

## The Eighth Week of Ordinary Time & First Four Days of Lent

On the **Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time** in **Luke** we hear Jesus give us some important teaching. He challenges "blind guides." He warns against seeing the splinter in someone else's eye without noticing our own blindness. Jesus tells us that it's the fruit we produce that is important. "For every tree is known by its own fruit."

On the last two days of Ordinary Time this year, we have the beautiful beginning of the **First Letter of Peter**. Our gospel is the story of the young man who turns away from following Jesus because his possessions were great. When Jesus warns his disciples, and us, about the danger of riches, they wonder how anyone can be saved. Jesus reminds us that "All things are possible for God." Jesus affirms the rewards that will be given to those who follow him.

### Beginning of Lent

The **Season of Lent** begins with four days that serve as an introduction to the four Lenten practices of Prayer, Fasting, Repentance and Almsgiving.

**Ash Wednesday** is a day of fasting and abstinence. We receive ashes to remember who we are and express our desire to turn away from sin and to believe the Good News. The Prophet **Joel** helps us begin our journey: "return to me with your whole heart." "Rend your hearts, not your garments," reminds us that this is an interior journey. The **Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 51**, has the antiphon: "Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned." Paul, in his **First Letter to the Corinthians** says, "be reconciled to God ... we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain ... Behold, now is a very acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." In **Matthew's Gospel** Jesus gives us a guide for our Lenten practices, "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them."

### Daily Prayer This Week

In these few days before Lent, we can begin to prepare our hearts by asking ourselves how we want Lent to be different this year. What do we want to ask the Lord to give us - and more importantly, we can ask *what the Lord wants for us* this Lent. What gift of generosity, love or attention can we share with others in the weeks ahead? How can we focus on the Lenten season and ask that our hearts be opened to what is real - not to the externals which distract us so much? How will I *be* with my family and friends this Lent? What will I do that sets this season apart from my normal routines? How can I name, anticipate and feel the gifts the Lord showers on me with such love in the weeks ahead? And every morning, we can begin by sitting at the side of our beds with our hands open on our laps, asking God to help us receive these gifts with open hearts. We can carry that focus with us throughout the day, remembering in the quiet moments what we are asking for. Always, we end our day simply thanking God for the love and gifts of the day.

**For these first four days of Lent**, it will be a great help to set aside some time, even if it means getting up earlier each morning, to read about what Lent can mean and to let that soak into our hearts. The key is not to be somber or severe in any way, but to know that this is a time of great grace so that we can be attentive to it. The first thing to remember is that these 40 days are a **gift** to us. We are not trying to save ourselves by our Lenten practices. God has already saved us. We are only trying to let God get our attention and to give grace a chance to work in us. These days are critically important for choosing to establish some Lenten patterns. Depending upon our age or health, we will want to do some fasting and abstinence, in regard to food. But, each of us can choose what else we can fast and abstain from during Lent. What practices of mine get in the way of my being open to hearing God's Word and responding freely? That's what needs transforming. Giving up needing to be right, fasting from my impatience, totally abstaining from escapist fantasies will open our hearts to God's grace. None of that takes extra time. It just takes desire. Adding new acts of kindness, gratitude and love each day for family and friends will open our hearts to the greater acts of charity and generosity for the poor.

Finally, Lent is the perfect time to choose to grow in gratitude. Every night, before going to bed, let us be faithful to giving thanks to the Lord who has given us so many blessings and offers us new graces each and every day.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

## COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Feb 20, 2022 – Regular - \$2,517.00 Loose - \$182.00

Initial Offering - \$100.00 Snow Removal - \$5,620.00

PAD Weekly Average - \$1,694.00 PAD BLDG - \$179.00

**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.**

## WINTER EXPENSES SOAR....CAN YOU HELP?

Unfortunately we have seen a lot of snow, ice and cold weather for this winter season. For safety reasons and accessibility to both worship sites and both offices we need to keep our driveways/walkways open, clear, sanded/salted. As you can see below both December and January have been costly months. Therefore, we are appealing to the parishioners to help defray these costs. Whatever monies you donate will be credited to your 2022 income tax receipt. When the pandemic restrictions relax, hopefully more people will come back to church and we will be able to meet our expenses once again. Thank You!

