

**December 25 & 26, 2021 – Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family**

Oh, we're just getting started . . .

"We now come to the hardest work of Christmas.

"What, you thought the hard work was done? You thought the hard work was finished in choosing the gifts, baking the cookies, cleaning the house, watching the diet, and otherwise surviving what one journalist calls 'our annual ordeal of fun'? You thought the hard work was getting yourself or someone you love through the loneliness of this season that is only magnified by its artificial gaiety? You thought the hard work was reassembling your family like a stubborn jigsaw puzzle in the hope that all the pieces would fit together and stay together, if only for two or three days?

"No, the hardest work is believing that it's all true

...

"We are the community of the dream, and this is our season . . . At Christmas we insist that a message has reached us from God and more, than a message, a divine person. The dream is so real that we have erected great churches in which this message is taught and celebrated. And most important, each of us believes that, despite the daily obstructions to the contrary, the divine messenger has found his way to us with a word of hope."



***In the birth of God's Christ, the sacred is no longer some abstract concept of theological theory: at Christmas, the love of God takes on a human face; the Word of God becomes "enfleshed" in Mary's little boy, enabling us to transform our hearts in that love and re-create our world in that Word of justice and compassion. The real "work" of Christmas before us in the weeks and months and years — and lifetimes — ahead is to continue to make that love "incarnate" in our own lives and in the lives of those we love.***

*www. ConnectionsMediaWorks.com*

***Merry Christmas*** I would just like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. We give thanks for the families that could gather, and we pray for the families, that because of Covid 19, could not gather. Wherever we are we celebrate the same joy of Christmas. That joy of Christ birth. It gives us hope for this life and for the life to come. Celebrate today your love for your family wherever they may be. Spread hope. Be of good cheer. And know that you are special to the Lord. May the greatest of blessing come upon you this Christmas. Thank you for the blessings you have bestowed upon me. Merry Christmas one and all - Father Jim

**December 25 & 26, 2021**  
**Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Family**  
**Sacred Heart Parish**

**A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ**

Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Dianne Russell

**Office Hours: Office closed to the public until January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

465 Curling Street  
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8  
Tel: (709) 785-5025

curlingparish@hotmail.com  
e-transfers: [sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com)  
Password "**Church**"  
[www.sacredheartrcparish.ca](http://www.sacredheartrcparish.ca)



**Weekend Masses:** Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am  
***To Register, please call the office Tuesday to Friday between 9 am and 2 pm.***

**Mass During Week:** Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7 pm.  
Friday at 10 am.

**Daily mass is cancelled any day schools are closed due to bad weather.**

**Lohnes Complex** First Fridays - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex, ***closed to public.***

**Bible Study:** Sunday at 7pm in parish meeting room.

**Holy Hour of Adoration:** Discontinued 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 638-9010.

**Masks are again mandatory at all indoor public gatherings**  
**As well please maintain physical distancing at all times.**

**MASKS THAT COVER BOTH THE NOSE AND THE MOUTH MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES WHEN ATTENDING SERVICES OR FUNCTIONS IN THIS CHURCH.**

**RECEIVED WITH THANKS  
December 19, 2021**

Regular Sunday	\$1393.00
Building fund	16.00
Envelope Contributions	25.00
Advent	165.00
Sunday Missals	25.00
Votive	18.00
Shepherds Fund	5.00
Christmas	117.25
Flowers	40.00
Bingo	325.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Tue. 7pm	Deceased members of the Ladies Group
Wed. 7pm	Late Thomas, Edith & James Hackett
Thu. 10am	Late Alvin Parker
Fri. 4:30pm	Late Bernard & Stella Cave
Sat. 11am	Late Bridget & Jordan Blackwood
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

**PARISH DUES:** Received with thanks from Tony Griffin, Ken & Kay Hynes.

**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS:** During Christmas week the office will be **closed Tuesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday December 29<sup>th</sup>**. Reopening Thursday December 30<sup>th</sup>. The office will also be closed Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> reopening Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**SUNDAY MISSALS:** The new missals are available at the back of the Church. \$5 each.

