

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024: 2nd Sunday of Advent

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

This week and next, our Gospel readings invite us to consider John the Baptist and his relationship to Jesus. John the Baptist appears in the tradition of the great prophets, preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. To affirm this, Luke quotes at length from the prophet Isaiah. John baptizes for repentance and for forgiveness of sins, preparing the way for God's salvation.

The three Synoptic Gospels—Mark, Matthew, and Luke—attest to the importance of the baptism of John in preparing for Jesus. Only the Gospel of Luke, however, extends the connection between these two men to their birth. The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel contain the Infancy Narrative, which tells about the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. These stories set the stage for the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in chapter 3.

The evangelist Luke is the author of the Gospel that bears his name, and he also wrote the Acts of the Apostles as a continuation of the story of Jesus and the Church. In these two works, Luke's sense of time and history emerges. He identifies three epochs of salvation history: the time before Christ, the time of Christ, and the time of the Church and the Holy Spirit. In today's Gospel reading, as elsewhere, John the Baptist is presented as the figure who bridges the time before Christ and prepares the way for Christ's own ministry.

In today's Gospel we also note Luke's attention to political and historical detail. Luke shows that salvation is for all people and situated in world events. Therefore, Luke lists the political and religious leaders at the time of John's appearance in the desert. Salvation is understood as God's breaking into this political and social history.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

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

**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**2nd 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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**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 November 30 & December 1	
Regular Sunday	1805.00
Loose Offering	94.20
Building Fund	175.00
Advent Folder	235.00
Votive Candles	20.00
Sunday Missals	58.00
Mass Stipends	60.00
Shepherds Fund	30.00
St. Vincent de Paul	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS Dec. 10 – Dec. 15	
Dec. 14	The Late Bridget & Jordan Blackwood The Late William & Winnifred Lynch The Late Mrs. Susan Canning
Dec. 15	The Late Harold Pennell

LITURGICAL MINISTERS	
December 14	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Tony Griffin	Marie Pennell
December 15	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Basil English	Wayne Dicks
Communion to the sick – Tony Griffin	

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:**  
The next meeting will be held Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at the Church.

**ADVENT PENTENTIAL SERVICE:**  
Advent Penitential Service will be held Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at our church.

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS MASS:**  
**Christmas:**  
**December 24<sup>th</sup>**, 2024,  
*4:30pm - Our Lady Star of the Sea*  
7:00pm – Sacred Heart Parish  
**December 25<sup>th</sup>**, 2024:  
11:00am – Sacred Heart Parish  
***December 29, 2024: JUBILEE OF HOPE***  
*10:30a.m. - Holy Redeemer Cathedral.*

**New Years:**  
**December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024:**  
4:30pm – Sacred Heart Parish  
**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025:**  
11:00am – Sacred Heart Parish

**READERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS, & ALTAR SERVERS LIST:**  
The new list indicating the Readers, Eucharistic Minister, Alter Servers, etc. is available at the back of the church.  
Those of you who are involved in these ministries are asked to pick up your copy **and** to check off your name to indicate that you have your copy.

**SYMBOLON MEETING:**  
Our **final** meeting in December is on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the church. We look forward to seeing you there. January start date will be announced at a later time.

**PARKING LOT SIGNAGE:**  
New signs have been erected on the parish parking lot 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.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS:**  
Raise your voice in song this Christmas Eve. Come join the Folk and Sunday choirs as they sing carols outside 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.

**SOCIETY ST. VINCENT de PAUL:**  
During the month of November, SSVp made 37 furniture deliveries and picked up 47 furniture donations. We distributed 17 mattresses, 17 boxsprings, 11 dressers, 8 loveseats and 6 kitchen tables, among many other items. Of the 37 deliveries, 16 were to households of New Canadians from the Philippines, India, Nigeria, Vietnam, South Sudan and Ukraine. Total volunteer hours for the month were 137. Thanks to our members and friends for your valuable time and efforts.

**Poor Box Collection:**  
This past weekend (Nov. 30 - Dec. 1) the Society members took up the Poor Box collection at both masses at Sacred Heart Parish. A total of \$557.25 was collected.

An additional \$550 was collected specifically in aid of our 2024 Christmas Hampers. Receipts covering this amount will be issued directly by St. Vincent de Paul. We thank everyone for their generosity.

**Mary's Kitchen:**  
served an average of 39 people each week during November. Thanks to Sacred Heart Parish for helping out last month. Total volunteer hours were 164.

**GIFT BASKET TICKET DRAW:**  
Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**GIANT GIFT BASKET TICKETS:**  
There are **only 15 tickets** out of the 500 not returned to the parish office, ***we need the tickets returned by Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>***, Remember the draw is on the 15th, in one week. If you haven’t dropped them off, please contact the office and we will arrange to pick them up from you, your help with this is greatly appreciated. As of the posting of this bulletin, **we have no more tickets available to sell.**

**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.

***Reflection:                    A Lesson from the trees***

Not long ago the trees were loaded with golden leaves. Though pretty to look at, they robbed me of the world beyond. But now that the leaves have fallen, I am able to look through the skeletal branches to the deep blue sky beyond. Teach us, Good Lord, how to take care of our material needs without neglecting our spiritual needs; how to take care of ourselves without neglecting others; and how to live joyfully in this world without losing sight of the world to come.