**Here are the totals for December & January for both worship sites.**

**Snow Removal - \$7,678.55 Electricity - \$7,185.74**

## THANK YOU.....THANK YOU.....THANK YOU

Dear Parishioners:

**Once again Holy Spirit Parish has come through with donations for our winter expenses! I want to take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed to this cause. I realize with the rising cost of everything this is no simple sacrifice to make. However, I am very grateful for your generosity and on behalf of myself and members of our parish I thank you. Unfortunately these expenses are still ongoing and any contribution that you can make will be greatly appreciated and credited to your income tax receipt. God Bless You!!!!**

Fr. David

**Income Tax Receipts** –Beginning the week of Feb 21st the receipts may be picked up at the parish offices. Please call the office first to make these arrangements.



**THIS IS EXCITING....**Each year River Valley Coins issues a new commemorative coin. Prior to Christmas I was invited by Corey Ryan of the Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy to submit a picture of our former St. Augustine's Church for the coming 2022 year. As you can see from the image it includes the original red roof, which was so meaningful to many. I was very proud to accept this invitation. This coin will be available at the following locations when ready: The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy, Westfield Gold & Country Club, Grass Roots Grill, Westfield Country Store and **NOW AT HOLY SPIRIT PARISH** – both offices. The price will be \$3.00 per coin. What a great memento for the years of faith and service for our community. Also, this is the first time they have used color for their coins and will be a limited addition.

## MASS SCHEDULE 2022

Mar 01, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	DFM of the Graham Family
Mar 02, 2022	Wed	St. Rose Worship Site <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	12:10pm	Norma Logue
Mar 02, 2022	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	7pm	Joseph Martin
Mar 03, 2022	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Lori Ann Galliera Frank Albert Perry
Mar 05, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Ernie Blanchard Kay Morrissey Bernice Vaughn
Mar 06, 2022	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	John (Jack) Murphy
Mar 06, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Rachel Quinn Andrea Limkilde

**PLEASE NOTE - WEEKDAY MASSES COULD BE CANCELLED IF WEATHER IS BAD**

**ST. AUGUSTINE'S CEMETERY CLOSED UNTIL MAY 2022**

**Holy Spirit Parish Women's Society** – We are changing our meeting time to 1:30pm effective Monday, February 28, 2022. Hopefully this change will make it easier for more women to attend. This change will be reassessed at the end of May.

**Prayer Shawls** – The Women's Society has set up a rack for prayer shawls in the entrance of **St. Rose Worship Site**; the blessed shawls are now available at both of our worship sites. If you know of someone in need of spiritual comfort & warmth that a shawl could provide, please take one. We ask that you fill in the sheet attached to the rack so that we have a record of the shawls that have been given out.

*This weekend we welcome into our faith community through the waters of Baptism  
Ivy Marie Mitchell*



**CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE IRISH SUPPER – TAKE OUT  
SPONSORED BY K OF C 9176  
WITH SUPPORT FROM THE WOMEN'S SOCIETY &  
REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

When: March 17, 2022 4pm – 6:30pm  
Pre-sold tickets - \$15.00 - available at both church offices  
Tuesday & Wednesday at St. Matthews Worship Site Office  
Thursday & Friday at St. Rose Worships Site Office  
Where: Take-out orders to be picked up at the back door of St. Matthews  
Worship Site, 45 Dollard Drive (on the border of the Saint John, Grand Bay-  
Westfield border)

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 9 am to 4 pm  
SMWS - Office Number - 738-2320  
SRWS - Office Number - 653-6850  
Monday: 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 (SMWS)  
(506)738-2320 Fax: (506)653-6865  
Civic Address: 45 Dollard Drive

St. Rose of Lima Worship Site (SRWS)  
(506)653-6850 Fax: (506)653-6865  
Civic Address: 541 Milford Road

WEBSITE: [www.holyspiritrcparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritrcparish.ca)

## HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

### ST. MATTHEWS & ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITES

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

*8th Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 27, 2022*

*For the month of February 2022 the bread/wine/bulletin at St. Matthews Worship site is  
in memory of Victor McGowan*

### 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)

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

Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001