

October 11, 2020

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hello First Confession and First Communion Families,

Due to COVID-19 circumstances, a lot has happened and changed over the past 6 months. However, at present we are able to go ahead with the Celebrations of First Confession and First Holy Communion, while considering many restrictions that are in place. As the Sacraments are of utmost importance we are anxious to move forward as we start the Religious Education Program this year.

First Confession

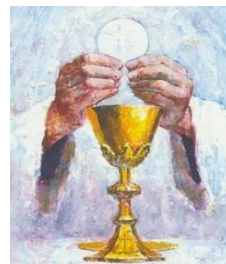
The practice for **First Confession** will take place at St. Stephen's Parish on **Tuesday, October 20 at 6:00 p.m.** At this time, the children will become further aware of the Sacrament and more comfortable with receiving First Confession. At least one adult is asked to come per child. The **First Confession Celebration** will take place on **Thursday, October 22 at 6:00 p.m.** Due to present restrictions we are only allowed to have 100 people in the Church. Therefore, each child making their first confession can have 3 other people with them. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but it is out of our control.

First Holy Communion

On **Tuesday October 27**, we will be having a **teaching Mass** for the children receiving their First Holy Communion. The children will learn more about the Sacrament and how special it is to receive their First Holy Communion. We ask that an adult be in attendance with each child. The celebration for **First Holy Communion** will be taking place on **Thursday, October 29 at 6:00 p.m.** with Bishop Bart offering Mass for your children. Each child can have 3 other people with them for this special day.

IMPORTANT! If your child is unable to attend First Confession or First Holy Communion for commitments you are unable to change, please let us know. We will do our best to make accommodations.

If you have any questions or concerns you can email Michelle Hawco, Grade 2 Catechist, at michellehawco@hotmail.com and she will get back to you ASAP. We look forward to celebrating these special Sacraments with your children and their families.

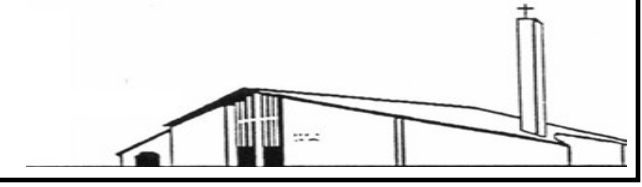


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28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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



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

Administrator: Rev. Krishnarao Mekala (Chris) Email: faterahwhite@gmail.com
Associate: Rev. A.H. White Email: faterahwhite@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Warren Quinton

St. Anne's Guild

President Millicent Penton

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Rosa Dollard

SECRETARY

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

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Sunday Morning - 10:30 A.M.

REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES

Online Daily Due to COVID-19

MARIA REGINA PARISH SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday - 4:30 P.M.
Sunday - 9:00 A.M.

ROSARY

Saturdays at 11:00 am
RECONCILIATION
By Appointment

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

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

September 20 - \$1,912.50
September 27 - \$2595.65
October 4 - \$3479.65



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 ATTENDANCE

When entering and exiting the Parish, a face mask is required. When you sit in a designated area, you may remove your face mask. When you leave your designated area for Communion or any other reason, you must wear your mask again. You must sign your name in the book upon entering the Parish in case there is a need for contact tracing. Remember to social distance.

HOLY FATHERS' INTENTION FOR OCTOBER

The laity's Mission in the Church - we pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the church.



NO RENTALS

For your information, the rental of St. Stephen's Parish Hall and St. Anne's Hall has been discontinued, due to COVID-19.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

If you wish to have your child baptized, please call the office at 643-2523 to register. Baptisms will be done **by appointment only** due to COVID-19. This preparation is for parents and God parents. We offer an update on the meaning of this Sacrament together with a practical walkthrough of the liturgy.

EMAIL MONEY TRANSFERS

Our parish still welcomes your financial support. Many people have dropped off their envelopes in the mailbox and we appreciate that. Now you also have the option to make donations via email money transfer. The email address for e-transfers only is stephensparish@gmail.com. Please also include your envelope # in the comments section if you have one. If not, please include an address where a tax receipt may be sent. Thank you.

