

October 28, 2018

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging.
"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me . . . !

"Master, I want to see."

Mark 10: 46-52

Seeing *all* the colors

A professor of ministry and spirituality asks her students to take part in a little experiment:

She directs them to look around the classroom and focus on one particular color: for example, take note of everything that is red, she says. After a few moments, she asks them to close their eyes and quietly recall all the red items they saw. Then comes the unexpected: With their eyes still closed, the professor asks them to name all the *blue* things they had seen. Most often, because they were so focused on the color red, they missed all the blue and any other color.

The professor explains that this is similar to what we focus on in everyday life:

"We focus on the negative and tend to notice all that is going wrong in our world, and we miss God's grace and presence before us. What we focus on is what we give power to! In focusing on the negative we miss God's grace."

In today's Gospel, Jesus restores the sight of the blind Bartimaeus - but not just the vision of his eyes, but the vision of his soul. Jesus redirects his sight to perceive the presence of God in his life, to see and embrace the many signs of God's grace in the world around him. Our own vision can use a similar re-focus: we can be so attuned to one "color" - the color of disappointment, the color of self-centeredness, the color of cynicism - that we are blind to the colors of God: compassion, mercy, forgiveness, peace. Bartimaeus receives his sight - but Jesus also affirms the vision that he already possesses: the ability to "see" God's love in his midst, to "see" the possibilities for God's transforming hope and re-creating love to heal the brokenness in his life, to "see" his own ability to be the means for God's justice and reconciliation. To see our lives and our world with the eyes of faith is to recognize the many colors of God's grace radiant in every human being, in every place, in every moment.

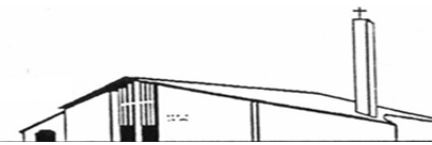
(www.connectionsmediaworks.com)

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30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

St. Stephen's Parish

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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. Peter Hundt

Administrator: Rev. Krishnarao Mekala (Chris) **Associate:** Rev. Vitus Echedo

Email: fatherchriststp78@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Warren Quinton

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Debbie Keough 643-6681

RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Theresa Dollimont

LITURGY COORDINATOR: Bernice Maddock

Knights of Columbus - Grand Knight Bob Miller **4th Degree Assembly** - Faithful Navigator Clifford Osmond

St. Anne's Guild - President Millicent Penton

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Vacant

SECRETARY

Carolyn O'Quinn

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH SCHEDULE

<p>SUNDAY MASSES Saturday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Sunday Morning - 10:30 A.M.</p>	<p>ROSARY Saturdays from 1:30 am until 2:30 pm. RECONCILIATION Saturdays at 3:00 P.M.; anytime by request</p>
<p>MARIA REGINA PARISH SCHEDULE</p>	
<p>SUNDAY MASSES Saturday - 4:30 P.M. Sunday - 9:00 A.M.</p>	<p>REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES Monday and Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 9:30 A.M. Thursday Adoration 10 A.M. - 12 NOON 1st Friday - Acadian Village - 2:00 P.M. 3rd Friday - Silverwood Manor - 2:30 P.M.</p>

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

BAPTISM PREPARATION. Last Monday of every month from Sept - May *Please call to register*

MASS FOR THE SICK. Every First Friday of the month

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. The 3rd Sunday of the month beginning at 2:00 P.M. and ending with benediction at 4:00 P.M.

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 OCT. 20-21:

Sunday Collection	\$ 3,047.65
Capital Repairs	\$ 130.50
Needs of the Canadian Church	\$ 5.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 10.00

SANCTUARY CANDLE: For the intentions of Marcus Benoit as requested by Theresa Gould.

SCENT-FREE : Please be aware that some people have allergic reactions to perfumes and other scents. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated!

MEMORIAL MASS: There will be a Memorial Mass on Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 7 p.m. in remembrance of family members who have passed away. Those who have died in this parish in the past year will have their names printed on the program and read aloud at this special Mass. If you have family members who have died away, you may call the parish office at 643-2523 to register their names. There will also be cards available at the back of the Church for the names of family members who died previous to November 2017. These cards will be presented at the altar at this Mass. The 9:30 a.m. Mass and Adoration for that day will be cancelled.

THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS RELEASES NEW DOCUMENT:

A New Document to Protect Minors and Vulnerable Adults from Sexual Abuse On October 4, 2018, the CCCB released its updated and expanded national guidelines for the protection of minors in Canada entitled Protecting Minors from Sexual Abuse: A Call to the Catholic Faithful in Canada for Healing, Reconciliation, and Transformation. With this document, Canada's Bishops reaffirm their commitment to continue improving practices in their dioceses/eparchies with an emphasis on long-term prevention and pre-emptive action. The document brings the CCCB's existing guidelines (From Pain to Hope, 1992; Orientations, 2007) up to date with the latest laws in Canada and the most recent norms of the Holy See. For more info www.rcchurch.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 2018

Yr 3 Monday, **October 29** at 6:00 pm

November 2018

Kindergarten, November 8th at 6:00 pm

Yr 1 **November 5th and 6th** at 6:00 pm

Yr 2 **November 19th and 20th** at 6:00pm

Yr 3 **November 26th** at 6:00 pm

Yr 4 **November 22th** at 6:00 pm

Yr 5 & 6 **November 29th** at 6:00 pm

Pre- Confirmation Schedule Yr 7
November 4th, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:00

Confirmation Schedule Yr 8
November 14th, 2018 from 6:00 to 7:00

CANCELLATION OF DAILY MASS:

With the winter approaching us we want to remind you, as is the practise throughout the diocese and in all parishes, including the cathedral parish, **daily mass will be cancelled on days when schools are closed.** If school is closed for the morning and morning mass has been scheduled, mass too is cancelled. If schools are closed for the afternoon, any evening masses scheduled are also cancelled.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION: As Christian stewards we are called to devote a regular portion of our time to God in prayer. Perhaps we find it intimidating to find the right words when approaching our perfect and all-holy God.

Today's Gospel shows us we need to have our "act together" before we can spend time with Him in prayer. In this passage from Mark, we see that Bartimaeus received a powerful answer to prayer at a very low point in his life. There, he sat, begging at the side of the road in a very undignified manner. His posture wasn't exactly reverent, and his prayer wasn't eloquent, just a desperate, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me."

But it was a sincere cry from his heart. And Jesus, though surrounded by a sizable crowd, heard it, and called for Bartimaeus to come to Him. Folks from the crowd called to Bartimaeus, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." And right there on the spot, Bartimaeus experienced a profound moment of personal encounter with our Lord and the healing of his vision he desired.

How simple it is to encounter Jesus! All we must do is reach out to Him in prayer and we can be assured that He will hear us and call us to Himself. So let's all take courage this week knowing that Jesus is calling us right now to spend time with Him just as we are, in all our weakness and brokenness. Tell Him, the great High Priest, what your needs are and then, like Bartimaeus, follow Him, and keep on keeping on in this stewardship way of life. It's a life with the ultimate happy ending.

ASKED TO ANNOUNCE:

ST. ANNE'S GUILD: Will be having a used book sale at St. Anne's Hall on Saturday November 3 after evening Mass until 9:00P.m. and Sunday Nov 4 after morning Mass until 1:00. Your support would be greatly appreciated

CHASE THE ACE: Knights of Columbus are sponsoring their Chase the Ace fundraiser. This event is held on Sunday with ticket sales starting at 1:00 pm and ending at 3:45 pm with the draw taking place at 4 pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: October being the month of the Holy rosary, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Council 3742 Knights of Columbus will be reciting the Holy Rosary each Sunday evening at 7:00p.m. for the month of October. All Brother Knights and Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

AL-ANON: If anyone is interested in Al-Anon (family and friends of problems drinkers) you may call 646-5503 or 643-6153 for time and place of meetings. Please phone before meeting during winter months to confirm during winter months due to possible weather.

LEADERSHIP APPLICATIONS 2019-2020: Application Forms are now available for the Catholic Women's Leadership Foundation Program for 2019 - 20. The Certificate program runs from May 2019 to June 2020, and is both face to face and online. For more information visit www://cwlfcanada.ca. You may also call Rita Janes at 709-722-3860.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP COUNCIL 3742 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Would like to remind all Brother Knights that the regular monthly meeting will be taking place on Thursday November 1, following the Memorial Mass at the Knights of Columbus building on west street. All Brother Knights are encouraged to attend. Brother Knights are reminded to bring in their Fall tickets as the deadline to have the tickets in is November 17, 2018. There will be a guest speaker speaking about November 11. Please bring along another Brother Knight with you who has not been at a meeting for awhile.

TEAM BROKEN EARTH FUNDRAISER:

Western Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Team Will travel to Haiti on November 14, 2018. A MUSICAL VARIETY SHOW will be held on Friday, Nov. 2nd at 7:30 pm Stephenville High School Theatre. Tickets are \$10

GREAT LINE UP OF MUSICIANS
Tickets can be purchased from Tom Adams at 649-2324 or Rosemary Finn 643-3708. Also available at the door. ALL ARE WELCOME

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP: Meetings take place at St. Anne's Hall the first Wed of each month, at 7:30 p.m. For more info. call Joan at 643-3425 or Joyce at 643-3021.

STEWARDSHIP COFFEE TIME: Will take place on Sunday, November 21st after Mass in the downstairs meeting room of the Church. Please join us for a tea or coffee, a sandwich or a cookie as we gather together in Fellowship following Sunday Service!