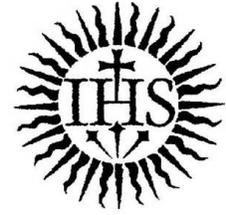




ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

16 Smithville Crescent, St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador
A1B 2V2
Tel.# 709-754-0170



E-mail: stpiusx@nl.rogers.com
Webpage: www.spx.ca
Pastor: esmith@jesuits.ca
Archdiocesan Webpage: rcsj.org

Father Earl Smith, SJ (Pastor and Superior of St. John's Jesuits)
Father Wayne Bolton, S.J. (Associate Pastor)
Father William Browne, S.J. (Assistant Priest in Residence)
Father Joseph Schuck, S.J. (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)
Father Joe Mroz, SJ (Archdiocesan Chaplain at Memorial University)
Father Gregory Carruthers, S.J.
(Spiritual Formation in the Archdiocese of St. John's)
Brother Joe Frechette, SJ (Ministry at St. Bonaventure's College)
Maria R. Kelsey (Pastoral Assistant and Religious Education Coordinator)

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME December 18, 2016



Archbishop Currie's Christmas Message 2016

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Earlier this month, we marked the ending of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, and with it, the closing of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica and in cathedrals around the world. It was a remarkable year, a true celebration of the tender love and mercy of our God, which never ceases. In our Archdiocese of St. John's, monthly events helped to draw our minds and hearts towards our God, source of mercy and compassion, and towards our sisters and brothers, particularly those in most need. Together, throughout this year, we celebrated the Jubilee for Consecrated Life (Feb. 2), the Jubilee for the Sick (Feb. 11), 24 Hours with the Lord (March 4-5), The Jubilee for Youth and Young Adults (April 3), the Jubilee for Married Couples (May 21-22), the Archdiocesan Food Drive (May 28-29), the Jubilee for Grandparents (July 24), the Jubilee for Catechists (Sept 24-25), and the Jubilee for Prisoners (November 6). Many of our events included pilgrimages through the Holy Door at the east side of our Basilica-Cathedral.

As God's people, and as the hands and feet of Jesus in the world today, we are perpetually on pilgrimage. This Year of Mercy has reminded us that we must constantly journey toward the other, and reach out in mercy and love, often surprising the people around us with the love of God that flows through us. The Year of Mercy may have drawn to a close, but we are certain, now more than ever, that "the steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end" (Lamentations 3:22). Our task from this point forward is to continue to make God's mercy and love present in our world. As we look around us, ours is a world which desperately needs to know the peace that only God can bring. We must be means of that peace, speaking fluently the language of mercy, which is a language of actions, of outreached hands and open hearts and minds.

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, who walked among us on earth. Jesus continues to walk among us, we meet him in the hungry, cold, ill-clothed, sick, imprisoned, grieving and poorly housed or with no roof over his head. Let each one of us search each day for some concrete way to reach out to someone in need. Though the Year of Mercy has come to a close, mercy is more needed than ever in our world.

May the joy, peace and mercy of Christ be poured into your hearts and homes this Christmas. May that joy, peace and mercy flow from your hearts and homes into the world around us, enlightening that world, one heart and one life at a time. When others experience the mercy you embody, may they be able to say, "the steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is God's faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23).

In Christ,

Most Rev. Martin W. Currie, DD
Archbishop of St. John's

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The following is the schedule for the Parish Office during the Holiday Season:

Monday, December 19 - Friday, December 23

9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Monday, December 26 and Tuesday, December 27

CLOSED

Wednesday, December 28 - Friday, December 30

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Monday, January 2 CLOSED

Tuesday, January 3 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

EXPOSITION THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be cancelled on **Monday, December 26, 2016 and Monday, January 2, 2017.**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on **Monday, January 9, 2017 at 1 pm** in the **Church.**

PARISH SKATING PARTY

The annual Skating Party will be held on **Boxing Day, Monday, December 26, 2016** from **1 - 2 pm** at **Bussey Arena (formerly O'Heir Arena).** Come one and all, enjoy the free gourmet hot chocolate and Timbits, while your toes and fingers tingle with delight and frostbite. Get some exercise, and rest your thumbs from playing video games. Friends and parishioners are all invited - all free. We'll even tie up your skates for you!

OUR 'PIUS' SMILE

My son, stationed in Japan, dated a Japanese girl who spoke little English. That didn't faze him until the night she announced, "*I have chicken pox.*" My son didn't know whether to run or get her to the hospital. Then he noticed her shivering. "*You don't have chicken pox*", he said. "*You have goose bumps*".

