

December 5, 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

**John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins . . .**

Luke 3: 1-6

Going “list-less” this Christmas

Many of us — especially moms — live by lists: shopping lists, “things-to-do” lists, lists of dates and schedules. Checking off items on a list gives us some assurance that we’re in control of things.

Christmas, of course, is the ultimate season of lists.

Kim Lawrence is a mom who operates on lists. But one year she began compiling her Christmas lists of presents to buy, goodies to bake, decorations to put up, and the endless tasks and deadlines — and it overwhelmed her.

No, Kim realized, this is not what Christmas is supposed to be.

“I looked longingly at our living room lit by the soft glow of the tree. I wanted time to sit in that room, snuggle with my kids, drink eggnog with my husband, and watch a holiday movie. I couldn’t ever seem to get there. It wasn’t on a list.”

Kim shared her anxieties with her parish priest.

“What he said is a lesson that will stay with me. He told me to think like a child during the holidays. Rather than worrying about what needed to be bought, cooked, baked, and wrapped, instead try to see the season through the eyes of my children.

“I thought about this for a long time. In all my list-making, I was zooming past the good stuff: singing carols with my kids, watching them draw pictures of snowmen and reindeer, reading holiday stories together, answering questions about Santa (how does he get into our chimney-less house?). My children were getting it right, and I was doing it wrong.

“My son and daughter don’t make lists. They know instinctively what is important to them. They’ll sit every night and look at the ornaments on the tree. They notice all of the holiday lights on all of the houses we pass. On Sundays, they walk up to and ask questions about the life-size manger outside our church.

“I realize I can’t live completely list-free. There are things I have to remember, and if writing them down helps, that’s OK. But I also realize that not everything has to be remembered, not everything has to be on a list . . .

“Fewer lists mean more time to create those meaningful moments we cherish this time of year. So list-free this Christmas? I’m crumpling my paper now.”

In the midst of our endless Christmas “list-making,” John the Baptizer appears in our Advent Gospel proclaiming the true meaning of Christmas: the dawning of the reign of God, filled with new possibilities to create a more just, a more joyful, a more hope-filled world. Christmas calls us to follow a star outside our own self-centered orbit, to make our way to a poor stable beyond just our own door, to a peace that embraces more than just our own happiness. So, as Kim Lawrence discovered with her family, let’s reclaim the meaning of Christmas in every dimension of our holiday celebrations: let our lights proclaim the dawning of the Christ our light; let our cards proclaim the good news of the angels that God is in our midst; let our gift-giving reflect the compassion and generosity of the God who loves us enough to become one of us; let our hospitality mirror God’s embrace of all his children.

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2nd Sunday of Advent**

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Dianne Russell

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am - 2pm.

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

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e-transfers: sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com
Password "Church"
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.

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 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
November 28th, 2021**

Regular Sunday	\$1747.00
Building fund	35.00
Votive Candles	25.00
Bingo	540.00
Sunday Missals	93.00
In Memorium (Patricia Gregory)	50.00
Shepherds, Fund	130.00
St. Vincent de Paul	255.00
Flowers	10.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. 7pm	No Mass
Wed. 7pm	Late Gerald Roswell
Thu. 7pm	Late Mathew & Anne George
Fri. 10 am	Late Anthony & Bernadette George
Sat. 4:30pm	Late Leo, Ellen & Sadie Parsons
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

PARISH DUES: Received with thanks from Kathleen MacDonald, Dan and Debbie Dolomount, and Bill and Gen Quigley.

SUNDAY ENVELOPES FOR 2021: Are now available for pick up at the church.

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 Dec. 29th, 2021.

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: There will be a Parish Council meeting December 6th at 6pm.

WORKBOOKS: The workbooks for readers are now available at the back of the church.

VAXPASS AND MASS: The Bishop has allowed for Parishes to use a hybrid of VaxPass masses and masses that do not require a VaxPass. We will use this for our Christmas schedule. The advantage is that with the VaxPass there is no limit on seating. You must still wear your mask. **THE 4:30PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS WILL BE VAXPASS ONLY OR PROOF OF VACCINATION AND WILL NOT REQUIRE PHYSICAL DISTANCING. THE CHRISTMAS EVE 7 PM MASS AND THE CHRISTMAS DAY 11 AM MASS WILL NOT REQUIRE THE VAXPASS BUT WILL REQUIRE PHYSICAL DISTANCING AGAIN.**

To help with this we will be scanning VaxPasses over the next number of weeks so that we can have a list of persons with the VaxPass.

CHRISTMAS MASS REGISTRATION: Please call the parish office to register as soon as possible. The following is our Christmas schedule:

Friday, December 24
4:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass (**VaxPass**)
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass

Saturday, December 25
11:00 am Christmas Day Mass

Sunday, December 26
11:00 am Sunday Mass

Friday, December 31
4:30 pm New Years Eve Mass - Curling
6:00 pm New Years Eve Mass - Benoit's Cove

Saturday, January 1
11:00 am New Years Day Mass (**VaxPass**)

Sunday, January 2
11:00 am Sunday Mass – Curling

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: If you would like to donate toward flowers for the altar in memory of a loved one, you may do so by putting your donation in an envelope (envelopes located at the church) with the name of your loved one and drop it in the collection or drop by the Parish Office.



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL: Hampers will be delivered on December 18th in the morning. Anyone wishing to sponsor a family this Christmas is welcome and should call 638-9010 to arrange and get details. Donation Boxes will be in the back of the Church for knitted goods, toys (new toys or good used toys), mitts, scarfs, socks, etc.

CONFIRMATION: Bishop Van Roijen will be visiting Sacred Heart Parish on Sunday December 12th. He will preside at the 11am mass at which time he will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with our young people. We welcome Bishop Bart, and we pray for those to be confirmed.



LADIES GROUP BINGO DRAW: The bingo draw for December will take place **earlier** this month, Sunday, Dec 19. Parishioners with last names starting with A through E will be asked for a donation. **Please have your entries in by Dec 16.** The Ladies Group would like to thank you for your support and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

BIBLE STUDY: Will be Sunday at 7pm in the parish meeting room. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEAN UP:

Just a reminder that we will be cleaning the church just before Christmas. The date has been set for December 13th beginning at 9:30 am. Get your buckets and cleaning cloths ready! Please don't forget your masks.



ADVENT REFLECTION SERIES: Several Offices at the CCCB have banded together to provide an Advent Video Series based on the Sunday Readings and the prayerful accompaniment in preparation for the Indigenous Delegation to Rome. Please do your best to promote this series in your parishes. The series can be accessed through the cccb.ca website or at the following link: In English: <https://www.cccb.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/journey-through-advent/>

CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING:

Lord God,
let your blessing come upon us
as we illumine this tree.
May the light and cheer it gives
be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.
May all who delight in this tree
come to the knowledge and joy of salvation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



HUMOUR:

Why didn't Rudolph get a good report card? Because he went down in history.

What did the stamp say to the Christmas card? Stick with me and we'll go places!

What is Santa Claus' laundry detergent of choice? Yule-Tide.