

Reflection for Third Sunday of Easter: One Hundred and Fifty-three Large Fish

When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore; but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat and you will find something." So, they cast it and were not able to pull it in because of the number of fish. John 21:4–6 Recall the first time there was a miraculous catch of fish in the Gospels. In Luke 5:1–7, Jesus was preaching to the people on the shore from where He sat in Peter's boat just a short distance away. After preaching, Jesus told Peter, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Peter did so and there was such a large catch of fish that the Apostles needed help to haul it in.

In today's Gospel, some three years later after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples from the shore and instructed them to cast their nets "over the right side of the boat." They did so and caught 153 large fish. In commenting on these two passages, Saint Augustine teaches that the first miraculous catch was a sign that the Gospel would be preached to all people, which is indicated by Jesus simply saying, "lower your nets." But after the Resurrection, Jesus specifically tells the disciples to cast their nets "over the right side" to indicate that grace is now given to those who stand on His right and are separated from the condemned who are on His left. Thus, this second miraculous catch symbolizes the end of the age when the good and the bad are judged.

Saint Augustine also notes that the 153 large fish, caught off the right side of the boat, are a symbolic representation of those who conform not only to the Ten Commandments but also receive the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit by grace. He explains that 10 + 7 = 17 and if you add all the numbers together between 1 and 17 you arrive at 153. Thus, these 153 fish represent everyone who receives His gift of grace and obtains salvation. The boat represents the Church, and the gift of salvation is offered by Christ through His Church.

One clear message we must take from Saint Augustine's interpretation is that grace and mercy are offered to all but not received by all. At the end of our lives and at the end of the world, judgment will take place. Those who responded to the offer of grace and mercy, repented of their sins, and gave their lives to Christ will eternally share in the Resurrection. But those who refused to follow His Commandments and closed themselves to the transforming power of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit will be separated from eternal joys.

Facing the reality of hell is not pleasant, but it is a message that must not be ignored. It is a message that is real and, therefore, hell is a possibility for us all. Therefore, it is important to remind ourselves from time to time of this spiritual truth. Are you among those 153 large fish found on the right side of the boat? Do you allow the ministers of Christ within the Church, represented by the disciples in the boat, to draw you to Christ through preaching and the Sacraments? Though all of us might quickly answer "Yes" to that question, we should never fail to be attentive to the fact that salvation requires action on our part. It requires that we accept Christ Jesus by following His Commandments and live by the transforming power of the Holy Spirit as it is dispensed by the Church.

Reflect, today, upon the symbolism found in this Resurrection account. Consider the fact that the Gospel has, indeed, been shared with you. Have you listened to the Word of God as it is preached by the Church? Do you immerse yourself in the grace given through the Sacraments? Do you follow the Ten Commandments faithfully? Do you continually open yourself to the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit? Seek to be among that catch of fish caught on the "right side." Never doubt that hell is real and possible. For that reason, never waver from your fidelity to Christ, so that you will remain firmly grounded in His grace and share one day in His Resurrection.

Upcoming Celebrations ************************************					
Sat.	May 3	10AM Tatagwa	Elaine Periard +		
		2 PM Funeral	Clara Kane Memorial		
		5 PM Mass	Liliane Kot +		
		7 PM St Mary's	Charles & Betty		
			Simon+		
Sun.	May 4	9 AM Mass	Frank & Eveline Porte		
			Int.		
		11 AM Mass	Kappel Family Int.		
Mon.	May 5	No Mass			
Tues.	May 6	6:30 PM	Lay Service		
Wed.	May 7	9 AM	Lay Service		
Thur.	May 8	9 AM	Lay Service		
Fri.	May 9	12:10 PM	Lay Service		
Sat.	May 10	10AM Tatagwa	Brenda Kosior +		
		5 PM Mass	Ogochukwu Ikechukwu		
			Int.		
		7 PM St Mary's	Anthony Matthew +		
Sun.	May 11	9 AM Mass	Jim Mantei +		
	-	11 AM Mass	Kaitlyn Erickson Int.		

<u>Practice for the Youth Choir</u> will **NOT** be held on **Thursday, May 8th, 2025**. The next youth choir practice will be held on **Thursday, May 15**.

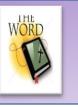
The next classes for Sacramental Prep will be held May 4th and 5th at 6:30pm.

<u>Sunday Mass during Summer</u> – As from June 1st, there will be only one mass on Sundays, and it will be at **10am.** Please, keep this change ahead in mind.

Knowing the Catholic Faith: Morality is the map that helps us become all that God created us to be. This week we will look at God's *Moral Vision* for us and how, by following it, we become authentically whole and holy. Drop in for tea and discussion on **Wednesdays** at 7:00pm in the Youth Room. You are always welcome to attend.

PRAYER FOR PALLIATIVE CARE – May has been named Reverence for Life Month. All parishioners are invited to join CWL members across Canada on Wednesday May 7th to unite our prayers for palliative care. The day will begin with a Lay Service at 9AM and will include hourly prayers. This will conclude at 5PM. We are requesting parishioners to sign the sign-up sheet for an hour of prayer. We are asking these individuals to lead a prayer each hour please indicate on sign-up sheet.

