

## ADVENT CHALLENGE 2020

This weekend, we begin the journey of Advent... a time of preparing for the Lord's coming among us at the end times and as a vulnerable baby at Christmas. I have noticed there are more homes lit up than usual for this time of year! Good! Advent is the beginning of a new church year. However, we all know that this past year has been one of the most difficult with the dawn of the corona virus. I saw a tree ornament of "2020" in the shape of small rolls of toilet paper! A tough year for sure! However, there is hope with the birth of a vaccine (still in clinical trials). There is 'light' at the end of this dark tunnel. With this being said, for this year, let us really **'Light up Advent 2020'**. This could be done in many ways such as:

- Adding more lights, outside or inside, to your home.
- Putting up a different decoration each week perhaps a decoration that brings light to others, especially for our community.
- Displaying decorations that have a special memory for you or a decoration that gives you 'light'.
- Let us extend this challenge to others.

These are just some suggestions-you may have your own idea-go for it! However, as we add more 'light' each week of Advent 2020 let us offer a prayer of gratitude for our Saviour born among us and a prayer for an end to this pandemic. As well, let us pray for everyone who is suffering because of this terrible disease. For now, we still need to keep our distance from others, wear our mask and sanitize our hands often, regardless the Light is among us. In this darkened time in history, let us offer the 'Light of Christ' to those around us!

Fr. David

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

This year because of the pandemic Fr. Tom Fowler cannot go home to New York for Christmas, so he has offered to help us out with Christmas Eve/Day Masses. With Fr. Tom's assistance we are able to offer Masses at both worship sites at different times. With that being said, everyone will have to register for any Mass they plan to attend on Christmas Eve/Day. **Please note: Registration will begin Dec 08, 2020.** When you reserve your seat for a particular Mass you will be asked how many people are in your "house bubble". Those will be the number of seats available to you. Please note when making your reservation you will be asked the usual **covid-19 travel** questions. Unfortunately, for the past couple of weeks positive cases has been climbing across Canada. If this continues, we may have to accept the fact there is a possibility that Christmas Masses may be cancelled as they were at Easter.

Thankfully, progress has been made on suitable vaccines that will protect us from this virus in the near future. Please watch the bulletin, Face Book page and Website for the Mass times and places that will be available to you. I want to thank the pandemic committee for their ongoing ministry and support as well as your understanding and willingness to work together as a parish.

Fr David

### UP AND COMING MEETINGS

**Finance Committee** – Dec 02, 2020 @ 7pm via conference call

**Advent** – Daily Reflection Booklets for Advent 2020 have arrived – this year, Our Greatest Gift – "A Wonderful Life in Christ" by Michael Hoy. **Please pick your copy as you leave.**

**THE BIBLE, THE HOLY LAND AND ME:** Fr Fraser's book selling at \$20 is filled with interesting stories and Bible references. It makes interesting reading and might make a good Christmas gift. Shirley Daigle has copies of this book for sale on Fr Fraser's behalf. She can be reached at 506-738-2435 or 506-639-2731.

## MASS SCHEDULE

|              |       |                               |         |                                    |
|--------------|-------|-------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| Dec 01, 2020 | Tue   | St Matthew's Worship Site     | 7pm     | Robert Parker                      |
| Dec 03, 2020 | Thurs | St. Rose of Lima Worship Site | 12:10pm | DFM of D'Souza Family              |
| Dec 05, 2020 | Sat   | St. Rose of Lima Worship Site | 4pm     | Ned Morrissey<br>Solange Robichaud |
| Dec 06, 2020 | Sun   | St. Rose of Lima Worship Site | 9am     | Leo-Paul Poirier<br>Kay Connolly   |
| Dec 06, 2020 | Sun   | St Matthew's Worship Site     | 11am    | Doris Fury<br>Joe Bourgoin         |

### LONEWATER FARM

Holy Spirit Parish is collecting donations for Lonewater Farm, a long-term men's rehabilitation and community reintegration facility. Due to COVID-19, the number of residents has been decreased to 15, in various stages of recovery from addiction. Many of the men do not have family or loved ones at Christmas. We can help make it a Christmas of comfort and love.

