

**Pandemic Message**  
**From your**  
**Covid Response Team**

First, I would like to thank and appreciate all those who have come forward to assist our Parish by participating in the Covid Response Team – what a great job you are doing! Without your contribution none of us would be able to enjoy the blessings of regular Mass.

Next, I would like to acknowledge that there have been a few issues, not all has worked out perfectly and some people have been faced with disappointing realities. Recently, you may have heard that family and parishioners expecting to attend a Mass of remembrance were turned away at St. Rose worship site, due to a funeral occurring at that same time. This was unfortunate. I apologize to those who were turned away. I was there that day as part of the Covid Response Team. Our purpose is to ensure, by following the guidelines, that parishioners are able to attend sacraments. However, the decision of the Covid Response Team members was correct given the circumstance – the funeral had pre-empted the remembrance Mass and attendance was by invitation only, due to required restrictions laid down by the Province and the Dioceses. The problem was one of communication. The family that had arranged for the Mass of remembrance could have been notified of the change, however this too had never been required before the event of the pandemic. Many changes, new realities and new responsibilities – much that has gone very well and some things that have caught us by surprise. Again, I apologise to those who were disappointed and inconvenienced by being turned away.

The Covid Response Team has always known that at some point parishioners would be turned away from services. We have all been fortunate that this reality was delayed until recently. As a Parish we are required to establish capacity numbers and to enforce them, if we are to be able to have religious services. Weddings and funerals will continue to be by invitation only. If you're not on the list, you will not be attending. This is the understanding that has and will be established with families until we, as a community, enter into a less restrictive phase of Covid recovery. The Covid Response Team will continue to work with you to ensure a respectful and safe process and a welcoming atmosphere in which to celebrate our important religious sacraments and events. We will accommodate "family bubbles" whenever practical and attempt to be effectively efficient and assist the smooth flow of these services. There will be areas of the churches, that will appear to have open seats and parishioners may question why they are not being used. When your Covid Team accommodates "family bubbles" the capacity numbers are reached within a more compressed formation than can be achieved at regular Mass – but the capacity number remains the same

We continue to welcome parishioners who want to assist within the Covid Response Teams and encourage anyone interested to contact myself or any Team member and we will assist you in being placed within one of our groups. Any suggestions, issues, criticisms or complaints of Covid Response Team operations should be made to me, Mark Palmer 635-5742 or [markj@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:markj@nbnet.nb.ca) as I am the co-ordinator for the policy development and operations of the Teams.

Again, thanks to all who are helping out.  
 Respectfully and sincerely, Mark

**THE MONTH OF OCTOBER IS DEDICATED TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER MARY**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Oct 06, 2020	Tue	St Matthew's Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Oct 08, 2020	Thurs	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Oct 10, 2020	Sat	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	4pm	Holly Hamilton Debbie Montague
Oct 11, 2020	Sun	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	9am	Stewart Allen
Oct 11, 2020	Sun	St Matthew's Worship Site	11am	Mathias & Leonie Daigle Charles & Mary Wallace Paul Daigle

**Women's Society** - For the month of October the Holy Spirit Women's Society will be collecting items for the Coverdale Centre for Women, which operates a women's shelter. Items needed are new or gently used *pajamas (no nighties please) or leggings, toilet tissue, coffee, whitener, sugar, snacks (pudding, etc), cereal, hot chocolate, juice boxes.* Thank you!

Please call the office 9am-4pm at (506)738-2320 (Tues&Wed) or (506)653-6850 (Thurs) to make arrangements for your donation drop off outside of Mass times.

**Bottles for Life:** A fundraising campaign for New Brunswick Right to Life. The garage at Saint Rose Worship Site, Holy Spirit Parish will be open before and after the weekend masses October 24 and 25th. Please bring your redeemable bottles for this important fundraiser. You can also contact the Saint John Chapter of New Brunswick Right to Life to have a volunteer pick up bottles from your home. [sjrighttolife@gmail.com](mailto:sjrighttolife@gmail.com)

**Confirmation:** The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Christian, October 20, 7 pm at St. Rose Worship Site. Once again, following limited numbers allowed in the church, each candidate will have a number of invites only.

**First Communion:** We are currently working on setting a date for First Communion... please bear with us.

**Priest Retreat**  
**This coming week many of the priests will be on retreat at the Villa Madonna Retreat House. Please keep them and all priests in your prayers.**

**THE BIBLE THE HOLY LAND AND ME**

Fr Fraser will be at St Matthew's Worship Site on Tuesday, Oct 6, 2020 from 2pm till 3pm, selling his book, **THE BIBLE THE HOLY LAND AND ME**. The book sells for 20 dollars. You will find many stories from childhood, school days, seminary, 50 years in the priesthood and a series of experiences through the Holy Land.

