

May is Mary's Month

The Lord has placed in Mary the fullness of all good. So that if there is anything of hope in us, if anything of grace, if anything of salvation, we may rest assured it has overflowed into us from her. With every fiber of our being, every feeling of our hearts, with all affections of our minds, and with all the ardor of our souls let us honor Mary because this is the will of God, who would have us obtain everything through her hands.

–Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, Sermon 6: For the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mary allows her life to be wildly interrupted by God's desire. Her wholehearted "yes" gives God a home, a body in which to dwell. Mary gives God her flesh. Because of her, he has hands that will heal and bless and be nailed to the wood of the cross. Because of her, he has a heart to love with.

As the current pandemic frightens and isolates us, as so many throughout the world are afflicted, we trust in the prayers of Our Blessed Lady. She is never far from us, always attentive to our needs. Mary protects us and accompanies us; we trust in her powerful intercession.

She is watching over us, her images and icons in our homes and other sacred spaces as well as the workplaces. Mary is our Way to Christ her Son, our Mother and our Refuge in all tribulation. We are greatly consoled by her words to Saint Juan Diego in 1531:

Do listen, do be assured of it, my littlest one, that nothing at all should alarm you, should trouble you, nor in any way disturb your countenance, your heart. For am I not here, I, your mother? Are you not in the cool of my shadow? In the breeziness of my shade? Is it not I that am your source of contentment? Are you not cradled in my mantle, cuddled in the crossing of my arms? Is there anything else you need?

Let us commend our friends, relatives, and all the peoples of our world to the love and protection of the Virgin Mary in these days. We plead for an end to the pandemic and for the healing of the sick, for healthcare workers, doctors, nurses, and all those working in these days to guarantee the smooth functioning of society. We remember the numerous victims of the pandemic and pray for the consolation and comfort of their families and friends.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary who was taken up into heaven, the life and sweetness and hope of all earthly pilgrims, never be far from their hearts.

~St. Joseph's Abbey, Spencer, Mass

**WITH PRAYERS OF GRATITUDE AND JOY FOR ALL YOUR FAITHFUL WORK
BLESSINGS FR. DAVID ON YOUR 18TH ANNIVERSARY TO PRIESTLY MINISTRY
MAY 16, 2003**

**Holy Hour of Adoration – Sunday, May 16, 23 & 30, 2021 @ Holy Spirit Parish,
St. Rose Worship Site from 1-2 pm**

*"Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the families
of Walter Williams, Deacon Bob Friell and Betty Ferris*

Ascension Sunday

In the Gospel Reading, before his ascension Christ gives his disciples a last command. Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel. And he adds a list of things that will characterize those of his followers who obey this command: they will drive out demons, speak new languages, handle snakes safely, drink deadly things without harm, and heal the sick by the laying on of hands.

Why *this* list? Isn't it supposed to be just *love* that characterizes Christ's followers?

Well, think of it this way.

Once when one of my children was traveling to Bangladesh, I made a list of dos and don'ts for him. It was a list intended to help keep him safe.

Finding housing with English speakers was on the list, so that there wouldn't be language problems. "Don't drink the water!" was definitely on the list, and so was "Stay away from people who are obviously sick!" The list finished with this prohibition: "Whatever you do, don't come into contact with the ground!" I know it sounds ridiculous; but hookworm is endemic in that part of the world, and you can get full of worms if you let a body part with an open wound come into contact with infected ground.

You can see that what was on my list of things to worry about are on Christ's list of things not to worry about: language problems, deadly drinks, sicknesses, even snakes—well, hookworms, anyway. (Demons weren't on my list, but maybe they would have been if I could have thought of anything to say about them.)

So the things on Christ's list are the things that you (or your mother) might worry about if you were traveling in dangerous places. Since Christ is commanding his followers to head out to all the world, maybe it is only fair of him to tell those who obey him that they don't need to worry about any of these things. Like a good mother, Christ has already thought about all these things for his traveling people, and in his mercy he has made provision for them all.

So here is one way to understand Christ's list of the things that characterize those who believe in Christ and obey him. Whatever roads the journey of their lives takes them on, the care of the Lord encompasses those who travel in his name.

Eleonore Stump

Our Feast Day....Pentecost

Next weekend we will celebrate our Feast Day, Pentecost...the coming of the Holy Spirit. This will bring to close our Easter season. In honour of this special day, we are inviting people to wear something "RED" (yellow or orange) to each Mass to commemorate our special feast.

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

May 08 & 09 – Regular \$1,500.00 Loose \$45.00 Sanctuary Light - \$50.00
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,848.00 PAD BLDG - \$172.00

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO CONTINUE TO DROP OFF OR MAIL THEIR MONETARY DONATIONS. WITHOUT THIS EFFORT WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MEET OUR EXPENSES.

MASS SCHEDULE 2021

May 18, 2021	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Hugh MacDonald
May 19, 2021	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
May 20, 2021	Thurs	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	William Brenan
May 22, 2021	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Donald Murdoch Melba King Orvil Robichaud Hazel Palmer
May 23, 2021	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Parishioners
May 23, 2021	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Lois McHugh

St. Rose Place will be closed to the public for 2 weeks beginning May 18, 2021. All office duties will be conducted out of the office at St. Matthews Worship Site. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

Following a discussion between Father David and me, and with abundant concern for the safety of all parishioners and each other, a pastoral decision has been made to postpone the administration of all "First Sacraments" until fall of this year. The health and safety of our parishioners and our families is a priority.

In the meantime, please continue to review and discuss with your child the information contained in the study packets, and the biweekly lessons will continue on line. If you or your child has any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Confirmation, at the discretion of Bishop Christian, will be held in the fall, and the current Diocese plan is to follow the Alpha program for all Candidates. To that end, Marijke and I will need the assistance of the Parish, anyone who has taken the Alpha course, or plans to at this time, to properly prepare our candidates.

I would like to personally thank all of our parents, families and parish support for the extra effort they have contributed this past 14 months.

Linda Spinney – Religious Education Coordinator

HOLY SPIRIT BURSARY

Holy Spirit Parish is awarding 5 bursaries amounting to \$500.00 each. Applicants must be an active member of Holy Spirit Parish and will be required to submit a short paper including: name of secondary institution for the fall of 2021, current activities in the parish and goals for the future. This Bursary is offered to those who are graduating from High School and are attending a secondary level of education (University or College). Please submit to parish office by June 18, 2021 by email: holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com

Holy Spirit Parish

St. Matthews & St. Rose of Lima Worship Sites

Assension Sunday – May 16, 2021

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

***** OFFICE HOURS*****

Tuesday - Friday: 9 am to 4 pm

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

Monday: 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.holyspiritparish.ca

Civic Address: 45 Dollard Drive

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

Civic Address: 541 Milford Road

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

Month of May – Michael Francis Waltz – 1985 - 2021

Michael you are at peace now as you sleep with the Angels – Love Nana

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