**Suggested list of donations for stocking stuffers:**

|                          |                             |   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Bar soap                 | Combs + brushes             | Playing cards, board games                |
| Shampoo and conditioner  | Face cloths                 | Tooth paste, tooth brushes, floss         |
| Deodorant antiperspirant | Nail clippers               | Winter hats , scarves, gloves             |
| Socks                    | Hair products (gel)         | Safety razors, shaving cream              |
| Gift bags                | Books, DVDs                 | Candy or other treats for stockings       |
| Coffee mugs              | Small gift cards for prizes | Goodies, snacks for their Christmas party |

**Please: No mouthwash, aftershave, or cologne as they may contain alcohol**

All extra items are used throughout the year as many of the men arrive at the farm with little to nothing in the way of possessions and are often in need of basic toiletries.

Also accepting goodies, snacks, or appetizers that the men can enjoy at their Christmas party!

Donations will be accepted until **Sunday December 13, 2020.**

**'Living with Christ Booklets'** available in the entrance of both worship sites.

***"Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of Anita Sisk and the family of John (Bruce) McCause***

**THANK YOU TO LINDA SPINNEY AND HER TEAM FOR COORDINATING THE FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION WE HAD THIS PAST WEEKEND**

**COLLECTION – Nov 21/Nov 22, 2020**

**Regular \$1,515.00 Loose - \$105.00 Christ the King - \$300.00 Building Fund - \$205.00  
Dev & Peace (covid) - \$40.00 PAD Weekly Average - \$1,848.00 PAD BLDG - \$172.00**

**Thank you for your generosity!!**



**DIOCESE OF SAINT JOHN**

1 BAYARD DRIVE  
SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK  
CANADA  
E2L 3L5

TEL (506) 653-6800  
FAX (506) 653-6859

November 20, 2020

Dear priests and lay faithful of the Saint John Region,

We have just been advised by the Province of New Brunswick that we are moving to the orange level. In this level, a maximum of 50 persons can gather at Mass, and 25 persons for other physically distanced gatherings. Please note that masks/face coverings are mandatory for all activities.

Due to the late notice, we realize that this will cause some inconvenience especially for those who have pre-registered. It is possible, due to space limitations, that some of the faithful will not be able to attend Mass this weekend, and for the foreseeable future. Be assured that the dispensation from the Holy Obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is still in effect.

For parish priests and staff, travel in and out of those zones in the orange level is not permitted, except for medical reasons. Please consult the latest mandatory order for further information on regulations during this time.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our pastors, staff, pandemic protocol committees and volunteers for their continued dedication and hard work during these trying times. We are striving to do our best to keep everyone safe and healthy.

As faithful you are demonstrating great understanding and charity in this time of disruption. Your ability to maintain and foster the faith is a true testimony and witness to Christ's presence among us.

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Let us not forget that Christ remains King, God is in control. We entrust to Him all those who are ill and those on the front lines caring for them.

In Him,

✠ Christian Riesbeck, CC  
Bishop of Saint John

CABINET DE L'EVÊQUE  
DIOCÈSE DE SAINT JOHN, 1 BAYARD, SAINT JOHN, N.-B., CANADA E2L 3L5

***Holy Spirit Parish***  
***St. Matthews & St. Rose of Lima Worship Sites***  
***1st Sunday of Advent***  
***November 29, 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)**

**PANDEMIC TEAM CHAIRPERSON**

**Mark Palmer – 506-635-5742 or email him at [markj@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:markj@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)**

**Facebook: Gentle Path Counselling Services**

**<https://www.facebook.com/gentlepathcounselling>**

**services/**

**Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001**