

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

We have 35 total registered students, which includes a total of 16 for First Communion (5 remain ready from 2020, 6 new Grade Two and 5 slightly older; and 6 in Grade eight who will be preparing for Confirmation. There is still time to register your child(ren) especially for their Sacrament Years, but remember every year, every learning experience, contributes to their understanding of our Faith and the Sacraments.

Angie MacDonald and Marijke Blok are remaining with the Sacrament years. At Present, the plan for First Reconciliation/Communion is to use the home study packets we used to review this past years class for First Communion, and create one for Reconciliation, to be available online or by email, and hopefully after the New Year, when restrictions are eased a bit, to have small, in person sessions to review and reinforce, then proceed as we did with the last group, in smaller groups over a few Masses. Marijke feels that the Confirmation students, being older, will benefit more from peer interaction, and she will be contacting registered families with a plan for group gatherings when that becomes possible, hopefully soon after the First of the New Year.

Two other previous teachers have volunteered their time and abilities when we are again able to meet. After the New Year, the non-sacrament classes will be home study packets, based on the "Be My Disciple" lessons, in two age ranges rather than the individual grade related classes. Any suggestions for online content, as well as questions about the program, are most welcome, and volunteers will still be needed when we can return to gatherings.

Until that time, we are posting weekly lessons based on Advent, and daily projects based on the Jesse Tree tradition, these are available on the Holy Spirit Parish Faithbook page; and through the Holy Spirit Religious Education Facebook group for registered families, or via e-mail for registered families without access.

Linda Spinney – Religious Ed Coordinator

Is there more to life than this? Try Alpha!

As we begin a new year, we are breathing a sigh of relief that 2020 is over and a vaccine has been invented for the pandemic. But after we've experienced such a strange and distressing year, maybe you've also been thinking thoughts like these:

- Does my life have a purpose?
- Does God really exist?
- Why does our world have so much pain?
- Is it possible to truly love?
- Can we ever find healing?

Alpha is a group where we will consider these and other questions. St Croix Catholic Parish will be hosting a weekly series on Monday evenings to explore the basics of Christian faith. It will be an online experience so you can join in from the comfort of your own living room, or from your phone. This course is for people of any faith tradition, or none; for people living in Charlotte County, and anywhere else. **We begin at 7:00 pm on January 25, 2021.** This is a free course. All are welcome!

To try it out, register now with our parish office by emailing Heather at parish@nb.aibn.com, or leave a message at (506) 466-6043.

MASS SCHEDULE 2021

Jan 12, 2021	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Jan 14, 2021	Thur	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Jan 16, 2021	Sat	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	4pm	Ralph Magee
Jan 17, 2021	Sun	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	9am	Helen V. Allen
Jan 17, 2021	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Parishioners

****PLEASE NOTE WHILE WE ARE IN THE ORANGE PHASE THERE WILL NOT BE ANY WEEK DAY MASSES****

2021 CHURCH ENVELOPES

The church envelopes for your 2021 donations are at the entry of both worship sites. They are boxed by alphabetical order with your name and address. **Please note – you will retain the same number you had last year.** If you are unable to locate your box of envelopes please contact the office before taking a new box. A different number from last year has a definite impact on your next tax receipt. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Holy Hour of Adoration – Sunday, Jan 10 & 17, 2021 @ Holy Spirit Parish, St. Rose Worship Site from 1-2 pm.

The next monthly **Mass for Those Living with Cancer**, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, will be celebrated on Monday, January 18, at 6:30 pm. Anointing of the sick will be offered.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!! – WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO STAY AFTER MASS THIS SUNDAY TO HELP UNDECORATE EACH WORSHIP SITE!

COLLECTION – Dec 19/20, 2020

Regular \$2,570.00 Loose - \$74.25 eTransfer - \$400.00 Christmas Baskets - \$50.00
 Food Bank - \$40.00 CD's - \$15.00
 Building Fund - \$350.00, PAD Weekly Average - \$1,848.00 PAD BLDG - \$172.00
 Thank you for your generosity!!

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord...Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Fr. Joe Leblanc, Annie Hebert, Audrey Lowe, Teri Briggs, George Fournier and Germaine & Eddie Johnston

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS THANK YOU !!!!

This weekend we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, which draws to close the Christmas Season. To say that these two seasons were “unique” would be an understatement. However, as truly faithful people that we are, we persevered. Many thanks for your generosity to all those in our parish for this Advent, Christmas and including the past year; not only in monetary support, but also in your gift of faith and service, sharing your God-given talents to help build up our community of faith during these unprecedented times. As well, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all of you who remembered me with your prayers, cards with supporting sentiments, beautiful gifts, and food, during this holy season. We continue to be a parish of gratitude for all that God has blessed us with. Therefore, I want to acknowledge and ‘thank’ the following:

- to our Pandemic Committee who gave of their time and energy to assist us during these uncertain times... still providing a ‘warm welcome’ at the same time ensuring that all protocol and procedures are followed to provide a safe environment to pray.
- to our musicians and cantors, Mary Rose Daigle and Trish Gallagher.
- to those on our Liturgy Committee, including the Art and Environment committee who helped parishioners decorate our worship spaces.
- To Father Tom Fowler who provided extra masses, allowing more people to attend our parish celebrations.
- to those who keep our sign at St. Matthew’s Worship Site up-to-date... even in the worse weather.
- to those who made monetary donations to our Christmas Baskets Fund.
- to our Knights for putting up our outdoor manger scene; for addressing the particular needs in our community and for your ongoing assistance-Thank You!
- to those who offered ‘generous response’ to Lonewater Farm. Truly what you donated was phenomenal!!
- to those who continue to make and donate soup for Avenue B and offered food and monetary donations for those in need.
- To those who donate to our local food banks.
- To our CWL who continue to represent Holy Spirit Parish by your hard work and generous response to various needs.
- to our Secretary, Bernice Martin, for her ongoing commitment to our parish and it’s administrative demands!
- to anyone or ministry I may have inadvertently failed to mention and those of you who have contributed “silently” in any way toward making this a truly blessed and joyful Christmas celebration, I thank you. These “gifts from the heart” are great signs of the love you have for your faith community.
- Finally, I would like to wish you and those you love every good blessing for 2021 and always!!

Fr. David

Holy Spirit Parish

St. Matthews & St. Rose of Lima Worship Sites Baptism of the Lord – January 10, 2021

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

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.holyspiritreparish.ca

Civic Address: 45 Dollard Drive

St. Rose of Lima Worship Site – (506)653-6850 Fax: (506)653-6865 Website www.holyspiritreparish.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

PANDEMIC TEAM CHAIRPERSON

Mark Palmer – 506-635-5742 or email him at 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

Facebook: Gentle Path Counselling Services
<https://www.facebook.com/gentlepathcounselling>
services/

Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001