

May 5th, 2024: 6th Sunday of Easter

Background on the Gospel Reading:

In this weeks example of the vine and the branches, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today’s reading shows the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

When John wrote this Gospel, his community was influenced by a set of religious beliefs called Gnosticism. It appears that one of John’s intentions was to distinguish Christian belief from the beliefs held by the Gnostics. Evidence of this can be found in today’s Gospel.

One of the tenets of Gnostic teaching was the importance of knowledge, or gnosis, as the determining aspect of faith. We read today’s Gospel as a response to this teaching. In John’s Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm that he is known by the Father and that his disciples will know the Father by knowing Jesus. In this passage, however, Jesus reminds his disciples that this knowledge is to be expressed in love. Those who know Jesus well—and Jesus says that his disciples do know him—will love one another. Knowledge leads to love, which leads to action. John reminds his community that Jesus taught that love is the sign of a true disciple and, thus, a true Christian. Even more, a true disciple shows a particular kind of love, sacrificial love.

In the Greek, there are two words for love that are used in this passage. The first is agape. The second is philia. The first word is most often used to describe love for other persons and for God. It is understood as the highest and most perfect kind of love. The second word is used to describe the affection of friendship. In this context, John appears to use these words as synonyms. The root of the Greek word for friend comes from this second term for love, philia. By using this word, Jesus transforms the terms of his relationship with his disciples and redefines for them their relationship with God. In the Hebrew Scriptures, faith in God made one a servant of God. Here Jesus teaches that his relationship to his disciples is based on friendship, not servitude.

Another aspect of Gnostic belief taught that a believer was an elect person, chosen and set apart from the world. John reminds his community that Jesus also taught that a disciple is one who had been chosen—one who had been chosen by Jesus. To be chosen by Jesus, however, is not to be set apart from the world. Instead, to be chosen by Jesus is to be sent to serve the world as he did. The disciples of Jesus were chosen and were sent into the world to bear fruit by serving others, by sacrificing for others, in love.

This reading, like last week’s, is part of Jesus’ Last Supper discourse. In the context of John’s Gospel, these words are spoken before Jesus’ Crucifixion. We read his instruction to the disciples in light of his death and Resurrection. We know that Jesus himself gives us the greatest example of the kind of love and service that he teaches to his disciples. He has, in fact, laid down his life for his friends, for his disciples, and for us. Through his death and Resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

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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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sacredheartrcparish@hotmail.com
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Note: include your envelope #
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Diocesan website: rcchurch.com

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am.

Weekday Mass:

10 am – Tuesday to Friday

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

Lohnes Complex*

First Friday of each month - 2 pm

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

Bible Study:

Thursday, May 9th 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 on Apr. 27 & 28

Regular Sunday	2348.00
Loose Offering	85.00
Building Fund	175.00
Votive Candles	42.00
Mass Stipends	120.00
Living with Christ Booklets	24.00
St. Vincent de Paul	130.00
Parish Dues	50.00
Cath. Miss/Dev&Peace/Good Friday	150.00
Mother's Day Flowers	200.00

MASS INTENTIONS May 7-12

Tue. 10am	The Late John & Julia Myles The Late John Hearn
Wed. 10am	The Late Basil Donahue The Late Danielle Tuma
Thur. 10am	The Late Bride Dillon
Fri. 10am	The late Michael Mullins
Sat. 4:30 pm	Special Intention: The Blackwood Family Late Annetta Hackett Late George Hynes
Sun. 11 am	Mother's Day List

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

May 11	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Art Hall	Joan Penney
May 12	
Reader	Eucharistic Minister
Victoria Murphy	Calvin Gillis
Communion to the sick – Tony Griffin	

PARISH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING: Special meeting to discuss the fund-raising policy on May 8th at 6pm at Sacred Heart Church.

MOTHER'S DAY MASS:

The Late Bridget & Jordan Blackwood
The Late Daphne Brenda & Sarah Rose Brake
The Late Ches & Gertrude Noseworthy
The Late Mary Mullins
The Late Tom(sr.), Annie & Brian Griffin
Special Intention: Joan Penney
– celebrating her 70th Birthday.

