

EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

March 2, 2025



**WELCOME TO
SJA
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH
P.O. Box 30
St. Joseph's, NL A0B 3A0**

Telephone Number: 709 521-2206

Fax Number: 709-521-2888

Email - goodshepherdparish2008@gmail.com

Website- www.gsparish.ca

Pastor/Administrator – Reverend Nelson Boren

Administrative Assistant – Betty Kielly

Parish Council Chair – Shirley Kielly

Finance Council Chair – Howard Power

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Wednesday 10:30 am – 1:00 pm Friday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

ASH WEDNESDAY March 5	11:00 am	St. Mary's	Geraldine Cahill; Lenora Taylor Arnold Bishop
Saturday March 8	4:00 pm	St. Vincent's	Mona Fleming Rita & Lawrence J. Gibbons, Lawrence Gibbons Jr Anthony & Catherine Hicks, Ross & Shirley Barney
	5:30 pm	St. Mary's	Michael Critch William & Anastasia Kielly & deceased members of the Kielly family Malcolm & Mary Best & deceased members of the Best family
Sunday March 9	9:30 am	St. Joseph's	Ralph Dunphy; Karl Kenny Martin Gough
	11:15 am	Mount Carmel	"Missa Pro Populo" For Parishioners Living and Deceased

MINISTRY LIST

Saturday March 8	4:00 pm	St. Vincent's	Cross Bearer: Nellie Gibbons Reader: Angela Fleming Collectors: Dan Fleming Gift Bearers: Dan & Jose St. Croix Eucharistic Minister: Frances Fleming
Saturday March 8	5:30 pm	St. Mary's	Cross Bearer: Des Yetman Reader: Thelma Stamp Collectors: Len Ryan, Des Yetman Gift Bearers: Ron & Sylvia Molloy Eucharistic Minister: Shirley Kielly
Sunday March 9	9:30 am	St. Joseph's	Cross Bearer: Donal Greene Reader: Howard Power Collectors: Gordon Gambin, Tony Daley Gift Bearers: Augusta Gough, Elizabeth Daley Eucharistic Minister: Howard Power
Sunday March 9	11:15 am	Mount Carmel	Cross Bearer: Don Power Reader: Joan Downey Collectors: Victor Cole, Don Power Gift Bearers: Heather Marrie, Donna Critch Eucharistic Minister: Carmel Patey

GSP PASTORAL/FINANCE/FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING following mass in St. Mary's Wednesday March 5.

FINANCES ACKNOWLEDGED WITH SINCERE THANKS:

Feb 22/23/26: St. Vincent's/St. Mary's/St. Joseph's/Mt. Carmel/ Nt. Harbour

Weekly Offering: \$1259.75 Ash Wednesday Offering: \$10.00 Sanctuary Lights: \$26.00

Mass Card Print Cost: \$2.00 Certificate: \$5.00

Funeral Mass Stipend (Pierre Critch): \$150.00 Colinet Cemetery Plot (Joseph F. Corrigan): \$100.00

GRAND IN YOUR HAND WINNERS FOR JANUARY: 1st winner Astrid Daley. Ticket No. 00326

Drawn by Dot Kielly, witnessed by Len Ryan

2nd winner Michelle McDonald Ticket No. 00249 drawn by Len Ryan, witnessed by Sheila Lee.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a Pancake Supper fundraiser for Good Shepherd Parish held at the Mount Carmel Town Hall on Shrove Tuesday, March 4th from 4:30 pm til 6:30 pm. Pancakes (including Gluten Free pancakes), Baked Beans, Sausage and Bologna will be served. Cost: \$10 per person; children under 10 will be \$5.00. Come out and enjoy some friendship and support our parish. There will also be a 50/50 draw and a door prize! Come one, come all!

ARCHDIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE: The next course is scheduled for **May 3, 2025**, at the Basilica, 200 Military Rd, St. John's. Couples can register using the following link: [Marriage Preparation Registration | Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. John's \(rcsj.org\)](https://www.rcsj.org/marriage-preparation-registration) . Once registered, couples will receive additional information.

