

November 8th – 32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

“The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps . . .”

Matthew 25: 1-13

Empty lanterns

So here he is in September: a first-year college student. Finally, out and living on his own. Mom and Dad no longer setting curfews or asking where he’s going and who he’s been with. He can come and go as he pleases. Yeah, he gets to class enough times to count. But suddenly — it’s Thanksgiving! He returns to campus after the holiday break and realizes there are only two weeks left to the semester and there’s that psychology paper to write that was assigned in September, a lab report for chemistry that he hasn’t begun, and the spine of the history book that hasn’t even been cracked. The excuses begin: *That professor is too demanding . . . Why do I have to take a writing course — I’m a business major . . . The instructor is so boring . . . The class meets too early . . .* And so on and so on. But the real issue is this: The kid’s an empty lantern.

They don’t hesitate to make their feelings known: *You’ve got to cut the budget. You’re wasting taxpayers’ money. That service isn’t needed. You’re giving our hard-earned tax dollars to lazy freeloaders. That crowd at Town Hall are all incompetent hacks.* But when a service they depend on is cut, when money for *their* child’s school is no longer there, when *they* have to haul their own garbage every week to the town’s trash disposal site, they’re stunned. How could this happen? Easy. Empty lanterns.

She thought he was the one. The break-up was as surprising as it was devastating. But she expected him to take the lead, to understand her wants and expectations, and to make the sacrifices needed to make the relationship work. And for a long time, he did, rearranging his life to accommodate hers. But, as the saying goes, she was “in love with *being* in love” — and he came to realize that she was not in love with *him*. So one day he ended it, thanking her for the good times, hoping they could remain friends, but making it clear that it would be best if they went their separate ways. And she was left, stunned and hurt, with her empty lantern.

Jesus’ parable of the foolish bridesmaids is often played out in our lives when we realize too late that our “lanterns” are empty of the “oil” of responsibility, gratitude, generosity, justice. Our inability to place the common good before our own, our failure to see how our actions affect others, our refusal to accept responsibility for one another extinguishes the light of hope that we thought would never go out. There’s so much we want to do with our lives, but the struggle to make a living derails us from making a life, a life that is centered in the love of family and friends, in an awareness of God’s loving presence in our midst, in a yearning to contribute to the greater good of all. Christ warns us not to fall into the trap of the five “foolish” bridesmaids who squander their time before the Bridegroom’s arrival, but to embrace the wisdom of the five “wise” bridesmaids, trimming our “lamps” with the “oil” of mercy, generosity and forgiveness in the precious time we have until Christ’s coming.

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November 8th, 2020
32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Dianne Russell

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

465 Curling Street
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www.sacredheartrcparish.ca



Weekend Masses:

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

To Register, please call the office Monday to Friday between 9 am and 1 pm.

Reconciliation:

By request

Mass During the Week:

Tue, Wed, & Thu at 7 p.m. and Fri at 10 a.m.

Daily mass is cancelled any day in which there is a Funeral Mass or schools are closed due to weather.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Discontinued until further notice.

Marriages:

Six months’ notice required. A year’s notice is recommended.

Baptisms:

Please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation session.

St. Vincent de Paul:

To assist those in need. Call 638-9010.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

November 1st, 2020

Regular Sunday	\$2200.00
Building Fund	175.00
World Mission Sunday	10.00
All Souls Day	270.00
St. Vincent de Paul	45.00
Word Among us	20.00
Votive Candle	10.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. 7pm	Late George & Sarah Joyce
Wed. 7pm	Late Herb Cole
Thu. 7pm	Late Patrick Joyce
Fri. 10am	Special Intention
Sat. 4:30pm	Late Annetta & Joseph Hackett
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

PARISH DUES: Received with thanks last week, Nov 1: Patsy Payne.

CONDOLENCES: We offer our prayerful condolences to the family of the late Jamie O’Brien. May he rest in peace.

