

March 10th, 2024: 4th Sunday of Lent

Background on the Gospel Reading

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy's opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from John's Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today's Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses' prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John's reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

www.loyolapress.com

March 10, 2024
4th 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 pm, Sunday 11 am.

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 March 14th 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

March 2 & 3, 2024

| | |
|--|---------|
| Regular Sunday | 1564.00 |
| Loose Offering | 86.35 |
| Building Fund | 225.00 |
| Lenten Folders | 370.00 |
| Votive Candles | 35.00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | 50.00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box Collection | 468.00 |

MASS INTENTIONS March 12-17

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Tue. 10am | Parish Community |
| Wed. 10am | Parish Community |
| Thur. 10am | Late John Hearn |
| Fri. 10 am | Parish Community |
| Sat. 4:30 pm | Late Mary & Joe Gallant |
| Sun. 11 am | Late Wayne Callahan Late Mr. Pearce Brake |

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

| March 16 | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Reader | Eucharistic Minister |
| John Carroll | Joan Penney |
| March 17 | |
| Reader | Eucharistic Minister |
| Tony Griffin | Elizabeth Carew |
| Communion to the sick – Joan Penney | |

CHOIR PRACTICE: Sunday, March 10th, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Church.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 12 at 6pm at Sacred Heart Parish Church Meeting Room.

MASS SCHEDULE – Holy Week

Holy Thursday – March 28th, 2024
 – **Mass of the Lord’s Last Supper**
 4:30 p.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish
 7:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

Good Friday – March 29th, 2024
 – **Celebration of the Lord’s Passion**
 3:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish
 5:00 p.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea
 7:30 p.m. – Stations of the Cross
 – Sacred Heart Parish

Holy Saturday – March 30th, 2024
 – **Easter Vigil – The Lord’s Resurrection**
 9:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

Easter Sunday – March 31st, 2024
 – **The Lord’s Resurrection**
 9:30 a.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish
 11:00 a.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

LENTEN ENVELOPES: Are available at the back of the church 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 Saturdays March 16th., and 23rd at 10am., 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.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Will be held at Sacred Heart Parish on March 21ST at 7pm. There will be no Bible Study on that evening.

SACRED HEART LADIES GROUP:

Monthly Meeting:
 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 13th, at 1:30 pm in the Meeting room at Sacred Heart Parish. All ladies are welcomed to attend.

Next Bingo & Bake Sale:
 Our Bingo will be on March 17th, St. Patrick’s Day due to Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday at Sacred Heart Elementary School. DOORS open at 1:00 pm. Bingo starts at 2:00 pm.

We are having a **Bake Sale** the same day as the bingo. If you wish to contribute to the bake sale you can drop off your goodies on the Fri, Sat., and Sunday. The Bake sale will take place at the school, same place as the Bingo.

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. The next meeting will be held Wednesday evening from 7pm – 8:15pm, March 13th at Sacred Heart Parish Church.

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.

DEVELOPMENT & PEACE CAMPAIGN

Training next-generation farmers in Indonesia:
 In rural Indonesia, young people are abandoning agriculture to work in cities. Over time, this could threaten food sovereignty. Our partner PAYOPAYO empowers village communities to work together to find solutions to common challenges related to agriculture, food, energy, natural resource management and the engagement of youths, especially women. This Lent, meet our solidarity visitor Karno Batiran, the executive director of PAYOPAYO. Learn more at devp.org/lent.

Reflection The light of Christ

In Christ there is no trace of darkness.
 His light shows up the darkness in us.
 His truth shows up our lies.

 His integrity shows up our falseness.
 His generosity shows up our selfishness.
 His peace shows up our conflicts.
 His openness to others
 shows how closed we are.

However, we should not be afraid of his light.
 Rather, we should rejoice in it.
 Compared to his light other lights are mere flares in the night or candles in the wind.

Christ, radiant light of the world, guide our steps in the way of truth and goodness, and lead us through the gloom of this world to the kingdom of unfailing light.

Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, p.88