

August 15, 2021 – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord . . . ”

Luke 1: 39-56

Vivaldi’s business plan

The text of today’s Gospel has inspired many great works of classical music. One of the most famous is a 20-minute choral version by Antonio Vivaldi, written between 1717 and 1719.

Vivaldi was working as choirmaster at the Pieta, an orphanage in Venice. The orphanage funded its work with a fascinating and brilliant business model: it trained orphans to sing for their supper. Vivaldi’s job was to compose pieces of music for the choir to sing before wealthy benefactors.

Mixed choirs were not countenanced in Catholic Europe in the 18th century, so at the Pieta, the boys left the orphanage and entered apprenticeships, while the girls stayed to constitute the choir. So Vivaldi composed a setting of Mary’s canticle especially for female voices.

In his score of the *Magnificat*, Vivaldi pitched the vocal bass parts high enough to be sung by an all-female choir. Vivaldi knew exactly what he was doing: he was taking lower-class young girls, with no hopes, prospects or protectors, and offered them, in singing this piece, a chance to bring about their own redemption and the liberation of women and girls like them. They were truly singing Mary’s song. Through them the Holy Spirit was exalting the humble and meek and sending the rich away a good deal emptier.

Vivaldi’s young female voices were “incubating” the Gospel of transformation just as Mary, in her womb, was “incubating” the Word of God.

In her Magnificat, the teenage Mary gives voice to her hope and faith in God’s re-creation of her life and world. In the birth of her son, Mary sings, God is about to turn the world upside down: Humility and selflessness will be honored. True power and authority are to be centered in compassion and generosity. Justice and mercy will be exalted. The places of honor at God’s table have been reserved for the poor, the forgotten, the insignificant – and, in God’s scheme of things, the most influential and powerful will be assigned to wait on them. The young working-class girl from Nazareth has glimpsed the Kingdom of God that the Child in her womb will proclaim: a Kingdom of hope and possibility that includes every girl – and boy – of every time, place and circumstance.

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August 15th, 2021
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish in Union with Christ

Parish Information

Pastor: Monsignor Jim Robertson

Office Administrator: Dianne Russell

(Summer) Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am - 2pm.

465 Curling Street
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 3K8
Tel: (709) 785-5025

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e-transfers: sacredheartrcparish@gmail.com
Password "Church"
www.sacredheartrcparish.ca

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:30 pm, Sunday 11 am

To Register, please call the office Tuesday to Friday between 9 am and 2 pm.

Mass During Week:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7 pm.
Friday at 10 am.

Lohnes Complex

First Fridays - 2 pm at the Lohnes Complex, ***closed to public.***

Bible Study:

Discontinued for the summer.

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Discontinued 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 638-9010.



**Masks are no longer mandatory but are still encouraged.
As well please maintain physical distancing at all times.**

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

August 1st, 2021

Regular Sunday	\$1722.00
Building Fund	520.00
In Memorium	100.00
Pope's Pastoral Works	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul	70.00

August 8th, 2021

Regular Sunday	\$1181.00
Building Fund	30.00
Mass Stipends	10.00
St. Vincent de Paul	45.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. 7pm	Late Alphonsus O'Quinn
Wed. 7pm	Late Jack Carroll
Thu. 7pm	Late Percival Joyce
Fri. 10pm	Late David & Violet Dicks
Sat. 4:30pm	Late George Musseau
Sun. 11am	Parish Community

WELCOME: Sacred Heart Parish warmly welcomes anyone who may be visiting our Parish this weekend. Whether you are visiting us just by chance or returning home, you're always a part of our family.

PARISH COUNCIL: Thank you to those who serve on our parish Council. Every year three council members finish their terms in September. We will need new members to have a full slate. If you know someone who would be a good member, please speak with them and put their name forward for election.

SAINT ANNE'S OIL: These are available at the parish office. We ask a \$7 offering for each.



SAINT BERNARD: August 20th is the feast day of Saint Bernard. As a young man, Bernard studied theology and Holy Scripture and later decided to join the

Cistercian Order. He was responsible for founding many monasteries, among them the famous Abbey of Clairvaux. He also composed a number of works, and he undertook many journeys for the honor of God. Saint Bernard is a Doctor of the Church because of his writings and sermons which greatly influenced Europe during the 12th century.

CHURCH – MAJOR PROJECTS: After numerous meetings between the finance committee and the parish council it was decided to proceed with the paving of the parking lot. This should start anytime. We are still discussing the church roof but that would require a major fundraiser. If we were to proceed with the church roof, it would have to be something we look at in the fall.

INSURANCE: We have already received the first part of our bill for insurance. The total bill for the property, contents and liabilities of the church, the house and the priest vehicle will be in excess of \$10,000. Any contributions you can make towards the cost will help free up costs for other projects in the parish. Please be generous.

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION: Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the gospel.

COVID 19 REGULATIONS: They are constantly changing covid-19 regulations. The latest changes acknowledge that we are responsible adults. The church wants to treat us the same way. We never want to return to the strict Covid-19 guidelines. So we are encouraging mask use whenever you are not able to physically distance. You can wear your masks all the time if you wish, it is perfectly acceptable. Handshaking, exchanging material and speaking in close proximity to each other is discouraged. Please continue to do all you can to stop covid-19 and help us to find a new normal. Contact tracing is still required and a list will still be kept to everyone who attends services. We encourage you to call the office to preregister. Also please make use of the hand sanitizer and other tools that will help us to respond to Covid-19. Thank you for your cooperation.

REFLECTION OF THE ASSUMPTION: In the light of the Assumption of Mary, it is easy to pray her Magnificat (Luke 1:46–55) with new



meaning. In her glory she proclaims the greatness of the Lord and finds joy in God her savior. God has done marvels to her, and she leads others to recognize God's holiness. She is the lowly handmaid who deeply revered her God and has been raised to the heights. From her position of strength, she will help the lowly and the poor find justice on earth, and she will challenge the rich and powerful to distrust wealth and power as a source of happiness.



GIVING THANKS FOR SUMMER:

Father, Creator of all, thank You for summer!
 Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.
 Thank You for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy Your creation.
 Thank You for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family, and for the more casual pace of the summer season.
 Draw me closer to You this summer.
 Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.
 Warm my soul with the awareness of Your presence and light my path with Your Word.
 As I enjoy Your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

- Author Unknown