REMEMBRANCE DAY: Do to Covid 19 there are no public celebrations planned for Remembrance Day. At Sacred Heart Parish we have planned a simple celebration following the COVID-19 regulations. People are invited to gather on the church parking lot before 11 am November 11 and REMAIN IN THEIR VEHICLES. At 11 am we will toll the bell eleven times and then take a moment of silence. After the moment of silence, the bell will toll once, and we will sing O’Canada. You are asked to remain in your vehicle with your window open through the duration of this gathering.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE: Our Annual Mass of Remembrance will take place on Thursday, November 12th at 7pm. Family members of persons whose funerals we have celebrated since November last year have been contacted and now our seating is at capacity due to COVID-19 regulations. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding to all the changes we must follow.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL: During the month of October, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was busy. We visited 23 homes with 25 adults and 18 children. We spent \$1386.06 on groceries, with members spending 47 volunteer hours. Our senior’s plan had 18 home visits taking 35 volunteer hours and spending \$1690.12. Furniture moves involved going to 29 homes and spending 74 volunteer hours. Couple this with 22 hours at meetings, this work required 176 volunteer hours for the month. Thank you to the members for this compassionate work.

Christmas is fast approaching, and hampers are going to be needed by a lot of people. Those in need should call our phone 638-9010 and provide MCP numbers for all family members that are in need. **We are appealing to members of the congregation to consider sponsoring an individual or family hamper.** If you wish to do so, please call our number and submit your request. Socks, mitts, hats, scarves and other knitted goods are welcomed. Because of Covid, we are not permitted to have these things dropped off to the Church, so if you have articles to donate, please contact us.

HOLY FATHERS PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

LADIES GROUP FUNDRAISER: Since Covid has put a stop to all our fundraising activities, we have come up with the following idea to help support our parish. **“BINGO DRAW”** Our regular donors will be called each month, (Parishioners in sections F through M on this list are asked to donate for November), but all parishioners are welcome to participate. Those who give a donation of at least \$10.00 will have a chance to win 10% of the total donations collected for the month. Every \$10 donation will equal one ticket in the draw i.e. if you donate \$20 your name will be in twice. Donations must be in by the third week of each month. Put your donations in an envelope marked BINGO, include your name, and drop in collection, Father Jim’s mailbox, or give to any member of the ladies group. **WINNER DRAWN ON OCTOBER 25 – Mike Leonard. Prize; \$ 50.50. Congratulations!!!**

LADIES GROUP MEETING: Following evening mass there will be a Ladies Group meeting **Tuesday, November 10th** in the church meeting room.

HOME RELIGION PROGRAM – Sacred Heart Parish: Thank you to Julia Hackett Miles who has undertaken this ministry. She has been in touch with many of the families involved in Sacramental Preparation and has begun the appropriate programs. Please contact the parish office if your child should be included but has not been contacted yet. By bringing your children and grandchildren to mass, you will help them in the formation of their faith.

FACE MASKS: You must wear facemasks when entering, leaving, and moving about the church. It may be removed if you are seated and able to maintain 2m distancing

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE: The annual Development and Peace pledge usually held in March was not promoted this year as the pandemic caused a disruption to this appeal. November 7th and 8th we are asking you to donate to Development and Peace using the Blue envelope provided in your box of envelopes or use a regular envelope and put your name and envelope number on it and drop it in the collection.

FLU SHOTS: Western Health is advising that the influenza vaccine (flu shot) is now available to residents at no cost. Appointments will be required in order to ensure physical distancing and to avoid long wait times. Appointments can be booked online through Health Myself or by calling 1-833-951-3904 (toll free). All appointments need to be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance. Walk in appointments are not available. Everyone will be screened for symptoms in the entrance and required to wear a mask. Due to the need for physical distancing, individuals are not able to enter the clinic waiting area until 10 minutes prior to their scheduled appointment. Individuals are asked to bring their MCP card and wear short sleeves when they go to get their flu shot.

