January 1, 2026: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
World Day of Peace

Message for World Day of Peace 2026

"Peace be with you all: Towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace"

"Peace be with you all. Towards an unarmed and disarming peace" is the theme of Pope Leo XIV's Message for the World Day of Peace 2026 which will be celebrated on January 1, 2026. The Holy Father invites everyone to welcome peace and become witnesses to it because it "exists; it wants to dwell within us. It has the gentle power to enlighten and expand our understanding; it resists and overcomes violence. Peace is a breath of the eternal". Christians must become witnesses, and quoting St. Augustine, the Pope invites them " to forge an unbreakable bond with peace". We are all invited to walk this path traced by the Risen One. He himself embodied unarmed peace because "his was an unarmed struggle".

Peace is a gift that must be safeguarded, in fact if it "is not a reality that is lived, cultivated and protected, then aggression spreads into domestic and public life" and one can fall into the trap of thinking that in order to achieve it, one must prepare for war by embodying the "irrationality of relations between nations, built not on law, justice and trust, but on fear and domination by force".

The Holy Father recalls that St. Augustine recommends "not to burn bridges or persist in reproach, but to prefer listening and, where possible, engaging in discussions with others."

In order to achieve disarming peace, we must embody meekness because "goodness is disarming. Perhaps this is why God became a child".

Peace comes from evangelical humility. A child, in all its fragility, could change hearts, question our choices, and lay down our weapons.

Pope Leo reminds us that peace is possible, it is not a utopia, and that ecumenical and interreligious dialogue are privileged ways to achieve it. Nor must we forget to embark on "the disarming path of diplomacy, mediation, and international law," which requires mutual trust, loyalty, and responsibility in the commitments we make.

"This is the peace of the risen Christ – a peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. It comes from God who loves us all unconditionally "

Pope Leo XIV

January 1st, 2026

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World Day of Peace

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 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.
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
Dec. 24/25 & 27

Regular Sunday	635.00
Loose Offering	848.75
Parish Dues	200.00
Envelope Cost Contributions	15.00
Christmas	2077.00
Advent Folders	518.00
Votive Candles	86.55
Sunday Missals	15.00
Christmas Flowers	35.00

MASS INTENTIONS
Dec. 31 – Jan. 4, 2026

Dec. 31 – Wed.	See attached list
Jan. 1/26 – Thurs.	See Attached List
Jan. 2/26 – Fri.	Lohnes Complex – 2pm only The Late Shirley Dunphy

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Jan. 3 – Saturday	
Reader	**Eucharistic Minister**
Tony Griffin	Joe Byrne
Jan. 4 – Sunday	
Reader	**Eucharistic Minister**
Victoria Murphy	Eileen Moore
Communion to the Sick: Barbara Neville	

NEW YEAR'S MASS INTENTIONS

NEW YEARS EVE

The Late Dominic Park.
The Late Thomas Perrett.
The Late Ron & Bride Greene &
The Late Francis & Theresa Deveaux.
The Late Thomas & Edith Hackett

NEW YEARS DAY

The Joyce Brothers.
The Griffin Family.
The Greene, Hackett
& Deveaux Families.

THANK YOU DANCE:
Our parish is holding a dance to say thank you to all the parishioners who helped with all our work, fundraising and just overall support of the church during this past year. It is being organized by the Ladies Group and the Fundraising Committee and will be held on Saturday, **January 10th**, at the Westmount Club. **Doors open at 8pm**. To register please sign the sheet at the back of the church or call Madonna at 634 5141. We hope to see you there.

CHRISTMAS PARKING:
We would like to thank the following for all their help in maintaining order in the parking lot during Christmas Eve service: Jim Griffin, Pat Moore, Wayne Jones, Derm Traverse, Basil English, and Damian Coombs.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:
Donated In Memory for:

Thomas Sr., Annie, & Brian Griffin
& George Hynes - From the Griffin Family
Jack, Joan & John Hearn – From Eileen Moore

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
The parish council meeting is rescheduled for **January 20th, 2026 at 6:30pm** in the church meeting room.

JANUARY MASS INTENTIONS:
We have a lot of dates available for anyone needing a mass intention said during the month of January. Contact the office or put the request in the collection.

MISSING TOOLS:
Please return any tools that you have borrowed from the Church. We now have none on site as they are all missing and we really don't want to have to buy any new ones.

NO MASS:
Father Lainey will be **away** from **January 5th to January 8th, 2026.** There will be no mass during these days.
Mass will resume on the morning of Friday, January 9th, 2026.

LADIES GROUP MEETING:
The Ladies Group will hold their monthly meeting on **Tuesday, January 6th, 2026** (time to be determined) in the church meeting room. New members are always welcome.

2026 ENVELOPES:
2026 envelopes are available at the back of the church.

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Way back in 431, there was a bitter controversy among theologians over the role of Mary in the Catholic Church. They debated the question: Who is Mary in God's plan?

In the end, the bishops declared that Mary is really the mother of Jesus and Jesus is really God. So it must be said that Mary is the Mother of God. The oldest Christian greeting of Mary was proclaimed when Mary's relative Elizabeth called her "Mother of my Lord." When Elizabeth welcomed Mary, she recognized both the great privilege God had given Mary and Mary's great faith in accepting it.

For centuries, Mary has been praised because she believed. She is Mother of God because of her faith in God. The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, celebrates Mary's faith and trust in God alone. The Church wants us to imitate her faith.

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