<u>Praver</u>: My resurrected Lord, You have offered Your grace and mercy to all, but not all have responded. I pray that I will always be among those who continually respond to Your invitation. I repent of my sin, dear Lord. Please help me to stay faithful to Your commands of love and to be daily immersed in Your transforming Spirit. Jesus, I trust in You.!



<u>3rd Sunday of Easter</u> Acts 5:28-32, 40b-41 Psalm 30:1,3, 4-5, 11a-12b Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

Heavenly Father, direct your healing toward our loved ones who suffer and who believe that you can and will restore them to full health. We call them by name: Mike Bakaluk, Joe Janoski, Ev Corbin, Reece Gordon Maxwell and all those facing an illness or any of life's struggles. Our condolences to the family and friends of all the dearly departed. The thoughts and prayers of your church family are with you.

Reverence for Life Month – Week 1

Theme: See. Recognizing the Dignity of Every Life This May, our parish joins others across the Archdiocese in observing Reverence for Life Month. Over the next four weeks, we will reflect on what it means to see, accept, accompany, and act in a way that reverences and respects the lives of every human at every stage, and is created in every wonderful way.

We begin with the invitation to See. In a world that often overlooks those who are elderly, ill, vulnerable, or just plain different from us, we are called to see each person as Christ does. Jesus saw the ones others ignored. He noticed the suffering, the lonely, and the forgotten, and He stayed with them.

Why does it matter if we choose to see or ignore those around us? The third most common reason why people request MAiD is a loss of dignity. But can dignity be lost? The Church teaches that dignity is not something we earn or lose. The Catechism says, "Being in the image of God, the human individual possesses the dignity of a person, who is not just something but someone" (CCC 357).

What You Can Do This Week? Take time to truly see someone who may be feeling unseen. Say hello to someone new at Mass. Call a friend who lives alone. Visit a family member or neighbour. Watch this week's video at: https://archregina.sk.ca/2025-reverence-forlife-resources/ and reflect with family or friends at home or in your parish. There are guiding questions and a facilitator's guide also on this website for your use.

<u>**Priests' Retreat:</u>** Father Valentine will be away from **May 5th – 9th** for the priests' retreat organised by the Archdiocese. For this reason, Lay Services will be held during the weekday mass times.</u>

Welcome Visitors and New Parishioners!

Our Parish family warmly welcomes new members. Please fill out a New Parishioner form at your earliest convenience. The forms are located on a table in the foyer!

As well, if any parishioner has changed their address, phone number etc., please inform the office.

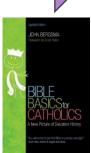
Stewardship Bulletin Bit: May 4, 2025

3rd Sunday of Easter "...Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'" (John 21:17)

How often do you actually say the words "I love you" to Jesus, to family members, or to friends? We are made to be in relationship with God and each other. Sincerely telling someone that you love them is the best gift you can give them because it comes from your heart. You are giving them the gift of yourself. We all were made by love and for love. Tell someone you love them every day.

James' Pick of the Week

Bible basics for Catholics: a new picture of salvation history by John Bergsma: Biblical scholar John Bergsma brings us this fresh, lively, authentically and Catholic introduction to the "big picture" of salvation history. Meet the most fascinating and influential people of



the Bible from Adam and Eve to Noah, Abraham, Moses, King David, the Prophets, and Christ. You will find yourself reading the Bible with greater wisdom and insight for the rest of your life. Now available in the Parish Library. Pro Libris!

Knights of Columbus Charity Appeal Tickets

2025: are now on sale. The price is \$1.00 per ticket, available in books of Tickets are available from any 10. Knight. Contact Br Pete Broccolo 306-



891-9755 to obtain ticket books. Payment may be by cash, or cheque (to KofC Weyburn C1731), or eTransfer (to kofcc1731@gmail.com).

Knights of Columbus Charitable Foundation 2026 Cash Calendars: are now on sale. Price is \$40.00 each, and they are available from Grand Knight Brother Richard WICK 306-891-9370. Payment may be by cash, or cheque (to KofC Weyburn C1731), or eTransfer (to kofcc1731@gmail.com).

THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

To sign up for free on FORMED:

- Visit signup.formed.org
- Enter our city name ("Weyburn") where they ask to find your Parish, then click on St Vincent de Paul This week on FORMED, we have:

1. St. Damien of Molokai | Catholic Saints - St.

Damien was born in Belgium but spent most of his life ministering to lepers in Molokai. Hawaii. An incredible example of holiness, he dedicated his whole life to spreading the Gospel. Sit down with Dr. James Prothro and Mary McGeehan as they discuss the life and witness of this great saint.



2. Lectio: Salvation - At every Sunday Mass, Catholics confess that Jesus came down from heaven "for us men and for our salvation." But what does "salvation" mean? In this remarkable 10-part video series, Scripture scholar



and theologian Michael Patrick Barber provides a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical, answer.

