not to feel ashamed of the fragility that emerges and also to understand that we are always in need of one another and in need of attention and care. To God, who draws near to us and whom we learn to recognize in his tenderness, we can now turn with filial trust in prayer. It is never too late to begin turning to him. It can be a great gift for everyone.

Dear elderly men and women, Pope Francis spoke of you as a “new people” (Catechesis, 23 February 2022), since the number of older adults has never been so large in human history. It is, therefore, more important than ever to reflect with you, this “new people,” on what our vocation might be when fragility — the human person’s companion from birth — seems to take over. I would like to say to you: do not be afraid of fragility! It is precisely this weakness that holds within itself a new potential that also illuminates the other stages of life. Indeed, when “we acknowledge our fragility, our hearts become open to supporting one another and to invoking the One who can grant what no human power can ensure: the profound reconciliation of hearts and, with it, true peace” (Meeting with the Algerian community, Basilica of Our Lady of Africa, Algiers, 13 April 2026).

This is how we can live out our old age as Christians: “fragile” yet at the same time “called.” A man and a woman can, in fact, be born anew in old age (cf. Jn 3:4-6) and exclaim, with the prophet: “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength” (Is 30:15). This strength can become an invitation not to resort to the ways of arrogance and power to ensure human coexistence, but to the ways of reconciliation and true peace. In this time, so harshly marked by the violence of war and social unrest, many wonder what the world in which their grandchildren will grow up will be like. I urge you, dear friends, to join me in praying earnestly that peace may soon come to the whole world. Dear elderly brothers and sisters, I thank you for supporting me every day with your prayers, especially when you recite the Holy Rosary. I return this gratitude from the bottom of my heart and leave you with this prayer: may the Lord always renew us in faith, hope and love — He who never forgets us!

From the Vatican, 15 June 2026
LEO PP. XIV

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July 26th, 2026
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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**

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sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com
Password "Church"

Note: include your envelope #
Pre-authorized debit can be arranged with your
own bank – call us for our banking info.

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am.

Weekday Mass: Tuesday to Friday 10:00a.m.

BAD WEATHER – please call the office to verify if mass is cancelled & office closed.

Lohnes Complex*
Reconciliation:
Marriages:
Baptisms:
Family Connections:
St. Vincent de Paul:

First Friday of each month at 2pm. ***Sept. to June**
Before Mass or by request.
Six months’ notice required. A year’s notice is recommended.
Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.
At www.rcchurch.com you will find a link to family connections.
To assist those in need. Call 709-638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

July 18 & 19, 2026

Regular Sunday	1435.00
Loose Offering	169.50
Building Fund	25.00
Votive Candles	45.00
Sunday Missals	5.00
Living with Christ	5.00
Mass Stipends	30.00
Venezuela Earthquake Relief	345.00

MASS INTENTIONS

July 28 – Aug 2, 2026

Jul 28 -Tues.	<i>Mt. Cecelia 7pm mass</i>
Jul 29 - Wed.	The Late Frank Mullins
July 30 - Thurs	The Late Basil Donahue
July 31 – Fri.	The Late Percival Joyce
Aug. 1 – Sat.	The Late Thomas Griffin The Late Jack Hearn
Aug. 2 – Sun.	The Late Betty & Michael Aldon

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Aug. 1 – Saturday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Art Hall	Don Gallant
Aug. 2 – Sunday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Basil English	Marie Pennell
Communion to the Sick – Eileen Moore	

OFFICE CLOSED:

The office is closed on **Monday July 27th, 2026**, as the secretary will be away. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERING – God loves a cheerful giver:

This is all about giving of your time.

Are you a university or high school student who needs some volunteer hours on their resume and would like to help out in their community and meet some of your neighbors?

Do you know a retired person who has a bit of time to spare and would like to meet new people? Do you need something different to do to balance your work/home life?

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our church life, it could be maintenance of our grounds or the church itself, helping out with functions, or joining one of our committees.

Volunteering can be done at anytime and in many different ways. If you need transportation, we can help you with that. We would love to hear from you, contact the office at **709-785-5025** or at **curlingparish@hotmail.com**

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE –

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF IN VENEZUELA:

On June 24, 2026 twin earthquakes hit Venezuela. Which caused widespread damage across much of the country. Development and Peace has stepped in to help and have already donated \$50,000 in relief aide. **Anyone wishing to contribute** to the relief efforts can do so by marking a blank envelope: “Venezuela Earthquake Relief” (add your envelope #), place your donation in the Saturday or Sunday Collection. Make cheques payable to Sacred Heart Parish, so that we can send all donations together in one lump sum for this worthy cause.

SEPTEMBER DANCE:

The parish will be holding a fundraising dance on **Friday, September 11th, 2026** at the royal Canadian Legion, **\$15.00 advance tickets** and \$20.00 at the door. **Midnight Crescent** will be playing this event, and it is open to 19 years of age and up. All proceeds of the dance will go towards the church’s new heating system.

PRAYER FOR THE 6th WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY

Holy Father

Who watches over every person

Watch over me too when I am elderly.

You have revealed

your name to me in Christ,

And You were not discouraged

by my frailties.

You hold me tenderly in your hands,

And You caress my lines.

You will never forget me! (see Is 49:15).

Grant that I may not fear my weakness;

Help me learn to love it

Just as You love it.

Help me learn to listen to it

Just as You listen to it.

Help me embrace it

Just as you have chosen it-

You who, though all-powerful, clothed

yourself in humility.

May growing old strip away

all our pride and all division

So that we may live these years

united in You.

You will never forget us! (see Is 49:15)

Amen.

YARD SALE – AUGUST 1ST, 2026:

We will be having a yard sale in the Sacred Heart Church parking lot on **Saturday August 1, 2026 from 9 – 2 pm**. If the weather is not in our favour we will hold it the following Saturday, August 8 at the same time.

WALK-A-THON: September 19th, 2026:

Our walk-a-thon will take place on **Saturday, 10:30 a.m., September 19th, 2026**.

Again this year we will walk along the trails in Curling from the church parking lot. The distance to be determined at a later time.

There is a **registration form** at the back of the church for those interested in participating. Once you sign-up please take a sponsor sheet.

Come sign up for this walk in support of our parish. Remember we can issue a tax receipt for anyone who sponsors you.

REFLECTION:

At the end of the day

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a net cast into the sea which catches all kinds of fish. When it is full, the fisherman hauls it ashore. Then he sits down and sorts out the good fish from the bad. The good he keeps, the worthless he throws away. In a sense, all of us are fishers. Each day we cast our net into the sea of life. And at the end of the day, we have a catch, sometimes small, sometimes large. May we take time to sift through that catch. And may you, Lord, give us the wisdom to know what to keep and what to throw away.