

November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**The fable of the birds**

There is a legend that after God had created all of the animals of the wood, the newly-made animals walked around, happily discovering what it was like to be alive and getting use to their new bodies — all except the birds.



While the other animals had legs so they could run or fins so that they could swim, the birds could just hop a few steps. They didn't know what to do with these awkward appendages on their shoulder. *Why has God punished us?* they wondered. *Why do we have struggle to get around with these "things" on our backs?*

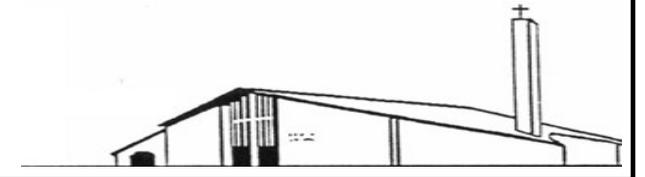
But then one bird managed to move those "things" on its back and discovered by flapping them up and down the bird could lift itself off the ground higher and higher and higher into the air. Then another bird began to flap its appendages. And then another and another and another. The birds discovered that they could soar into the skies — something no other animal could do.

The birds discovered that what they thought was a "heavy burden" was actually a wonderful gift from God.

**Whether we believe it or not, each one of us has been given something unique and special from God that we can use to contribute to the work of creation. Sometimes the very "thing" that we consider to be a burden or disadvantage leads us to discover the particular gift we (or another person) possesses. But, as Jesus teaches in the parable of the talents, such grace demands work on our part, the faith to "flap our wings," and a willingness to place our "wings" at the service of others. Our greatness lies not in the greatness of our talents in themselves but in the greatness of our love to use them to build the Kingdom of God in our time and place.**

**St. Stephen's Parish**

78 West Street, Stephenville, NL, A2N 1E4  
Tel (709) 643-2523 - Fax (709) 643-9745  
Email: st.stephens.parish@nf.sympatico.ca  
Web: www.ststephensparish.com



November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**BISHOP OF CORNER BROOK & LABRADOR: Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen**

**Administrator:** Fr. Krishnarao Mekala (Kris)      **Associate Priest:** Ft. Vanathuraj Rayappan (Ray)

**PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Warren Quinton

Rosa Dollard

**St. Anne's Guild**

**SECRETARY**

President Millicent Penton

Carolyn O'Quinn

**RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY COORDINATOR:** Theresa Dollimont

**LITURGY COORDINATOR:** Bernice Maddock

**Knights of Columbus - Grand Knight** Clyde Russell

**4th Degree Assembly - Faithful Navigator** Bob Miller

**MARRIAGES.** Six months notice is required; a year's notice is recommended.

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH SCHEDULE	
<p><b>SUNDAY MASSES</b> Saturday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Sunday Morning -10:30 A.M.</p>	<p><b>REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES</b> Online Daily Due to COVID-19</p>
<p><b>MARIA REGINA PARISH SCHEDULE</b></p>	
<p><b>SUNDAY MASSES</b> Saturday - 4:30 P.M Sunday - 9:00 A.M.</p>	<p><b>ROSARY</b> Saturdays at 11:00 am <b>RECONCILIATION</b> By Appointment</p>

**BAPTISM PREPARATION-** *Please call to register.*

**PRAYER MEETINGS:**

St. Stephen's Prayer Group — Wednesday at 7:45 P.M. in the Parish Meeting Room.

Word & Spirit Prayer Group — Tuesday at 8:00 P.M. in St. Anne's Hall.

**OFFICE HOURS:** MONDAY - 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm,

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, FRIDAY - 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

**CLOSED DAILY 12:00 - 1:00 PM**

## RECEIVED WITH THANKS

October 25<sup>th</sup> - \$4132.00  
November 1<sup>st</sup> - \$2506.00  
November 8<sup>th</sup> - \$3085.00



## SCENT-FREE

**Please be aware that some people have allergic reactions to perfumes and other scents. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### **Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**

For the late Pat Doyle  
For the late Douglas & Maude Walsh and Natasha  
For the late Carmelita Russell

### **Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**

For the late Mary Cormier

### **Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>**

For the late Herma Compagnon  
For the late Michelle Lee

### **Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**

For the late members of the J.V. and Mary Ellen  
O'Quinn Family

### **Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**

For the late Norbert & Terry Aucoin  
For the late Jim Woodford

## NOVEMBER - THE MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

This month we pray for deceased loved ones and for all the faithful departed. A visit to the cemetery this month also brings us special blessings. They benefit from our prayers.

