

February 18, 2024: 1st Sunday of Lent

Background on the Gospel Reading

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfillment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

February 18, 2024
1st Sunday of Lent

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

e-transfers:
sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com
Password "Church"
Note: include your envelope #
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com



Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m.

Weekday Mass:

10a.m. - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday*.

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

***Lohnes Complex**

First Friday of each month - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex.

***Note: No mass at the church on this day.**

Bible Study:

Thursday February 22nd at 7pm.

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

February 10 & 11, 2024

Regular Sunday	1685.00
Loose Offering	93.50
Envelope Cost	10.00
Building Fund	105.00
New Years Day	5.00
Votive Candles	30.00
Mass Stipends	120.00
Catholic Missions in Canada	35.00
St. Vincent de Paul	5.00

MASS INTENTIONS Feb. 20-25, 2024

Tues. 10am	Late Gus & Irene Rumbolt
Wed. 10am	Parish Community
Thurs. 10am	Parish Community
Fri. 10am	Late Thomas Griffin
Sat. 4:30pm	Late Madonna Hynes Late Albert Donahue
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

February 24	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Gerry Buckle	Joe Byrne
February 25	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Mike Leonard	Margaret Dalley
Communion to the sick – Tony Griffin	

ALL HALLOWS WINTER CARNIVAL BINGO: The Bingo will be held at All Hallows Parish Center on **Sunday, February 18th, beginning at 2:00 pm.** Two Cards for \$5.00. Merchandise Bingo. Excellent Prizes.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE WEEKEND:

This weekend the Sacred Heart Ladies group will have 2 volunteers at both masses ready to take your information. We need you. Come join us for fellowship and fun, its not just about fundraising. Hope you will join this weekend.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING:

Archbishop Howley Council 2581 will be meeting at All Hallows Parish Humber Road on Tuesday February 20th at 7:45 P.M. could Brother Knights please try to attend.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:

Next General Meeting: Is on Wednesday, Feb 21 at 3pm in the basement of the Cathedral. As always, we would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone considering becoming more active in the volunteer community and invite you to our meeting and explore how becoming a Vincentian can be very rewarding.

Activity Report: In January, we fed 83 guests at Mary's Kitchen; delivered 16 emergency grocery hampers and made 29 furniture deliveries (including 8 mattresses, 5 dressers, 4 couches, 6 kitchen tables, etc). Much appreciation and thanks for your continued support, especially in light of these challenging economic times.

Poor Box Collection: we will be collecting at the entrances of the church after the Feb 24-25 Masses. Thank you again for your ongoing support.

LENTEN ENVELOPES: Are available at the back of the church for anyone who needs them during Lent.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT GATHERINGS/KNIGHTS

OF COLUMBUS: Archbishop Howley Council # 2581 of Corner Brook will be holding a series of these gatherings during Lent 2024. These will take place on designated Saturdays, 10am., at the lower level of the Cathedral of the Most Holy Redeemer. This is for all Knights and men of our neighboring parishes from Deer Lake to Benoit's Cove. Come along and share our Faith, coffee and doughnuts. Our gatherings during Lent will be Saturday, February 24th. March 2nd., 16th., and 23rd.

OCTOBER'S SYNOD DISCUSSIONS IN ROME

(Follow-up): - In order to provide more discussion on the local and diocesan level, you are invited to a Synod Discussion Night at All Hallows' (downstairs) on Thursday, February 29th from 7 to 8:30 p.m. In order to prepare for the discussion:

- 1.View Sr. Elizabeth Davis presentation on the Synod:
https://vimeo.com/890302889/415e1f4a7c?s_hare=copy.
- 2.Take some time to reflect on your experience of Church in the light of what you heard, especially at the parish and diocesan level.
- 3.Be prepared to share your thoughts on:
 - a) Participation in ministry and decision making.
 - b) Overcoming barriers to communion.
 - c) Our call to service and mission in the world.

ALL HALLOWS WINTER CARNIVAL BRUNCH:

Will be served on **Sunday, February 25th**, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Cost Adults \$12 and Children \$8. Brunch will be homemade baked beans, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausages, pancakes, toast, tea, coffee and juice.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE - SHARE LENT 2024:

The upcoming campaign is: *Create Hope for a world of peace and justice by Reaping Our Rights.* You can donate online at devp.org/give or during the Solidarity Sunday Collection on March 17th, your generosity helps support over 73 projects in 36 countries around the world. You can find information on this campaign at the back of the church.

SACRED HEART BINGO:

Our next bingo will be February 25, 2024. Doors will open at 1pm and bingo will start at 2pm.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

This service will be hosted by the ladies of The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church, 25 Main Street, Corner Brook on Friday, March 1st at 2 pm. A lunch will be served following the service. All are welcome to attend.

Reflection Lent: springtime of the spirit

Each year the trees give us a lesson in renewal.

First the bud, then the blossom,
and finally, the shoot.

Spring dresses the trees in a new robe,
And makes them young again.

But this is possible only because in autumn
they let go of their old leaves,
and in between endured a period of
nakedness.

Lent is in the springtime of the spirit.
Lord, help us not be afraid to let go of old
habits, and to face our spiritual poverty,
in order that you may renew us, and so at
Easter we will feel young again in our
discipleship.