

Bishop's Reflection 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

With a Physician's concern for those who are poor and disenfranchised in our society, Luke turns his attention to Jesus' teaching towards the poor, the disenfranchised and those in need of forgiveness. "Blessed are you who are poor," Jesus tells his disciples, many of whom were poor, disenfranchised and looking for some measure of hope. "Blessed are you who are hungry now... who weep now... Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man." We can well imagine the effects Jesus' words had on the people to whom Luke wrote, many of whom had endured much for the faith they professed.

Nor does Luke shy away from Jesus' corresponding woes to those who are "rich", "full now", "laughing now", and those who seek popularity over all else. By including these words of Jesus, Luke is warning members of his own community who are over-reliant on riches, comfort and the opinion of others, and reassuring those who are adversely affected that there will be a day of reckoning. Known for his focus on Jesus' teaching on mercy, Luke doesn't leave out Jesus' teaching on justice. Both have a role to play in the overall context of Christ's coming and his revelation of God's kingdom.

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God." Far from promoting poverty as a virtue, Jesus simply acknowledges the hardships and the uncertainty that are part of his disciples' lives. Jesus identifies with the poor, because he became poor himself. Not only did he renounce his equality with God, but he was born in a stable, was forced to flee into Egypt and was brought up under the humblest of conditions in Nazareth. Jesus' teaching was often questioned, not only because of his socio-economic background – after all, he was the Carpenter's Son, but because he associated with the poor and the marginalized, and advocated for them on many different occasions.

"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled." Though Mary and Joseph would have spared their child the hardship of hunger, Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights in the wilderness and knew the hardships of being an itinerant preacher. Jesus knew both the feasting associated with the welcome he received into people's homes, as well as the hunger of being rejected. When the crowds had been with him for up to three days, the compassion he had, due to his own experience as one who knew hunger, moved him to instruct his disciples to feed the large crowd with five loaves and two fish.

"Blessed are you weep now, for you will laugh." Jesus knew the sorrow of losing a parent, the sorrow of leaving family and friends behind and the sorrow of those who had no where else to turn for comfort and consolation. More importantly, however, he knew the sorrow that is due to sin. Here is a man who knew how to laugh in the company of his friends and to rejoice with those who were willing to repent, but who wept openly for Jerusalem and the hardness of heart among many of the authorities. Laughing and weeping have many different dimensions in our lives, too. Let us take steps to be in closer union with the tears and laughter of our Lord.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, exclude you, revile you and defame you on account of the Son of Man." When Jesus looked at his disciples, he knew the road he asked them to take was not an easy one – nor is ours. Remember that Christ has gone before us, that Jesus, as crucified Messiah, is himself "the Way". Through our hardships, we turn to him, and learn to trust in him. No, he will not take our struggles away, but he does give us the strength to endure and overcome them. Let us, therefore, draw our strength and courage from him, uniting ourselves to him whose unity, hope and trust was in the Father.

February 13th, 2022 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Sacred Heart Parish



A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson
Office Administrator: Position Vacant

Office Hours: Closed.

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e-transfers: sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com
Password "Church"
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca
Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses: Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am
To Register, please call the house 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: Cancelled due to Covid regulations.
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
February 6th, 2021**

Regular Sunday	\$1,151.00
Building Fund	120.00
Votive Candles	54.00
Mass Stipends	50.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. 7pm	Special Intention
Wed. 7pm	Late Gus & Irene Rumboldt
Thu. 7pm	Late Paul Robertson
Fri. 10 am	Late Edward Callahan
Sat. 4:30 pm	Late Edith Leonard
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

PARISH DUES: Received with thanks: Mary Jo Perrett and Maxine Staples.

CONDOLENCES: We offer prayerful condolences to the family of Stan Lawlor, whose funeral we celebrated this week. May he rest in peace.

MASS INTENTIONS: Our mass intentions are low again. It's a good time to request yours.

SACRED HEART PARISH CUSTODIAN: Jerome Dicks has resigned his position as parish Custodian. We thank him for all he has done for us. We are accepting applications for this position. Please call the office to obtain a job description.

RECEIPTS FOR 2021: The receipts for 2021 are ready and are available at the church.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR POSITION: We are now accepting applications for this position. This is a 20 Hour per week position. If interested, please contact the Parish Office to obtain a Job description. We will be conducting interviews for this position in the next two weeks. If interested, please get your application in as soon as possible.

VAXPASS MASS: Saturday evening masses will be restricted to those who had given us proof of vaccination. **Sunday morning mass will not require proof of vaccination, meaning their may be people attending Sunday morning mass that have received vaccinations.** Mask wearing, hand sanitization and social distancing are still required at all masses.

COMMUNION MINISTERS MINICOURSE: Eventually we will return to normal operations and require a communion ministers or ministers at each mass. If you are interested in becoming a communion minister, you are invited to a mini course taking place Tuesday, February 15 immediately after mass at the church. As well, those who are already ministers may want to come along to be renewed in their ministry.

MARY'S KITCHEN: Because of restrictions being eased by Public Health this week, Mary's Kitchen will begin again on Friday, February 18th.

READERS MINICOURSE: Eventually we will return to normal operations and require more readers at each mass. If you are interested in becoming a reader, you are invited to a mini course taking place Wednesday, February 16 immediately after mass at the church. As well, those who are already readers may want to come along to be renewed in their ministry.

SYNOD CONSULTATIONS FOR YOUTH: Both the Diocese and individual parishes are gathering groups of people to discuss 5 questions on the theme of the Synod "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission". The Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador is interested in gathering groups of youth/young people to hear what the perception of our young people is about how the church, be it the parish, the diocese or the universal church, journeys with and listens to its people. These youth/young people conversations will take place through ZOOM (dates TBA). If you are interested in joining us and sharing your opinions, please reply by e-mail to catherinejordan@nf.aibn.com. **Please include your age in the e-mail so that we put you in a group of your peers. Please reply by February 25th.** If you know of any other young person who might be interested in joining us, please pass this on to them. You can read more about the Synod at www.rcchurch.com

PRAYER FOR HEALING: Lord our God we trust in your care for us. We pray you give us strength to combat covid-19. We ask your help in freeing us of fear and in helping us follow the guidelines that will help us contain this virus. Be with our health care professionals in combating this illness. Keep us safe. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: March 4th This year Rogers Cable will be airing a video on the WDP of the many experiences of Christians from other countries being touched by injustice. Northern Ireland is being highlighted in this video. We are reminded to pray for the many women and others who are touched by cruelty and injustice in the many war-torn countries.

COVID RESTRICTIONS UPDATE: With recent changes, we are now able to accommodate 50% capacity for the Vaxpass mass on Saturdays. There is still a limit of 50 people at any non-vaxpass gatherings in the church. This includes people who are active with the church services; Priest, readers, musicians etc. **Anyone attending a mass or service for any reason must be pre-registered to enter the church.** Please call the office (785-5025) during office hours or email curlingparish@hotmail.com to add your name to the upcoming weekend registration list. Remember masks must cover both the nose and the mouth and be worn at all times when attending services or functions in this church.

HUMOUR:

Q: Who were Frosty's parents?

A: Mom and Pop-sicle

HUMOUR:

Q: Where do you call a snowman that can walk?

A: A snow-mobile

