

## The Fourth Week of Lent

For the **Fourth Sunday of Lent** we read the powerful story of the Prodigal Son from **Luke's Gospel**. The younger son, who asks for his inheritance and spends it all, returns and asks to be a servant at his father's house. Instead he is welcomed home with open arms by his father who was filled with compassion, ran to his son and forgave him. The older son is jealous and will not share in the happiness but the father says to "celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found

Our gospels this week are all from **John's Gospel**. After two days of healing stories, the opposition against Jesus builds. In Cana, in Galilee, Jesus heals the son of a royal official. Back down in Jerusalem, he heals a man who was sick for 38 years, incurring the wrath of his enemies because he did it on the Sabbath. Because of this, and because he called God his Father, they now plot a way to kill him. Jesus says his opponents do not want to come to him for life. He calls God his father and says, "I have testimony greater than John's." Unafraid of his opponents, Jesus goes to Jerusalem for a feast and openly tells people that he has come from God. They did not arrest him then, "for his hour had not yet come." Thinking they know where Jesus is from (in both senses: where he lived now and his origin in heaven), his enemies insist that Jesus can't be a prophet: "Look and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

### Daily Prayer This Week

The gospels this week make it very clear toward the end of the week that Jesus faced opposition that couldn't accept who he is. We see that Jesus comes to lay down his life that we might live. So, this week of Lent is an important time for us to ask ourselves if there are any parts of our hearts, any of our patterns, that oppose Jesus and his desire to give us life. This kind of honesty can transform our lives. It can allow the grace of God to bring reconciliation and healing we might not have imagined.

Even if it hasn't been easy to get really engaged with Lent so far, we can still make a beginning, even now. The key is openness and desire. If we can feel any attraction, any sign that the Lord is possibly drawing us, then the Lord can work with us - no matter what resistance or fear we might also be experiencing. All we have to do is act out of these desires and simply ask the Lord for the grace to help us be more honest and more open to what he is offering us. For example, we can ask for the grace to examine our consciences more thoroughly. We could try a different approach to facing any resistance we might have to the Lord's working in us. We might not commit the big sins, but we may not have examined what we fail to do. Who am I failing to love, to forgive, to be generous to? From whom am I withholding affection, care, reconciliation? Where can I live more honestly, with more integrity? How might I proactively change my own personal patterns of escape with patterns of care for others?

It is a time of grace when we can experience moments of "recognition," or self-understanding. But it is *not* a grace to beat up on ourselves or become self-absorbed in our own guilt. It *is* grace to feel grateful to the Lord for showing us obstacles to the life he is offering us. It is grace to feel our spirits lighten as we feel drawn to greater freedom and peace. It is incredible grace when we are drawn to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This week, let us give thanks to the Lord who deeply desires our greater freedom and joy. As we go to bed each night, let us thank the Lord for what we saw that day and renew our desires for the next day of grace.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

### WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP - SNOW REMOVAL & HEAT

We are still appealing to the parishioners to help us with snow removal expenses.

St. Rose Worship Site January & February amounts to \$9,158.06

St. Matthews Worship Site January & February amounts to \$5,065.75

As well, the electricity for both worship sites and St Rose Place (former rectory) is \$5,558.91 for March. The rectory in Grand Bay-Westfield is \$537.00.

## HARBOUR VIEW HIGH SCHOOL SUNSHINE CAFE

### Once again Holy Spirit Parish Women's Society are collecting supplies for the Sunshine Café – HVHS

Harbour View High School is in need of our help. They are providing lunch to 25-35 students in need each day in the Sunshine Café, mainly vegetarian soups/stews in order to accommodate all needs, including cultural and religious dietary restrictions In addition they have started supplying breakfast boxes to roughly 25 students in their homerooms classes.