ASH WEDNESDAY AT MUN: Mass on Ash Wednesday at MUN at 12:15 in UC 2000 (MUNSU Council Chambers, across from the bookstore), and at 5 pm in UC 3015 (the Loft). All welcome.
Fr Joe Mroz SJ, MUN Chaplain.

LIVING FAITH

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARCH 2, 2025

2025 Jubilee Year
Pilgrims of Hope



THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY: Lk 6:39-45

Jesus also told them a parable: "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher. Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbour, "Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye", when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbour's eye.

'No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks."

REFLECTING ON THE GOSPEL

Have you ever met someone who never questioned themselves? Or someone who was convinced that they were always right? In some circles, such as election campaigns, people who are candidates and never question themselves are touted as strong candidates; no one running for office ever wants to be accused of 'flip-flopping' on a position! While that may help make for a successful political campaign, it also reveals that in society we place a high value on self-assurance and the self-confidence, but to what extent? Those are good qualities to be sure, but if we do not allow for the potential to grow and learn through healthy self-doubt and self-questioning, are we not missing an important part of how we grow in wisdom? If we are honest with ourselves, there are multiple experiences in life that teach us that we do not always know what is best – we make mistakes in our decisions and opinions; our judgements can be fraught with problems and prove harmful to others. Furthermore, it is difficult if not impossible, for one person to understand every angle and nuance of an issue. Hence, we are always in need of growth in wisdom, knowledge and grace, as it says in scripture.

In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges the disciples to see the log in their own eye before they judge the speck in their neighbour's eye. Then he goes on to criticize those who first do not see their own growing edges and shortcomings (i.e. the log), focusing only on those same things (i.e. the speck) in others. There are many ways to understand this Gospel, but one way, is to understand Jesus calling for a healthy humility on everyone's part. What is healthy humility? It is being aware of our own gifts and talents and the love God has for us, balanced with knowing where we stumble and fall in sin, and where we are in need of grace and healing.

TALKING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- What virtues do you admire in others?
- How would you go about practicing these virtues?
- How do others know that you hold certain virtues and consider them important?



Archbishop's Jubilee Year Lenten Message

*Therefore, my beloved,
be steadfast, immovable,
always excelling in the work of the Lord,
because you know that in the Lord
your labour is not in vain.*

(1 Cor. 15:58)

Dear People of the Archdiocese of St. John's:

This coming week, with the celebration of Ash Wednesday, we begin the season of Lent. Lent is a special time for us, a time for recommitting ourselves to, "excelling in the work of the Lord". There is a great deal of work to be done.

In this Jubilee Year, Pope Francis invites us as "Pilgrims of Hope" to do what we can to "Turn Debt into Hope" for the billions of people in our world who often lack the essentials of life. We are invited to participate in this "work of the Lord" both by giving to this year's Share Lent campaign and by urging our country's decision-makers to prioritize people and planet by providing debt justice for communities crushed by unjust and unpayable debts.

Ecologically, we are challenged as individuals and as a nation to live a lifestyle that is environmentally respectful and sustainable.

Politically, we are called to recognize our right and obligation to be informed of the concerns and issues facing our province and country and to be involved respectfully and proactively in discerning and supporting the leaders and policies that promote justice and peace in our country and around the world.

Locally and globally, we are reminded that we are "our brother's keeper" and that we must be actively concerned and involved in assisting those brothers and sisters who are suffering because of warfare, persecution, oppression, poverty, homelessness, illness and/or abuse.

Traditionally we are invited in Lent to "excel in the works of the Lord" by our participation in the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer opens our mind to God's presence and guidance. Fasting invites us into a "poverty of spirit" that opens our hearts to the deeper needs of ourselves and others. Almsgiving provides us with the opportunity to share ourselves and our goods and talents in ways that are a blessing to both the giver and the receiver.