Ketchikan, Alaska, gets more than 12 feet of rain each year. But the day we visited our grandson Josh the sun brightly shone. "*It's so sunny*", I marvelled. "*We don't say it's sunny here*", Josh corrected. "*We refer to it as 'cloud failure'*".

Source: Laughter Still Is The Best Medicine, **Reader's Digest**, 2014, pages 179 and 183.

ATTENTION PARENTS: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

This **Sunday, December 18, 2016** is the last **Children's Liturgy of the Word and Sacramental Preparation programs** for this year, 2016. All programs will resume on **Sunday, January 8, 2017** at the **11 am Mass.**

A special thank you to all our leaders, assistant leaders and all who have worked behind the scenes to assist our parents in the faith development of their children.

PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Penitential Services throughout our Archdiocese will be held at

St. Patrick's Monday, December 19 at 7 pm

St. Teresa's Tuesday, December 20 at 7 pm

Corpus Christi Wednesday, December 21 at 7 pm

There will be numerous confessors from other Parishes.

PARISH FINANCES

Parishioners are offered a gentle nudge and reminder that all parish donations received by December 31st will receive an income tax receipt for 2016.

ARCHDIOCESAN SURVEY

The results of the Archdiocesan Survey that was conducted the spring/summer of 2015 has been released as a full report. For parishioners that did not receive a copy of this Survey, copies (*yellow in colour*) are available at the Church and Chapel entrances. It can also be found on our parish's and the Archdiocesan website

<http://rcsj.org/news/the-archdiocese-survey-report>.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to one of our parishioners, **Vince Withers**, who has been named to the Order of Newfoundland and Labrador. Vince is currently the Chair of the Archdiocesan Strategic Planning Committee and is especially known for his founding of the Eating Disorder Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

OFFICE OF SENIORS ADVOCATE

The premier recently announced the establishment of an independent Office of the Senior Advocate to be in place by spring, 2017. We congratulate and thank the CWL for its work in promoting such an office.

Calendar of Services, Mass Intentions and Activities

Sun.	Dec. 18	8:30 am 11:00 am	Mass Mass	4 th Sunday of Advent 4 th Sunday of Advent
Mon.	Dec. 19	9:30 am 1:00 pm 7:30 pm	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Chapel Mass	Daphne Collins <i>(This will be cancelled December 26, 2016 and January 2, 2017)</i> Tilley, Greeley and Pottle Families
Tues.	Dec. 20	9:30 am 3:30 pm 7:30 pm 8:00 pm	Mass Ignatian Prayer Session - Chapel Mass Ignatian Prayer Session - Chapel	Veronica and George Mills and Family Goss, Aberly and Neville Families
Wed.	Dec. 21	9:30 am	Mass	William and Madeline Scott
Thurs.	Dec. 22	9:30 am 7:30 pm	Mass Choir Practice - Church	Leo, Frances and John and Joyce Parrell
Fri.	Dec. 23	9:30 am	Mass	Lawrence Fahey
Sat.	Dec. 24	9:30 am 7:00 pm 11:00 pm	Mass Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Mass	The Barry Family
Sun.	Dec 25	8:30 am 11:00 am	Christmas Day Mass Christmas Day Mass	

WEBSITES: Three to recommend are:
www.jesuits.ca www.ignatianspirituality.com www.jesuitresources.org

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday: 3:30 - 4:20 pm
 Tuesday: 6:40 - 7:20 pm

TIMES OF MASSES: Monday and Tuesday: 9:30 am and 7:30 pm
 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9:30 am
 Saturday: 9:30 am and 4:45 pm; Sunday: 8:30 and 11 am

BAPTISMS: *Second Sunday* of the month. **Time:** 1 pm in the Church
 Please call the Parish Office (754-0170) **ONE MONTH** in advance
A copy of the child's birth certificate must be provided before the baptism
PRE-BAPTISMAL COURSE: *Call the Parish Office for more details*

MARRIAGES: By appointment **SIX MONTHS** in advance.
Marriage Preparation Course required

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Friday, 9 am - 12 noon and 12:30 - 4:30 pm;
TELEPHONE: 754-0170 **E-MAIL:** stpiusx@nl.rogers.com

CHAIRPERSON OF PARISH COUNCIL: 726-7236
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: 747-5874 or 753-6997