#### The following items are needed:

Canned: tomatoes (crushed, diced), corn, creamed corn, and other vegetables. Soups: vegetable and chicken soups and stocks. Canned chicken, tuna, canned milk (evaporated and coconut) Hot sauce, mayonnaise

Canned fruits

Boxed cereals: must be NUT-FREE, preferably ones that can be eaten dry. Crackers, pocket snacks (granola bars, fruit cups, applesauce etc), must be NUT-FREE. Black beans (no other canned beans are needed at this time), lentils .Non-food items: dixie cups, napkins, dish soap, snack baggies, saran wrap

**\*\*\*NOT NEEDED\*\*\*:** pasta, instant noodles, tomato/pasta sauces, creamed soups.

Any monetary donations received will be given to HVHS as grocery store gift cards, used to purchase any perishable items they may require.

This donation drive will continue until April 3, 2022 at both worship sites

Thank you for your support in feeding hungry students.

Jill Robillard – Holy Spirit Parish Women's Society Chairperson

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE**

### 2021 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

It is that time of year again when you are asked to submit a report from your respective committees so we can prepare our Accountability Report for the parish.

Please submit your Report to the office via email by April 08, 2022.

### SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITY

Once again this summer we have an opening for a student who will be entering post-secondary education in the fall to work primarily in our cemetery (St. Augustine's Cemetery). This position is registered in the NB SEED program. You can direct any interested candidates to the [www.NBSEED.ca](http://www.NBSEED.ca) to apply. The job position title is Landscape Maintenance Contractor. All interested candidates must apply via the NBSEED website.

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

Mar 20, 2022 – Regular - \$2,457.00 Loose - \$198.00 eTransfers - \$70.00

Initial Offering - \$15.00 Indigenous Solidarity - \$100.00

Food Bank - \$160.00 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.

### 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 2022, 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 May 20, 2022 by email: [holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com](mailto:holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com)

## MASS SCHEDULE 2022

Mar 29, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Helen McNeill
Mar 30, 2022	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Sean O'Neill
Mar 31, 2022	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Dickie & Norma Duke
Apr 02, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Edmond Gaudet Carol Dionne
Apr 03, 2022	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Adrice LeBlanc
Apr 03, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	June MacEachern DFM Robichaud Family

There are plenty of commemorative coins available. Contact the office during office hours to arrange for pick-up of this wonderful tribute to our former St. Augustine church.



In the entrance of both worship sites there is a basket of mini colouring books with a small pack of crayons for our young (or young at heart) parishioners. Please help yourself!

**Lenten Revitalization Series** – The Diocese are pleased to offer a Revitalization Series for Lent on Tuesday evenings following the 5:30pm Mass at the Cathedral. Check out their website for more information - [www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org](http://www.dioceseofsaintjohn.org)

The **K OF C Council 9176, Holy Spirit Women's Society** and the **Revitalization Committee** would like to thank the parishioners for their support of our St. Patrick's Day Takeout Dinner. It was a great success!

**Holy Spirit Women's Society** will be holding their monthly meetings the last Tuesday of the month at 1:30pm in the Rectory Basement 279 Nerepis Road, Grand Bay-Westfield. The next meeting is March 29, 2022.

**UNPLANNED - WHAT SHE SAW CHANGED EVERYTHING:** A movie based on a true story. Saint John Chapter of New Brunswick Right to Life is excited to present this movie, There will be Three showings: Saturdays 8:00 PM March 26<sup>th</sup>, April 2<sup>nd</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup> Boardroom Diocesan Building. You can also view the movie at home, same dates and time via Zoom, contact [sjrighttolife@gmail.com](mailto:sjrighttolife@gmail.com) for the link. If anyone wants to set up another date and time to watch this movie as a group or in your home contact us.

*Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Mildred Chase, Judith Meinart-Thomas, and Lisa Hebert*

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

For those waiting patiently for First Communion, Home study has started, to be used in combination with in person classes over the next 6 weeks, with a goal of celebrating First Communion early in May. With regard to First Reconciliation, there is only one candidate fully prepared for our Parish, and we will have to postpone that Sacrament, at least for the rest of the class, until next year when hopefully, there will be no further concerns about restrictions, or whatever other concerns are preventing full participation."

Linda Spinney – Religious Ed Coordinator – Holy Spirit Parish

### 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.holyspiritreparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritreparish.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.*

*Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mar 27, 2022*

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

### 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/>

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