

January 21, 2024: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Background on the Gospel Reading**

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfillment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfillment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

**January 21, 2024**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**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**

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**e-transfers:**  
**[sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com](mailto:sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com)**  
**Password "Church"**  
**Note: include your envelope #**  
**[www.sacredheartrcparish.ca](http://www.sacredheartrcparish.ca)**  
  
Diocesan website: [rcchurch.com](http://rcchurch.com)



**Weekend Masses:**

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

**Weekday Mass:**

**NEW HOURS:**

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 January 25 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](http://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**

**January 13 & 14, 2024**

Regular Sunday	1747.00
Loose Offering	78.65
Parish Dues	395.00
Envelope Cost	150.00
Building Fund	70.00
New Years Day	35.00
Advent	40.00
Mass Stipends	80.00
In Memorium	100.00
Catholic Missions in Canada	5.00
Development & Peace	5.00
Good Friday	5.00
Indian Residential Schools Healing Fund	5.00

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Tues. 10am	Parish Community
Wed. 10am	Parish Community
Thurs. 10am	Parish Community
Fri. 10am	Parish Community
Sat. 4:30pm	Late Ignatius & Edna Power Late Joan Hearn
Sun. 11am	Late Edith Leonard Late Annie Griffin Late Ada Myles

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

<b>January 27</b>	
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>
John Noseworthy	Joan Penney
<b>January 28</b>	
<b>Reader</b>	<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>
Victoria Murphy	Bernadette Stone
<b>Communion to the sick – Tony Griffin</b>	

**BIBLE STUDY:** The next bible study will be held on Thursday January 25, 2024 at 7pm.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:**

The service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will take place at the Corner Brook Baptist Church, 11 O’Connell Drive on **Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm.** The theme of this year’s event is *“You Shall Love the Lord Your God...and your neighbour as yourself.”*

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING NEW TIME:**

It is now being held on Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Sacred Heart Parish Church Meeting Room. Going forward it will now be held on Wednesdays.

**WEEKDAY MASS:** Remember weekday mass is now at 10a.m. each morning and held in the Meeting Room. The weekend masses will remain the same.

**THANK YOU:** To the family of the late Carol Anne Peddle for your donation to our parish.

**SACRED HEART BINGO:** Bingo will start again on the last Sunday of each month and the next one is on January 28, 2024. Doors will open at 1pm and bingo will start at 2pm. Names beginning A to E can continue to donate cash or merchandise towards the bingo.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul held its regular monthly meeting on **Wednesday, January 17, 2024** in the **basement of the Cathedral.** Thank you to all who came out. If you're looking to become more active as a community volunteer this year, please drop by and find out how rewarding it can be being a member of St. Vincent de Paul.

**NL HEALTH SERVICES SEEKING VOLUNTEERS:**

Western Zone is seeking volunteers. Looking for meaningful ways to spend your spare time and feel a sense of purpose? The Western Zone of Newfoundland and Labrador Health Services is looking for volunteers. You will get the opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our residents, patients and clients. Spending time with volunteers makes our residents and patients happier and they feel less lonely. Share your skills, knowledge and time. Work in a gift shop. Join an auxiliary. Prepare afternoon treats for palliative care patients and their families. Read to patients and residents. Be a dining companion. Provide musical entertainment. There are many ways you can volunteer. If you are interested call 709-784-5369 or email [volunteerresources@westernheath.nl.ca](mailto:volunteerresources@westernheath.nl.ca) to find out more. You too will benefit as you will meet new people and experience personal satisfaction.

**PARISH OUTREACH:** This committee is offering to bring communions and provide a pastoral visit to those who wish to have this ongoing contact. To anyone needing a pastoral visit or communion to the sick please call the parish office at 709-785-5025 and you will be directed to a committee member.

**THE SEARCH:** This is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

This will be held for 7 Wednesday evenings from 7pm – 8:15pm, Starting January 24th - March 13th (Ash Wednesday excluded) at Sacred Heart Parish Church.

This is FREE and open to All Adults. For registration and information please contact the parish office by email ([curlingparish@hotmail.com](mailto:curlingparish@hotmail.com)) or telephone during office hours at 709-785-5025.

**Reflection**

**Good News for Sinners**

Today we are in danger of being drowned in bad news.

Jesus began his ministry by announcing good news.

What was the good news?

That the kingdom of heaven had come.

The kingdom stands for the fulfilment of the promises, the fullness of God’s blessings, in short, the new order of things.

Forgiveness is available. Recovery is possible.

God’s love is unconditional and is available to us in Christ.

All we have to do is recognise our need, and see his help with humility and sincerity. Unless we repent we can’t hear the good news.