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus tells the disciples that "each tree is known by its own fruit" and that "no good tree bears bad fruit". As we prepare to begin the Lent of this Jubilee Year, let us ask the Lord to inspire and guide us through prayer, fasting and almsgiving to excel in bearing good fruit, fruit that shows us to truly be "Pilgrims of Hope", who excel in doing the works of the Lord.

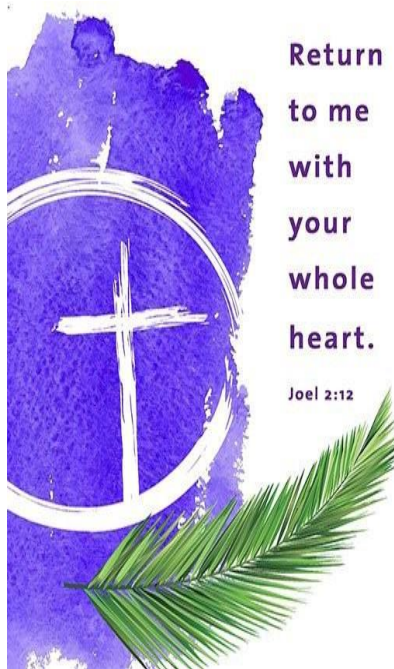
Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Peter Hundt
Archbishop of St. John's

Journey Through Lent Video Series: Weekly Reflections for the Lenten Season

The Office for Evangelization and Catechesis, in collaboration with the National Liturgy Office and the Office national de liturgie, has launched the 2025 video series titled [Journey Through Lent](#). Beginning on Ash Wednesday, 5 March 2025, and for each Sunday in Lent, up to and including Palm Sunday, a video will be uploaded to the CCCB website featuring pastoral reflections based on the Readings for the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration. This series is designed for individuals, families, and communities, providing spiritual inspiration and guidance on how to prepare for the Easter season. You can visit this link again every Monday (26 February, 10 March, 17 March, 24 March, 31 March and 7 April) to access videos for the Sunday Eucharistic Celebration.

Lent
A Time to Renew



Joel 2:12

Q. I understand that Catholics ages 18 to 59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday, but what exactly are the rules for these fasts?

A. Fasting on these days means we can have only one full, meatless meal. Some food can be taken at the other regular meal times, if necessary, *but combined they should be less than a full meal*. Liquids are allowed at any time, but no solid food should be consumed between meals.



A. Abstinence laws consider that meat comes not only from animals such as chickens, cows, sheep or pigs --- all of which live on land. Birds are also considered meat. Fish are a different category of animal. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles, (cold-blooded animals) and shellfish are permitted.



"Let Your Speech Always be Gracious."

Over the coming weeks, we will be reflecting on the content of this Pastoral letter. Links:

Introduction to the Pastoral Letter

Check for Accuracy and Seek Greater Perspective Value Human

Dignity in Online Interactions

Bring Curiosity into Conversations and Distinguish Between Intention and Impact

SOME EXCERPTS FROM THE JUBILEE LETTER WRITTEN BY POPE FRANCIS

HOPE DOES NOT DISAPPOINT

1. *SPES NON CONFUNDIT*. “Hope does not disappoint” (*Rom 5:5*). In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years...For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the “door” (cf. *Jn 10:7.9*) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as “our hope” (*1 Tim 1:1*).



Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope. Taking it as our guide, let us return to the message that the Apostle Paul wished to communicate to the Christians of Rome.



3. Hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross: “For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life” (*Rom 5:19*). That life becomes manifest in our own life of faith, which begins with Baptism, develops in openness to God's grace and is enlivened by a hope constantly renewed and confirmed by the working of the Holy Spirit.

By his perennial presence in the life of the pilgrim Church, the Holy Spirit illumines all believers with the light of hope. He keeps that light burning, like an ever-burning lamp, to sustain and invigorate our lives. Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God's love: “Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or the sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (*Rom 8:35.37-39*). Here we see the reason why this hope perseveres in the midst of trials: founded on faith and nurtured by charity, it enables us to press forward in life. As Saint Augustine observes: “Whatever our state of life, we cannot live without these three dispositions of the soul, namely, to believe, to hope and to love”.