Many Bible references are included to enhance your reading

*"Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Robert (Bob) Parker, Ellen Hooley & Denise Cormier (Chaisson), daughter of Pat & Deannie Chaisson*

## Christian response during the pandemic...

During his weekly audience a while ago, Pope Francis focused his attention on the concept of the “Common Good”. He said that he thinks we can emerge from the coronavirus crisis better than before if we all seek the common good together.” At the same time he lamented that we are beginning to see “partisan interests emerging” with some people seeking to take advantage of the crisis for selfish purposes. “The Christian response to the pandemic and to the consequent socio-economic crisis is based on love,” the Pope said, and especially the love of God for us. We in turn are called to love everyone – not only our friends and family, but even our enemies. This is difficult, the Pope acknowledged, but it is an “art that can be learned and improved.”

**Building a civilization of Love** - Love, he continued, not only helps us to build personal relationships, but also allows “social, cultural, and economic relationships to flourish, allowing us to construct a “civilization of love”.

**Love without borders** - The current crisis is helping us to see that the good of each person individually is tied up with the common good of society as a whole, and vice versa. “A virus that does not recognize borders, barriers, or cultural or political distinctions must be faced with a love without borders, barriers or distinctions.” If, on the other hand, solutions to the crisis are tinged with selfishness or egoism, the Pope said, “we may perhaps emerge from the coronavirus crisis, but certainly not from the human and social crisis that the virus has brought to light and accentuated.” Instead, everyone – and Christians in particular – have a duty to work to promote the common good.

**Politics rooted in ethics and nourished by love** - Pope Francis admitted that politics often has a bad reputation, and perhaps not without reason. A “good politics is possible,” thought, when it “the human person and the common good at the centre of its duty”. This calls for everyone, but especially those with social and political commitments and duties, to root their actions “in ethical principles” and nourish them “with social and political love”. Christians, he said, in a particular way the laity, are called to give good examples of this and can do it thanks to the virtue of charity, cultivation its intrinsic social value. Everyone can do their part to improve social love excluding no one. “Thus, through our gestures, even the most humble ones, something of the image of God that we bear within us will be made visible because God is the Trinity. God is love.”

Fr. David Martin

### COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER 26/27, 2020

Regular \$1,372.00 Loose - \$116.75 Needs of Cdn Church \$310.00 eTransfers - \$440.00  
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,848.00 PAD BLDG - \$172.00

Thank you for your generosity!!

### DID YOU KNOW??

The New Freeman is available online on the Saint John Diocesan Website.

[www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org](http://www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org)

Thank you to Andrea McGrath for her years of dedicated service as Religious Ed Coordinator for St. Rose Worship Site. At the same time we welcome Linda Spinney who will combine the rolls of coordinator into one.

## Holy Spirit Parish

St. Matthews & St. Rose of Lima Worship Sites

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 04, 2020

We are a welcoming community of growing disciples who share our faith, support one another, and lead others to Jesus.

\*\*\* OFFICE HOURS\*\*\*

Tue/Wed/Thurs: 9 am to 4 pm

Office Number - 738-2320 Office Number - 653-6850

Monday & Friday: both offices closed

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: [holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com](mailto:holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com)

Pastor – Rev. David J. Martin

Mailing Address: 279 Nerepis Rd, Grand Bay-Westfield, NB E5K 2Z9

St. Matthew Worship Site – (506)738-2320 Fax: (506)757-2948 Website [www.holyspiritparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritparish.ca)

Civic Address: 45 Dollard Drive

St. Rose of Lima Worship Site – (506)653-6850 Fax: (506)653-6865 Website [www.holyspiritparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritparish.ca)

Civic Address: 541 Milford Road

Confessions - The Sacrament of Reconciliation 3:15pm Saturdays at  
St. Rose of Lima Worship Site

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Holy Spirit Parish –Please contact Linda Spinney at 636-0677 or email her at [linspin@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:linspin@nbnet.nb.ca)

### Gentle Path – Counselling Services – Pathways to Hope

Gentle Path Counselling Services provides counselling at the 28 Richmond Street Office and is now scheduling appointments at Horizon’s Market Place Wellness Centre in the Lower West Side

We offer counselling for:

Anxiety	Addictions	Grief & Loss	Domestic Violence
Couples Counselling	Sexual Assault Trauma	Self Esteem & Body Image	Sexual Identity & Orientation
PTSD	Parenting	Depression	First Nations
Kids & Teens	Blended Families	Anger Management	Work Related Issues

(Subsidies are available)

Gentle Path Counselling Services, Ltd.

Phone (506)652-7284 Toll Free 1-888-394-4022

[www.gentlepathsj.com](http://www.gentlepathsj.com)

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services/

Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001