March 30, 2025: 4th Sunday of Lent

Background on the Gospel Reading

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Reflection II Loved in our Sins

The prodigal son came home empty-handed.

He had no trophies to show his father, no achievements with which to earn his praise, his welcome, and his love.

He was a failure. Worse – he was a sinner. He deserved to be punished – and he knew it. Yet punishment was the last thing he needed.

To punish him would be like pouring water on a dying fire.

What happened? When the father saw his lost son coming towards him,

his heart went out to him, and next minute they were in each other's arms.

It is an extraordinary experience to be loved in one's sinfulness.

Such love is like a breeze to a dying fire, or rain falling on parched ground.

Those who have experienced this kind of love, know something about the heart of God.

(Anon.) Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, p.92/93

SSVP - POOR BOX COLLECTION:

The next collection will take place during the weekend masses of March 29-30. SSVP members and friends will at the entrances to accept donations. Thank you for your continued support.

March 30th, 2025 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: Tuesday to Friday 10a.m.

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

<u>Lohnes Complex*</u> First Friday of each month - 2 pm

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

Bible Study: To be determined at a later date. **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 Mar. 22 - 23

1430.00
56.00
530.00
220.00
180.00
177.80
25.00
20.00

MASS INTENTIONS Apr. 1 - 6

Apr. 1	The Late Ada Myles	
Apr. 2	The Late Annie Griffin	
Apr. 3	Special Intentions: Joseph Power	
Apr. 4	Lohnes Complex Mass – 2pm only	
Apr. 5	The Late Annie Gillis	
	The Late Basil Donahue	
Apr. 6 Special Intentions: Joseph Power		

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

April 5			
Reader	Eucharistic Minister		
John Carroll	Joan Penney		
April 6			
Reader	Eucharistic Minister		
Dan Park	Eileen Moore		
Communion to the Sick – Joan Penney			

NO MASSES:

From **April 22nd to April 25th**, there will be no mass during this time as Father Lainey will be away at a seminar. Mass will resume April 26th at the regular time.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Every Friday after morning mass we will be having The Stations of the Cross. This will continue up to and including Good Friday.

JUBILEE CHRISM MASS:

The mass is on **April 9**th **at 7pm** at Holy Redeemer Cathedral. Make the Chrism Mass a part of our Parish's Jubilee pilgrimage plans.

SACRED HEART BINGO:

The Sacred Heart Ladies Group will be holding the next bingo on Sunday, March 30, 2025, at Sacred Heart Elementary School cafeteria. Doors open at 1:00pm. Bingo will start at 2:00pm. See you there!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND IN THE HAND – 2ND DRAW:

The 2ND Grand in the Hand draw is underway. 200 tickets have been printed and the cost per ticket is \$10. The draw date is **May 6, 2025**. To purchase tickets, call Dave @709-640-2819, Garry @709-660-6316 or Brian @ 709-630-0611.

GIFT CARD TREE:

As you know we are still collecting **gift cards/certificates or cash donations** towards the Gift Card Tree. The funds raised will go towards the cost of our new oil tank system which will cost the parish about \$8000. Any amount you can donate is greatly appreciated, we are trying to reach \$2000 in cards/donations and currently have about \$1,500 collected. We will be collecting up to the middle of April. The draw date is Father's Day June 15th, 2025. Call the office if you would like to volunteer to sell tickets at the stores. Thank you.

SHARE LENT CAMPAIGN:

Turn Debt into Hope: sign the petition! Please sign the petition in church or online at devp.org/debt

MASS SCHEDULE – Holy Week

 $\textbf{Holy Thursday} - \mathsf{April}\ 17^{th},\ 2025$

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 – April 18th, 2025

- Celebration of the Lord's Passion

10:30 a.m. – Stations of the Cross

Sacred Heart Parish

3:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

5:00 p.m. - Our Lady Star of the Sea

Holy Saturday – April 19th, 2025

- Easter Vigil - The Lord's Resurrection

9:00 p.m. – Sacred Heart Parish

Easter Sunday – April 20th, 2025

- The Lord's Resurrection

9:30 a.m. – Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

11:00 a.m. - Sacred Heart Parish

DEMENTIA:

The Alzheimer Society of Newfoundland has a family support group, it is offered every 4th Wednesday, 3pm at Corner Brook Long Term Care, University Drive. The society also has a learning series to help people living with dementia, their families and friends to live as well as possible. The next session starts May 21, 2025. Contact them for more information by phone or email at 709-576-0608 or admin@alzheimernl.ca

REHERSALS FOR HOLY WEEK:

Thursday April 17th at 10a.m. Friday April 18th at 10.a.m Saturday April 19th at 10a.m.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK:

Holy Thursday – April 17th, 2025

Reader: Lynette Taylor Good Friday – April 18th, 2025

Reader: Joan Penney

The Passion: Jacqueline Neville

Sherri Lynn Brake

Holy Saturday – April 19th, 2025

1st Reading: Art Hall

3rd Reading: Mike Leonard
5th Reading: Victor Murphy
7th Reading: Calvin Gillis
Epistle: Eileen Moore

Reflection: The prodigal girl

Great poets have sung of the beauties of home, its comfort, its love and its joys; how back to the place of its sheltering dome I welcome the prodigal boy.

They picture his father with pardoning smile and glittering robes to unfurl;

but none of the poets thought it worthwhile to sing of the prodigal girl.

The prodigal son can resume his old place as leader of fashion's mad whirl, with never a hint of his former disgrace

– not so for the prodigal girl?

The girl may come back to the home she had left, but nothing is ever the same:

the shadow still lingers o'er the dear ones bereft, society scoffs at her name.

Perhaps that is why when the prodigal girl gets lost on life's devious track;

she thinks of the lips that will scornfully curl, and hasn't the heart to come back.

Yes, welcome the prodigal son to his place, kill the calf, fill the free-flowing bowl;

but shut not the door on his frail sister's face, remember, she too has a soul. (Anon

Flor McCarthy, New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies – Year B, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), 1999, p.92/93