

January 12, 2025: Baptism of the Lord

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In today's Gospel, as in the other Gospel accounts of Jesus' baptism, we hear John the Baptist address the confusion of the people who thought that John might be the Messiah. In response, John contrasts the baptism that he performs with the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that someone will come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. The type of baptism that John performed was not yet a Christian Baptism; it was a preparation for Christian Baptism through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father.

The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another “epiphany.” On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. In Luke's Gospel, all three members of the Trinity are manifested here: God the Father in the voice, the Holy Spirit descending, and Jesus the Son. At the beginning of his Gospel, Luke is communicating to us important information about the identity of Jesus. In the verses that follow, Luke lists the genealogy of Jesus, tracing Jesus' ancestry back to the first person, Adam, who is also identified as the son of God. We, the children of Adam and Eve, are again made children of God through Baptism.

[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

The next parish council meeting will be January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 6:30pm at the church.

**DONATIONS – Tax Receipts for 2024:** Revenue Canada has announced that from January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 any donations you make to the parish can be claimed on your 2024 Income Tax reporting. You don't need to do this but if you want to add those donations to your 2024 taxes, please contact the office and let us know. The Parish will issue the regular tax receipts as usual.

January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Baptism of the Lord  
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](mailto:curlingparish@hotmail.com)

[www.sacredheartrcparish.ca](http://www.sacredheartrcparish.ca)

**e-transfers:**  
[sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com](mailto:sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com)  
**Password "Church"**  
Note: include your envelope #

Diocesan website: [rcchurch.com](http://rcchurch.com)

**Weekend Masses:**

Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am.

**Weekday Mass:**

Tuesday to Friday 10a.m.

**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](http://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  
January 4 & 5, 2025

Regular Sunday	1444.00
Loose Offering	45.00
Parish Dues	220.00
Envelope Cost Contribution	70.00
Building Fund	125.00
New Years Day/Solemnity of Mary	160.00
Christmas	20.00
Advent Folders	20.00
Votive Candles	40.00
Sunday Missals	44.75
In Memory	140.00
Mass Stipends	10.00

MASS INTENTIONS Jan. 14 – 19

Jan. 15	The Late Samuel Cobb
Jan. 16	The Late Frederick Hayes
Jan. 17	The Late Jack Neville
Jan. 18	The Late Mercedes Wells The Late Frederick Hayes

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

January 18	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Jacqueline Neville	John Carroll
January 19	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Dan Park	Margaret Dalley
Communion to the Sick – Tony Griffin	

SACRED HEART BINGO:

Our next bingo is Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Sacred Heart Elementary School cafeteria. Doors open at 1:00. Bingo will start at 2:00. See you there!

**SYMBOLON MEETING:** The next session is on **Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** in the church. We look forward to seeing you there.

**JUBILEE 2025 – PILGRIMS OF HOPE:**

“Since we are justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing in the glory of God... Hope does not disappoint, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us” (Rom 5:1-2.5).

Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross: “For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life” (Rom 5:19). That life becomes manifest in our own life of faith, which begins with Baptism, develops in openness to God’s grace and is enlivened by a hope constantly renewed and confirmed by the working of the Holy Spirit.

*Excerpt of Letter from: Pope Francis*



Is a 5-day program facilitated by mental health professionals and centered on Jesus Christ.

Grief to Grace helps those who have endured neglect, physical, emotional, sexual, and/or spiritual abuse in their family of origin, their community, from spouses/partners, and/or coworkers or supervisors, find healing and journey to wholeness. The next program in Canada is **May 20- 25 in Kelowna, BC.**

For more information you can email: [griegtograckelowna@gmail.com](mailto:griegtograckelowna@gmail.com) or make a confidential call to [250-808-6403](tel:250-808-6403). Diocese of Nelson, Kelowna, BC

**SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT de PAUL:**

The next meeting is **Wednesday, January 22** at 2pm, lower level of the Cathedral. Important issues will be discussed so members are asked to make every effort to attend. As always, we welcome anyone who has spare time to volunteer to come along to the meeting and find out what we're about.

**Monthly Activity Report:**

Mary's Kitchen: The month of December was busy as usual. 128 clients were served and our volunteer hours totalled 128.

Christmas Hamper Program: On December 21 we delivered our largest ever number of hampers, approximately 140, to various size households. And, as it always seems to be, a winter storm was there to greet us on the day of delivery! Ha. So, a big thank-you to all our SSVP members and friends who braved the elements to ensure families got their hampers. And thanks to everyone for your donations.

Furniture: From December 1-31, we made 23 furniture deliveries and picked up 32 furniture donations. 7 mattresses and boxsprings, 8 dressers, 4 loveseats and 4 kitchen tables were distributed, among many other items. Of the 23 deliveries, 11 were to households of New Canadians from other countries. We did storage cleanup, furniture repair, bagging of bedding and other assorted tasks. SSVP members & friends contributed a total of 107 volunteer hours for the month. As we begin the New Year, a reminder that your ongoing support is valued and appreciated. You are making a difference in the lives of people, in particular our New Canadian families, and we can't thank you enough.

**CHRISTMAS EVE PARKING – THANK YOU:**

Thank you to Pat Moore, Derm Traverse, Wayne Jones, Damian Coombs, Basil English and Mike Canning for the super job of directing traffic in the parking lot on Christmas Eve and would like to also thank for our congregation for support in this effort. A thank you to the Bay of Islands Search and Rescue for always lending us their traffic safety gear for this occasion, it is very much appreciated.

**MONTHLY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:**

Starting the end of this month we will announce parishioner’s birthdays. If you wish your birthday to be announced, please call the office and we will add your name to the list. If you do not call and give the name, we will not announce it. This will happen each month.

**Reflection:      Sharing in the Lord’s ministry**

Lord Jesus, touch our eyes so that we may see the signs of your presence in our lives and in the world.  
Touch our ears so that we may hear your word.  
Touch our tongues so that we may profess our faith.  
Touch our hands so that we may give and receive.  
Touch our feet so that we may walk in your paths.  
Touch our minds so that we may understand your ways.  
Touch our wills so that they may be in tune with your will.  
Touch our hearts so that we may bring your love to our brothers and sisters, to the praise and glory of God.

Amen. Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, p.66, 67