## HOLY FATHERS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: UNIVERSAL: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

## SHEPHERDS' FUND FOUNDATION ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2020

You are kindly reminded that the annual Shepherds' Fund Foundation Campaign will be conducted next weekend, November 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>. Pandemic restric-

tions prevent the distributions of special envelopes so parishioners are asked to use a regular envelope listing their name, offertory envelope number and the notation: SHEPHERDS' FUND CAMPAIGN.

## 4 YOUTH

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, we celebrate the Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a feast which has been celebrated in the Universal Church since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. On this day we celebrate the fact that God chose to dwell in Mary in a very special way and that Mary placed her entire self at the service of God. Perhaps a good way for us to honor Mary on this feast day would be to spend some extra time in prayer. You can participate in prayers online and some of them even give you the words. Visit [www.comepraytherosary.org](http://www.comepraytherosary.org) and you can either join the world-wide prayer or pray on your own.



## EUTHANASIA LEGISLATION

The Government of Canada has introduced legislation to expand the criteria for euthanasia so that even more people will be eligible. This was triggered by a Quebec judge's decision the requirement that death be "reasonably foreseeable" is not constitutional. If this clause is removed, persons with disabilities will be eligible for euthanasia even in circumstances where death is not reasonably foreseeable. The disability community in Canada is very concerned that this change will only add to the public perception that certain people's lives are not worth living. To view art and videos, visit [humanflourishing.ca](http://humanflourishing.ca). Write your MP today to let them know what you think. You can also go to <http://www.canadiansforconscience.ca/> federalgovernment with your concerns.

## SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

The readings in the last weeks of Ordinary Time always speak of the end times. *They serve a purpose.* They inspire us to put our affairs in order, to let go of the negative in our past and embrace a new and blessed life. *No one is perfect.* We make mistakes or the wrong call often as we journey through life. Hopefully, we learn from



those mistakes. Those life lessons can serve to make us better people. *Deep down in our hearts, all of us yearn to be the ideal person.* The beautiful poem in the first reading from the Book of Proverbs can be a source of inspiration. *What gets in the way of that ideal?* Well, life does; our own ego does; all the distractions we face every day. Where can we turn, to whom can we turn? The word of God is always fresh, taking on new and pristine meanings. The meanings we receive from Scripture last year may very well tell us something else this year. That is how the divine word works in our lives. The Holy Spirit tries to renew and refresh us every day. (Taken from: Franciscan Media, *Sunday Homily Helps: 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - November 15, 2020 - Series A Readings*, Cincinnati (Ohio) USA, pp. 9-10)

## A STORY

Once upon a time there was a wealthy miser who melted down his hoard of gold into a single lump which he then secretly buried in his garden. Every day he went to look at it and would spend hours gloating over it. Then one of his servants discovered his secret and came by night and stole the gold. When the miser discovered that his treasure had been stolen, he was heartbroken. But a friend said to him, *"Don't take it so badly. Just put a brick in the hole and look at it every day. You won't be any worse off than before, for even when you had the gold you never used it."* All of us bury some talent which we refuse to use either for our own benefit or for the benefit of others. And what is buried is of no use to anyone. (Taken from: Flor McCarthy, *New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies: Year A*, Dominican Publications, Dublin (Ireland), pp. 346-347)



## HOW CAN WE HELP YOU IN PRAYER THIS WEEK?

Let us pray: God of all goodness, hear and answer the prayers of those you claim as your own. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Taken from: Resurrection Ministries of the Congregation of the Resurrection, Ontario-Kentucky Province, *Celebrating the Word*, Waterloo, Ontario).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ST. ANNE'S GUILD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of St. Anne's Guild will take place on Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Anne's Hall. Guidelines for COVID-19 will be followed.

### ST. ANNE'S GUILD CHRISTMAS CAKES & LOAVES SALE

St. Anne's Guild will be holding a Christmas Cakes and Loaves sale on:  
Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The sale will be held at St. Anne's Hall.  
Your support will be greatly appreciated.



"Buy a Cake - No Need to Bake!"

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP COUNCIL 3742 - CURBSIDE CAFE

The Knights of Columbus will be operating a curbside café from their building at 97 West Street on 19 November and every third Thursday of the month thereafter. The Café will provide soup lunches to the public from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on a pick-up basis only. Both drive-thru and walk-in patrons are welcome. Lunch is free of charge however donations are welcome. Please drop by and enjoy a delicious bowl of soup to brighten your day.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

There will be a Parish Council meeting on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at St. Anne's Hall.

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

After this year's interruptions, our Year 8 students will be completing the final step of their journey to be confirmed members of our Church. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.