

September 6th, 2026: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from a chapter of Matthew’s Gospel, which is sometimes called the “discourse on the Church” or the “church order” discourse. In this part of Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus speaks more directly about matters of Church discipline and order. In today’s reading we find one of only three instances in which Jesus uses the word church in Matthew’s Gospel. In Matthew’s record of Jesus’ teaching, we can hear echoes of the kinds of issues faced by the early Christian community.

In the first part of the “discourse on the Church” (Matthew 18:1-14), Matthew addresses the Christian community’s concerns about rank. Jesus responds to the disciples’ question about who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus indicates that those who wish to enter the kingdom of heaven must be like children, and he cautions those leaders who might lead these “little ones” astray. He also responds with the parable of the lost sheep, indicating how God will seek out and bring back those “little ones” who have strayed.

In today’s Gospel reading, Matthew 18:15-20, Jesus addresses a common occurrence in the Christian community: a dispute between two members of the Church. Jesus outlines a procedure for settling such matters fairly. The victim should privately address the offender and attempt to resolve the dispute without outside involvement. If that fails, then the victim should bring two or three witnesses and confront the offender again. If the dispute is still unresolved, the matter should be brought to the attention of the entire community. If the offender refuses to adhere to the reparations prescribed by the community, then Jesus suggests that the offender may be expelled from the Church.

Jesus does not discourage disagreement within the community of the Church; he acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations. If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God’s assistance.

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COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY LIFE - MASS:

From Bishop Bart van Roijen:

There is a Catholic presence at Grenfell Campus in Corner Brook. **Mass** is celebrated every **second Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.** in the multi-faith room, **starting Tuesday, October 13th**, followed by a faith discussion over lunch. Please look for our booth, manned by some of our students, at the “Get Involved Fair” on **September 16th** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

September 6th, 2026
23rd 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

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

www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

e-transfers:
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 11:00 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* First Friday of each month at 2pm. *Sept. to June
Reconciliation: Before Mass or 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

August 29 & 30, 2026

Regular Sunday	1562.00
Loose Offering	97.00
Building Fund	10.00
Votive Candles	75.75
Mass Stipends	20.00
Oil Furnace Donation	40.00
St. Vincent de Paul	20.00
Living with Christ	43.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Sept. 8 - 13, 2026

Sept. 8 - Tues.	The Late Kimberley Ann Perrett
Sept. 9 – Wed.	The Late Robyn Griffin
Sept. 12 - Sat.	The Late Rod Blanchard
Sept. 13 - Sun.	The Late Michael Buckle The Late Sheldon MacDonald

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sept. 12 – Saturday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
John Noseworthy	Art Hall
Sept. 13 – Sunday	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Jerome Dicks	Calvin Gillis
Communion to the Sick – Tony Griffin	

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Liturgy of the Word for Children will start **Sunday, September 13, 2026**. Registration forms for Sacramental Preparation will be available on that date as well.

PARISH CHOIR – NEW MEMBERS:

Come lift your voice in song and become a member of our choir. If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact **Christine Chadderton (709-632-1919)** or the parish office.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The next meeting of Parish Council will be **Tuesday, September 22nd, 2026**, at **6:30pm** in the church meeting room.

DIOCESAN PARISH RENEWAL COMMITTEE:

Update from Bishop Bart van Roijen:

Among the five conversations that will begin this Fall, the Diocesan Parish Renewal Committee will lead the conversation on possible changes to the structures and operations of our diocese, parishes and Parish Pastoral Councils that will enhance conversations and participation within each parish.

By trying to move away “from behind closed doors”, where many conversations and decisions are presently made, this ongoing conversation between bishop, priests and laity, and within each parish, acknowledges the gift, voice and activity of the Holy Spirit at work in each and every person and the need for collaboration and co-responsibility in building a vibrant Christian community.

Conversations will also focus on the renewal of the parish as a place of hospitality, healing and mercy, a place of discernment and formation and a place to encounter Christ as a pilgrim people.

HOLIDAY – LABOUR DAY:

The office is closed this coming Monday September 7th, 2026, as it is a statutory holiday. Enjoy the long weekend.

SEPTEMBER DANCE:

Get your dancing shoes on and join us this coming Friday, **September 11th, 2026 (doors open at 8pm**, music starts at 9pm) at the Royal Canadian Legion, **\$15.00 advance tickets** and \$20.00 at the door. **Midnight Crescent** will be playing this event, open to 19+. We still have some **Tickets available** at the parish office (709-785-5025) or from Elizabeth Carew at 709-660-3509 or Marie Pennell at 709-388-5090 or marie.pennell.mp@gmail.com

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

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

We will be walking along the trails in Curling from the church parking lot.

Don’t forget to sign up at the back of the church and grab a sponsor sheet. Remember we can issue a tax receipt for anyone who sponsors you.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK/OUTREACH:

As part of our Outreach program, Communion to the Sick **will begin again** on **Thursday, September 10th, 2026**, following morning Mass.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help out with this worthy endeavour. Contact the office if you would like to join.

If you know of anyone or wish to be added to the list to receive communion on Thursdays after morning mass, please contact our office (709-785-5025).

SEPTEMBER BINGO:

The Sacred Heart Ladies Group will be holding bingo on **Sunday September 27th, 2026, at 2-4pm**. at the **Sacred Heart Elementary School** in the cafeteria. Doors open at **1pm**. Remember this is a scent free area. Thank you.

FALL SALE – OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

The church is having a fall sale on **Sunday, September 27th, 2026** starting at **10a.m to 3pm**. They will be holding a lunch for \$7.00 and will include soup, sandwiches & desert. All are welcome to attend.

REFLECTION: Harden not your heart

“O’ that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.”

From a spiritual point of view, hardness of heart is one of the worst things that can happen to anyone.

To adopt a hard-hearted attitude is to maim oneself.

A hard heart can’t feel, can’t respond, can’t love.

A hard heart can’t experience joy.

A hard heart is a closed heart.

A hard heart is a barren heart.

A soft heart, on the other hand, is a blessing.

A soft heart can receive and can respond.

It can be saddened but it can also be deliriously happy.

Softened by the rain of God’s grace, and warmed by the sun of his love, the human heart can be turned from a desert into a garden.