

SACRED HEART OF JESUS PARISH PRESS

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish

September 2015

Believing and Growing In Faith

Welcome Back! It's hard to believe that the summer is over and we've headed back to the classroom! I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable summer. As the Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, it gives me great joy to bring you greetings at the beginning of this new school year.

As many of you know my name is Fr. John Lemire and since last summer I have been the Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish.

Since my arrival it has been a busy time, not only getting settled in, but also trying to get to know the Parish, the various groups and programs in the Parish as well as working with the staff and students at Sacred Heart Catholic School. It has been an exciting time and I look forward to serving here for many years to come.

As you know, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish is intimately involved in the life of Sacred Heart School on an ongoing basis throughout the year. We believe that it is important to have a strong school, parish, and home relationship and we are committed to living out this partnership in real and tangible ways. Throughout the year, we will be communicating with you on a regular basis and I look forward to developing and deepening our relationship with your son / daughter and your family.

As we begin the new school and pastoral year I'd like to use this first newsletter to update you on some of the fall programs that will be taking place. Throughout this upcoming year we will find ways in our school and parish (and hopefully your home) to celebrate the gift of our Catholic Faith, learn more about it and deepen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

UPCOMING SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMS

One of the great gifts that Jesus left to the early Church, and by extension to us, are the sacraments. The sacraments are special gifts, given by Jesus, to help us live holy and

happy lives. They help us draw closer to God and lead more fulfilling and enriching lives as His friends.

Just as there are various stages that we journey through life, so too there are various stages that we journey in our sacramental lives. The school, parish, and home play a special role in the sacramental journey of your child(ren).

BAPTISM is the first of the sacraments of the Church. In and through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are washed clean of original sin, made members of God's Family, and the doorway through which the other sacraments are received.



We will be offering a preparation course for parents who wish to have their child baptized in the Catholic Faith. Preparation consists of three evening sessions spread over a three week period of time.

If you are interested in having your child(ren) baptized, please call the Parish Office (705-268-3053) to register for the next session.

Children who wish to receive the other sacraments of the Catholic Church must be baptized first. As well, in the future if they wish to be a godparent or have their child(ren) one day attend a Catholic school, they must be baptized beforehand.

RECONCILIATION is the privileged means for the followers of Jesus to receive the gift of forgiveness and healing for their sins.

Children in grade three and up are invited to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the fall.

Preparation consists of three parent meetings, an in home parent-child workbook, participation in our weekly

children's program at Sunday morning Mass, and a retreat afternoon for candidates. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is received during the Advent Season.

All parents who wish to have their child make their First Reconciliation this year must attend an important parent meeting on **Thursday, October 1st at 7:00 P.M. in Parish Hall (296 Cedar St. South).**

EUCCHARIST or communion is the opportunity to receive Jesus, the Bread of Life. Children who have made their First Reconciliation are invited to prepare in the winter months to receive the Body of Christ.

Eucharist



Preparation consists of two parent meetings, an in home parent-child workbook, participation in our weekly children's program at Saturday Evening Mass, and a retreat afternoon for candidates. The Sacrament of First Eucharist is received during the Easter Season.

All parents who wish to have their child make their First Communion this year must attend an important parent meeting on **Thursday, October 1st at 7:00 P.M. in Parish Hall (296 Cedar St. South).**

CONFIRMATION is the final Sacrament of Initiation within the Church.

It is celebrated every second year with students in grade seven and eight. Our next program of preparation will begin later this fall with the sacrament being celebrated in spring 2016 with Bishop Poitras.

If you have a child who would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation later this year, please call the Parish Office for further details.

WEBSITE Our website has a host of useful information and links. Check out the website at www.sacredheartofjesusparish.ca You can also access past homilies and other talks and presentations by a click of the button on our website!

E-BULLETINS If you would like to receive the weekly e-bulletin simply email frjohn@ntl.sympatico.ca and stay in touch with all the latest news and events.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or do you know anyone interested in learning more about our faith?

Are you un-baptized but recognize a need for spirituality in your life? Are you a baptized Catholic but have not yet received the Sacraments of Communion or Confirmation? Are you married to a Catholic and attend Mass but just don't know what the next step is to becoming part of the Catholic Community? Are you yearning for something more in your life? Maybe you have been looking for a spiritual homecoming and have never found it. Every year people are welcomed into the Catholic community through the R.C.I.A. It is a learning and loving process which brings you to a closer relationship with God. Anyone who is seriously thinking about becoming a member of the Catholic faith or would simply like more information can contact Fr. John at 705-268-3053.



LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME PROGRAM We offer a children's program (for children from JK until grade three) **each Sunday during our 10:00 A.M. Mass.** The children are dismissed to the Parish Hall just after Mass begins and return at the time of the offertory procession. During their time together they hear the gospel read at their level and work on an activity or craft based on the theme of the gospel.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK Check our facebook page at [facebook.com/sacredhearttimmins](https://www.facebook.com/sacredhearttimmins) and stay up to date on the latest happenings in the Parish.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES Why not join us for Mass this weekend? **Mass times are Saturday at 5:00 P.M. and Sunday at 10:00 A.M. (Please note the new time for Sunday morning Mass.)** We look forward to having you join us and take a moment to introduce yourself to me at the door.

Father John Lemire, Pastor
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish
296 Cedar Street South
Phone: 705-268-3053
Email: frjohn@ntl.sympatico.ca