MOTHERS DAY FLOWERS:

Flowers will be donated by Kathleen MacDonald in memory of her mother Annetta Hackett for Mother's Day. If you wish to donate for Mother's day flowers, contact the Parish office.

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

AN EVENING OF HEALING: Bishop Bart Van Roijen together with the Newfoundland Catholic Renewal will be offering an evening of healing. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Bart Van Roijen with healing ministries to follow after Mass. It will be held at the Holy Redeemer Cathedral on Thursday, May 30th at 7:00 p.m. To help offset the cost of traveling expenses for the NCR, a goodwill offering will be taken up.

SSVP POOR BOX COLLECTION: This past weekend (April 27-28) Society of St. Vincent de Paul members took up the Poor Box collection at both masses at Sacred Heart Parish. A total of \$456.35 was collected. Thank you everyone.

BIBLE STUDY: Next bible study class will be held on Thursday May 9th at 7pm.

WANT TO FURTHER DEVELOP YOUR PRAYER

LIFE? In this year dedicated to prayer, come join Bishop Bart on Wednesday, May 8th & May 15 at 7:00 at All Hallows Church, lower level, as he provides insight and guidance as we accompany each other on this journey to a closer relationship with God.

FAITH DEVELOPMENT

First Reconciliation: Congratulations to Walter Butler and Abigail Quilty who are celebrating their First Reconciliation this weekend. May they and their families always give thanks for the gift of Reconciliation.
Bishop Bart will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with the young people of Sacred Heart Parish on Saturday, May 11 at 4:30 Mass.
Children of Sacred Heart Parish will celebrate their First Eucharist on Sunday, May 12 at 11:00 Mass.

THE SEARCH PROGRAM: We will be having a meeting on Wednesday, May 15th at 7pm at Sacred Heart Parish Church to review what we have learned. Looking forward to seeing you.

ROSARY IN MAY: The Knights of Columbus are holding prayer this month at 7pm on Mondays in the Cathedral church. This will be in the new form for public recitation as presented by St. Pope John Paul 11. With the sign of peace at the end, it takes on the form of a little liturgy complete with prayer, chants, and action! Come and join us for a renewal in our understanding of the mystery of Faith!

NATIONAL FAMILY & LIFE WEEK:

National Family and Life Week (NFLW) this year will take place from May 13-19, 2024. The theme for this year is "Love hopes all things,". **Note:** Our parish will be having a

Blessing of Married Couples on Saturday, May 18th at 4:30p.m. More information to follow.

SACRED HEART LADIES GROUP: Thank You to the following who contributed to the April Bingo: Debbie Allen, Stella Anthony, Linda Basha, Diane Bennett, Sharon Bennett, Loretta Bennett, Donna Beales, Margaret Blanchard, Evelyn Beales, Cathy Bolt, Dorothy Brake, Ed Brake, Judy Brake, Karen Buckle, Eileen Buckle, Sandy Buckle, Nora Burton, Hilda Butt, Joe Byrne, Roberta Canning, John Carroll, Linda Cashin, Marina Cashin, Lynn Coombs, Margaret Daley, Gertrude Daye, Gerard Deveau, Barbara Dicks, Jennifer Dolimount, Barbara Ann Dunphy, Evelyn Ezekiel, Don Gallant, Joe Hayes, John Hayes, Von Hickey, Brenda Lewis, and Carol Ann O'Keefe.
Also thanks to those who donated to the bake sale in March: Dorothy Brake, Sandy Buckle, Mary Ann Park, Kim Preston & Annie Randell.
For next month, names ending in F to N.

Reflection: The wounded heart

If only the heart was right
we could give so much more.
But, alas, the heart is often empty.
It is often cold and unwelcoming.
It is often hard and unyielding.
It is often weighed down with worry.
It is often sad and lonely.
It is often in darkness.
It is often wounded.
And it is sometimes broken.
We have to heal the wounds of the heart
in order to be able to love.
Lord, touch our hearts and heal them,
so that we may be able to bear the fruits of
love. Amen.