

May 4, 2025: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Gospel reading is a rich and textured story that speaks of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and our commission to serve others as Jesus did.

Last week we heard that Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples in a locked room, probably in Jerusalem. In today's Gospel, the disciples are no longer in Jerusalem; they are in Galilee, returning to their work of fishing. Simon Peter is still presented in the role of leader: when he announces that he is going fishing, the other disciples follow. They spend the night fishing but are unsuccessful.

Jesus calls to them from the shore, but just as when Jesus first appeared to Mary of Magdala, the disciples do not recognize him immediately. Still, they follow the stranger's instructions and bring in a large haul of fish. It is at this point that one of the disciples (the “disciple whom Jesus loved”) realizes that Jesus is appearing to them. Upon hearing this news, Simon Peter leads the way again, jumping from the boat and swimming to shore. The other disciples follow in the boat, dragging the fish.

The disciples have brought to shore a tremendous catch of fish that Jesus has directed them to find. But once on the shore, they see that Jesus has already prepared fish and bread on a charcoal fire. Jesus directs the disciples to bring their catch of fish as well. Jesus is host at the meal that follows, feeding the disciples the bread and fish. In this detail we see allusions to the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes told in John 6.

There are also allusions in the Gospel to our gathering for the celebration of the Mass. In the Eucharist, we too are fed by Jesus in the bread and wine that have become his very Body and Blood. We also find in this story insight about the Presentation of the Gifts at Mass. The gifts we bring to the altar, bread and wine, are made from gifts that God gave first to us: grain and grapes, the fruit of the earth. God has no need of anything further. Yet God accepts the offering we bring—bread and wine, “the work of human hands”—and transforms our offering into the gift of his very presence.

After the meal, Jesus directs himself to Simon Peter. The community of John's Gospel probably looked down on Peter because of his denial of Jesus. This dialogue with Simon Peter is a reversal of Peter's three denials. Peter is forgiven. Having been restored to friendship with Jesus, Simon Peter is sent on a mission. “Feed my lambs . . . Tend my sheep . . . Feed my sheep.” These commands indicate that Peter is to be as Jesus, even unto sacrificing for the flock. As Jesus has fed Peter in this meal and as Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist, so he also sends us to follow him, asking that we offer our lives in service and sacrifice.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
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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**e-transfers:**  
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**Password "Church"**  
Note: include your envelope #

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

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

Weekday Mass: Tuesday to Friday 10a.m.

Daily mass is cancelled & Office Closed any day schools are closed due to bad weather.  
Lohnes Complex\* First Friday of each month - 2 pm Only - No morning mass.  
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 Apr. 26-27	
Regular Sunday	1450.00
Loose Offering	129.75
Building Fund	40.00
Lenten Folders	40.00
Votive Candles	69.00
Mass Stipends	120.00
Good Friday (Holy Lands)	95.00
Saint Vincent de Paul	50.00
Living with Christ	25.00

MASS INTENTIONS May 6 - 11	
May 6	The Late Mary Power
May 7	The Late Gary Seaward
May 8	The Late Theresa Joyce 7pm – Memorial Mass – Pope Francis
May 9	The Late Theresa Joyce
May 10	The Late Tom Atherton Special Intention from Eileen Moore
May 11	Mothers Day: Sarah Rose Brake & all mothers from the Brake Family

LITURGICAL MINISTERS	
May 10 – Saturday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Jerome Dicks	John Carroll
May 11 – Sunday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Veronica Stone	Barbara Neville
Communion to the Sick: Eileen Moore	

**SSVP POOR BOX COLLECTION:**

This past weekend (April 26-27, 2025) our members did the Poor Box collection at both masses at Sacred Heart Parish. A total of \$537.30 was collected and \$350.00 was in addressed envelopes. Thank you for your continued support.

**SPECIAL MEMORIAL MASS: POPE FRANCIS**

A special memorial mass will be celebrated for Pope Francis on **Thursday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** at Sacred Heart Parish. There will be **no morning mass**. All are welcome to attend.

**SACRED HEART LADIES GROUP MEETING:**

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30** in the church community room. New Members are always welcome.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:**

Our next meeting is **Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**, at 6:30pm in the church meeting room at Sacred Heart.

**SACRED HEART BINGO:**

The Sacred Heart Ladies Group would like to thank the following for their donation to our April Bingo: Stella Anthony, Arlene Beales, Donna Beales, Evelyn Beales, Coleen Boland, Diane Bennett, Loretta Bennett, Sharon Bennett, Cathy Bolt, Dorothy Brake, Marjorie Blanchard, Jeanie Brown, Karen Buckle, Eileen Buckle, Sandy Buckle, Hilda Butt, Joan Butt, Nora Burton, Ester Byrne, Roberta Canning, Christine Chadderton, Jane Coleman, Lynn Coombs, Gertrude Daye, Jerome Dicks, Jennifer Dolimount, Vivian Donahue, Madonna English, Evelyn Ezekiel, Pat Jones, Joan Penney, Brian Sparkes, Veronica Stone, Kay Musseau, Barbara Neville, Judy Brake, Ed Brake, Theresa Dobbin, Linda Basha, and Margie Pennell.

The Winner of the 50/50 ticket draw was Jerome Dicks. Our April bingo brought in \$896.55. Thank you to everyone.

**PRAYER: REGINA CAELI:** This prayer **replaces** the Angelus during the 50 days of Easter. Prayed 6 am noon and 6pm daily.

**Call:** Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

**Response:** The Son you merited to bear, alleluia,

**Call:** Has risen as he said, alleluia.

**Response:** Pray to God for us, alleluia.

**Call:** Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

**Response:** For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia. Let us pray.

God of life, you have given joy to the world by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Through the prayers of his mother, the Virgin Mary, bring us to the happiness of eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**GIFT CARD TREE:** Tickets are available at the office. If you have picked up tickets to sell, please place the moneys and ticket stubs in an envelop and drop in the collection plate or at the office. If you would like to volunteer to sell them at the stores, please call the office. Remember the draw date is Father’s Day June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Thank you.

**THE ROOF FUND PLAQUE:**

Under direction of Parish Council, we will be honoring Father Jim Robertson’s wishes from 2022, to have a plaque made for the church. It will be a plaque for those donors that donated over \$1000 towards the roof and it will be In Memory of a loved one. We have most of the names, but please contact the office or Tony Griffin, to re-confirm your names and the name of the person you want on the plaque.

**WELCOME:**

During Easter Vigil April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Darren Barnes become a full member of the Catholic Church. The Sacred Heart Parish community welcomes you.

**SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE MASS FOR THE FAMILIES AFFECTED BY THE FILIPINO FESTIVAL TRAGEDY:** Bishop Bart will celebrate a special **commemorative Mass** on **Monday, May 5, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. @** the Cathedral for those who lost their lives, were injured or are mourning due to the tragic events at the Lapu Filipino Festival in Vancouver. We invite everyone to come together in support of the Filipino Community in our area.

***Reflection: Believing in People***  
It can happen that we lose interest in people, and even become blind to their strengths, when we discover their limitations.  
During his passion Jesus discovered the limitations of Peter.  
Yet he did not write him off.  
He continued to believe in him, and in time he came good.  
Like Peter, we are weak human beings, who are inconsistent in our beliefs.  
We need someone who understands our weaknesses,  
who realises that it may take time for us to overcome them,  
and who doesn’t write us off because we don’t produce the goods at once.