**CONDOLENCES:** We offer our prayerful condolences to the family of the late Bill Brown husband of Regina Brown. May he rest in peace.

**CHRISTMAS WEEK SCHEDULE:** You must call the parish office before 2pm Thursday to Friday to register.

**Friday, December 31**

4:30 pm New Years Eve Mass - Curling

6:00 pm New Years Eve Mass - Benois Cove

**Saturday, January 1**

11:00 am New Years Day Mass (**VaxPass**)

**Sunday, January 2**

11:00 am Sunday Mass – Curling

**PARISHIONER CONTRIBUTIONS:** Thank you for your ongoing financial support. Please note this year's deadline for monies to be included on the 2021 tax receipt is December 29<sup>th</sup>.

**LADIES GROUP FUNDRAISING:** Congratulation to Debbie Allen the winner of the December Draw. Thanks to the following people for your donation for the December Bingo Draw; Debbie Allen, Linda Corbett, Theresa Dobbin, Rita Pye, Vivian Donahue, Margie Pennell, Regina Brown, Dorothy Brake, Sandy Buckle, Lynette Taylor, Carol Reid, Diane Bennett, Marjorie Blanchard, Marina Cashin, Roberta Canning, Marie Byrne, Helen Cook, Donna Beales, Margaret Dalley, Marie Pennell, Eileen Buckle, Karen Buckle, Edward Brake, Linda Cashin, Bill Brake, Christine Chadderton, and Hilda Butt.

**FLOWERS IN MEMORIUM:** A complete list of those who have contributed to the flower collection, and those who donations have been made in memory of, will be published next week.

**THANK YOU:** A very big thank you to everyone who helped prepare Christmas Liturgies. This was very difficult in light of changing regulations dealing with Covid 19. Thank you to musicians, cantors, choirs, sacristans, servers, ushers, readers, communion minsters, and all persons who helped in anyway. Their work has made for beautiful celebrations here at Scared Heart Parish, Thank you.

**CHURCH CLEANING:** We owe a tremendous debt to those who came forward and worked so hard at cleaning our church for the Christmas Season. Their work shows their pride in our parish. It makes this house a welcoming beautiful and clean house of God.

**THE STORY OF THE CANDY CANE:** In Indiana, a candy maker wanted to make a candy that could be a reminder of Jesus Christ, so he made the Christmas candy cane. He started off with a stick of pure white hard candy. The white color symbolized the virgin birth and the sinless nature of Jesus, and the hard candy symbolized the solid rock which was the foundation of the church, and firmness of the promises of God. The candy maker made the candy in the form of a J, which represented the name of Jesus and the staff of the Good Shepherds. He then stained it with three stripes which showed the scourging Jesus received, and symbolized the blood shed by Christ on the cross. When you break the cane, it reminds us that Jesus' body was broken for us.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Cancelled until January 2<sup>nd</sup>

**THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS:** The song “The twelve days of Christmas” was written to be a kind of secret catechism at a time when Catholicism was outlawed. Each verse refers to a teaching of church doctrine — with Christ being the partridge and the “True Love” being God the Father, who gave us all gifts. The twelve days of Christmas begin on Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup> and end at Epiphany, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Partridge in a pear tree:** Jesus.

**Two turtledoves:** the Old and New Testaments.

**Three French hens:** faith, hope and love.

**Four calling birds:** the four Gospels.

**Five gold rings:** the first five books of the Old Testament.

**Six geese a-laying:** the six days of creation.

**Seven swans a-swimming:** the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**Eight maids a-milking:** the eight Beatitudes.

**Nine ladies dancing:** the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.

**Ten lords a-leaping:** the Ten Commandments.

**Eleven pipers piping:** the eleven faithful Apostles.

**Twelve drummers drumming:** the twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