WORLD FOOD DAY: OCTOBER 18

A World Food Day has been promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization since 1981. The Church is concerned about the issue of hunger in the world, remembering the words of the Son of Man on the last judgement of the nations..."I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink..."(Mt.25:35) **We invite you to bring perishable food items with your offerings next weekend. These will be forwarded to the Food Bank and will become a blessing to those in need. Please be as generous as possible.**



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

"Here I am ... Send me..." October is a special month for Catholics. Not only is it the month of the Holy Rosary, but it is Missionary Month throughout the world. World Mission Sunday 2020 is on October 18th. This year, this important Sunday is being held during the COVID-19 Pandemic which has so greatly affected our lives. People have been affected medically, socially, educationally, financially, emotionally, and of course, religiously. Students have been directly affected in their homes, families, and with their schooling. Even now, school for them is not the same as it was. With such a mammoth disruption to our lives, it is easy to forget about the difficulties faced by children in mission countries. It is safe to say that because of the hardships they normally face every day, the corona virus has made life even harder for them. Mission Sunday is an opportunity for young people to reinforce the three responsibilities of members of the Holy Childhood Association (HCA): prayer, knowledge, and sharing.

I HAVE LEARNED A SECRET

Saint Paul certainly had a varied life with its ups and downs. He provoked strong feelings in others. Some almost adored him - others tried to kill him. He was a feaster and starver. His life reflects the extremes that many people go through; usually on a smaller scale. He gives us a vital secret how to survive these peaks and valleys. He becomes all things to all people. He can do this because of his total confidence in Jesus. He can do everything with and through Christ. It's a lesson worth learning.

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY

ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known and most popular forms of prayer that we have as Catholics. The purpose of the Rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. There are four sets of "Mysteries of the Rosary" (Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious), giving a total of twenty mysteries. Each set of mysteries is said on specific days of the week. As we recite the Rosary, we are meant to meditate upon these mysteries. Over the centuries, the Rosary has grown into a timeless family prayer, one that has been prayed by billions of souls in countless languages around the world. Literally every moment of every day, in almost every corner of the earth, Catholics faithfully pray the rosary. If you aren't sure of how to say the Rosary, visit the website *Come, Pray the Rosary*, an online video for participation in worldwide or individual prayer.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROSARY

In honour of the Holy Rosary, The Knights of Columbus are inviting us to join them in prayer. Every Sunday during the months of May and October, the Knights of Columbus conduct rosary. This year, they will be conducting the rosary at 6:00 p.m. Sunday evenings at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

THE 2000 HAIL MARY DEVOTION

Rosary Group members will be praying the 2000 Hail Mary devotion on Tuesday, Oct. 13th at 9:00 a.m. in the Church and ending around 8:00 p.m. to honor Our Lady's miracle at Fatima. All are welcome and encouraged to pray at any point of the day. There will be a short break at 1:00 p.m. for lunch. If you cannot attend, then please unite your prayers at home with ours. God bless.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

Application forms are now available for the 2021-2022 Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation Program. The Certificate program, facilitated by the Providence School of Transformational Leadership and Spirituality at St. Paul University (Ottawa) runs from April 2021 to June 2022, including both face to face and online courses. For more information visit cwlfcanada.ca or email Rita Janes at ritacjanes@gmail.com.

The application deadline is November 20, 2020.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

Cancer Support Group meetings will take place on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. For more information, please call Joan at 643-3425 or Joyce at 643-3021.

NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL

There is currently one vacancy on our parish council. If you would like to nominate somebody, please consult with them prior to nominating. To nominate an individual, please drop by the parish office and complete the nomination form. Deadline for applications is October 12, 2020.

PRIESTS' RETREAT

The Bishop and Priests of the Dioceses will be away from Monday October 12, to Friday October 16, for their annual retreat. Please join in praying for God's blessings upon them at this time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

Parents are now able to register for our Religious Education Program. If you would like to register your child for this program, applications are available on our website or you can call our parish office.

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Monday, October 12, is Thanksgiving Monday, and is a holiday. Therefore, our main office will be closed for drop-offs.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

This Thanksgiving, let those of us who have much and those who have little gather at the welcoming table of the Lord. At this Blessed feast, may rich and poor alike remember that we are called to serve one another and to walk together in God's gracious world. With thankful hearts, we praise our God, who like a loving parent, provides us with good things.



The Rosary is the prayer that always accompanies my life: it is also the prayer of simple people and saints.... It is the prayer of my heart.

Pope Francis