3. Eastertide Special | The Annie Moses Show – Patterned after classic variety shows, The Annie Moses Show brings together a musical family of singers, players, actors, and creators, unified under one mission: to



declare the truth, beauty, and goodness of God.

CWL Giving Campaign: We invite everyone to join

us by contributing. We are currently seeking donations of BOXES OF **CEREAL.** There is a tote near the door in the church foyer. All donations go to the Salvation Army, Weyburn.



CWL "TALKING POINTS"

PRIDE We

in the Catholic Women's League take pride in our accomplishments. We are a sisterhood of women dedicated to service to God and Canada. Join our sisterhood today!

Stewardship Time & Talent – May 3 & 4, 2025					
	Saturday 5 PM	Sunday 9 AM	Sunday 11 AM		
Readers	Lloyd Zyla	Pat Wolensky, Terry Biss	Carol Toles, Glenda Shupe		
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Ann Piwarski	Susan Kot, Jean Woodard,	Shirley Mondor, Gary Sidloski, Connie Regier		
Acolytes	Armand Delanoy, Peter Richards, Elin Min, Zeus Hinlayagan	Aime Isabey, Jayden George, Alphonsiya & Francina Lijo	Stella Hoffart, Gab Reynosa, Mark Cristobal		
Power Point		Gerry Langlois			
Hospitality	Bernice Driscoll, Dianne Borys, Heather Fellner, Marilyn Isabey	Frank & Eveline Porte, harry Jensen, Jim Parsons, Ron & Josie Klein	Ron Wormsbecker, Aime Isabey, Ethan Scrupps, Loretta Benning		
Choir	5pm Choir	Youth Choir	11am Choir		
Counters	Pat Wolensky, Kerry Dolter, Richard Wick				
Tatagwa Pastoral Care	Group 3	Children's Liturgy	Jessica Dixon		
Stewardship of Time & Talent – May 10 & 11, 2025					
	Saturday 5 PM	Sunday 9 AM	Sunday 11 AM		
Readers	Wendy Sidloski Ingri Roman	Wendy Pitre Stella Omem	Shirley Mondor Connie Regier		
Eucharistic Ministers	Cecile Sellinger Dolores Herring	Marcel Bauche, Doreen Verbeurgt, Yvonne Kerr	Elaine Nielsen, Jeannine Chapman, Yvette Bauche		
Acolytes	Bruno Tuchscherer, Frankie Ernst, Charlie Ernst	Ron Klein, Hannah Ann & Heyene Matt Sanio	Mel VanBetuw, Dave Alcalde, Austin Davies		
Power Point		Gerry Langlois			
Hospitality	Jeff & Mary Ann Flaaten, Bonnie & Frank Kaip	Richard & Celine Wawro, Yvonne Kerr, Omer & Chris Marcotte	Pat Wolensky, Charlene Keen, Bernie Riegier, Victoria Olynik		
Choir	5pm Choir	9am Choir	11am Choir		
Counters	Joanne Babiarz, Wendy Pitre, Christie McKenzie				
Tatagwa Pastoral Care	Group 1	Children's Liturgy	Alaina Flaaten		

Parish Council Members: Chair - Marga Cugnet, Wendy Sidloski, Bernice Driscoll, Nhar Pinon, Ron Wormsbecker, Jason Vinck, Deanery Rep. - Pat Wolensky, Secretary – Val Wing/Bernard Omem, Parish Finance Chairperson – Pamela Haupstein, CWL Rep. – Velma Hoffman, K of C Rep.- Aime Isabey/Richard Wick, SAFF- Camille Goski, Stewardship- Elaine Nielsen, Social Justice- Wendy Sidloski, Building & Grounds - Mel Van Betuw

K of C Weyburn Council #1731: Grand Knight Richard Wick (306)891-9370 or richard.wick@sasktel.net K of C Bishop Klein Assembly #1526: Faithful Navigator Ron Klein – (306)861-3134 or ron.klein@sasktel.net Weyburn K of C Meetings: (Sept.-June) Exec & Directors – 2nd Tuesday of the month, Gen Mtg. – 4th Tuesday of the month

CWL President: Wendy Pitre (861-3473) CWL Meetings: (Sept. – June) **Exec Mtg.** – 2nd **Tuesday** of month Gen Mtg. – 3rd **Tuesday** of month

<u>Office Hours:</u> Tuesday – Friday - 8:30-4:30 <u>Phone:</u> 306-842-2129 <u>Fax:</u> 306-842-7818 Website: <u>www.stvincentdepaul.ca</u>

 $314 - 3^{rd}$ Street NE • Weyburn, SK • S4H 0W7

<u>Sacraments:</u> Baptism and Reconciliation – Contact the parish office Matrimony – Contact the parish office at least 6 months prior.

Pastor: Rev. Valentine Amobi • 306-842-2055 • amobivalensc@yahoo.com

Bookkeeper: Taylor Hoffman • secretary@stvincentdepaul.ca

Office Administrator/Receptionist: Val Wing & Bernard Omem • stvincent314@gmail.com Hall Convener: Angelo Fresnido • 306-842-4481 • mckennaweyburn@gmail.com; www.mckennahall.ca