

Daily Prayer This Week – April 17, 2022

We now begin a celebration of the **Resurrection of our Lord** for the next seven weeks - when we mark the **Ascension** forty days after Easter and culminating in the celebration of **Pentecost** on the fiftieth day after Easter. This week, we begin that deepening realization of, and reflection upon, the meaning of the gift of life we have received in God's raising Jesus from the dead so that we might have eternal life.

Just as it is difficult for many of our cultures to face the reality of death, it is difficult to accept the reality of life after death. St. Paul invites us to live in this passing world with our hearts set on the world that will never end. This week let us try to open our hearts to a deeply-felt sense of what a difference it makes that the tomb is empty, that Jesus is alive, that he allows us to recognize him in the breaking of bread, and that he missions us to proclaim this Good News.

Each morning this week, we can pause for a moment and simply thank God for our being alive today. Even more, we can thank God for the life that Jesus won for us. Throughout the day, and at different brief moments, we can remember that this is Easter Week and ask to live more freely today, more gratefully. We can name the grace in our own terms and in the context of what we are experiencing, what gets us discouraged or what gives us life. Overall, we want to live the freedom we have been given. If death has no hold on us, so many of our fears would melt away. If we realized our ultimate home is in heaven, our spirits would be lighter and we would walk around more gratefully.

So, as we go through this week, we can let ourselves believe in the Resurrection that was won for us. "Lord, I believe in the gift of life you have given me in the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus." We can say this act of faith, or sing any of the wonderful Easter songs in the back of our minds, as many times as it takes to let ourselves feel the effects of Easter.

Perhaps we had a difficult Holy Week or Easter. There might have been loneliness or family conflicts. Perhaps we are facing a chronic illness or deep struggles with a loved one, or we are grieving the loss of a loved one. These, and many other struggles can challenge our Easter hope and joy. This is the week to place our trust in the one who is now alive, so that we can live forever. We can ask for the gifts of hope renewal these days. In giving thanks, we can ask that our hearts be opened even more to receive the gift of his Spirit.

Daily Prayer This Week – April 24, 2022

This is a wonderful week to pray in joy at God's merciful love for us, and for the unending forgiveness we are offered. We know we have done nothing to deserve that forgiveness and that we cannot earn it, and yet it is ours, if only we can accept it.

Over and over this week, we are invited to place our trust in God. The ever-human disciples didn't always put aside their fears, and neither do we. We can imagine the terrified followers of Jesus hiding behind locked doors until he appears in their midst, inviting them not to be afraid.

This might be a good week to spend time with Jesus looking at the fears in our own lives which keep us locked up away from others. We can ask Jesus for the courage to trust in him. What would it cost us to let go of the fears that smother our lives? Our challenge might be to give up enough control in our lives to simply ask God for help and a growing trust.

What would it mean for our lives and for the relationships in our lives if we were willing to let go of "the way we have always done things" and to beg Jesus for help? Our lives can change. We have a standing offer from God to fall into his forgiving embrace.

Dear Jesus, it feels impossible to believe that my life can change, that I can move out of this rut I am in. I know I don't always live my life feeling your love and being my best self. Help me to trust in you, to drop my defenses and to feel how deeply I am loved and forgiven by you. Give me the courage to feel it in my heart when you say, "Don't be afraid" and "Peace be with you." I so long for that peace in my life but it feels so far away sometimes. Help me to believe in you, to drive away the doubts and unbelief that harden my heart.

I know my life can change, if only I can say with all my heart, "I trust in you, Lord. I believe in your mercy and I know that with your help, my life can be healed."

[Creighton U Online Ministries](http://www.creightononline.com)

MASS SCHEDULE 2022

Apr 19, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Apr 21, 2022	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Apr 23, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Walter Page Mathilda Richard Yvon & Norman Ouellette
Apr 24, 2022	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Adrice LeBlanc Monique Pineau
Apr 24, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Gerald Savoy Yvonne Lawlor
Apr 26, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Roy & Eileen Hubbard
Apr 28, 2022	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Special Intentions
Apr 30, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Berne Robertson Walter Page
May 01, 2022	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Adrice LeBlanc Lisa Hebert
May 01, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Parishioners

PLEASE NOTE: THIS BULLETIN IS FOR 2 WEEKS

Holy Spirit Women's Society - On behalf of Harbour View High School, thank you so much for the donations of food for their Sunshine Cafe. The items filled 2 cars, and the school is very grateful. Cash donations were also received, which were used to purchase Sobey's gift cards, for necessary perishable items. The food will benefit many hungry students, and go a long way to support learning. As always, your generosity is heartwarming.

Holy Spirit Women's Society - Prayer shawls will be blessed on the Second Sunday of Easter, April 24, 2022.

K OF C Council 9176 – Cribbage will resume on April 20, 2022 – Going to try a new time slot at St. Matthew's Worship Site Hall Wednesday Afternoon @ 1:30pm. All are welcome!

EASTER BLESSINGS

At Easter, we rejoice in the gift of new Life and mercy that our Risen Lord gives us: "How blessed and amazing are God's gifts, dear friends! Life with immortality, splendor with righteousness, truth with confidence, faith with assurance, self-control with holiness!" (1 Clement 35:2). May this Easter faith grow in each of us, so that we might live this new life fully and give witness to others of the hope that sustains us. May it strengthen us in our commitment to make our parish strong and vibrant. I wish you and yours a blessed and joyful Easter!

Father David

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Noella Doucet, Tony Beckwith and Theresa Morris

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Apr 10, 2022 – Regular - \$2,874.00 Loose - \$186.00

Initial Offering - \$35.00 Snow Removal - \$150.00 Catholic Missions - \$10.00 Building Fund - \$215.00

Dev & Peace - \$120.00 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.

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.

Open invitation...Thankfully, each week brings more parishioners to our worship sites. Even though covid restrictions' have been lifted, we at Holy Spirit Parish are remaining cautious – hand sanitizing and face masks are encouraged (but not mandatory).

HOLY SPIRIT BURSARY

Holy Spirit Parish is awarding 2 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

ST. AUGUSTINE’S CEMETERY CLOSED UNTIL MAY 2022

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 will be Saturday April 30, 2022 at St. Rose Worship Site 4pm Mass and at St. Matthews Worship Site on Sunday, May 1, 2022 at the 11am Mass. 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."



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!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE

2021 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

The following committees have not submitted their report for 2021:

Finance Committee, Religious Education, Ave 'B' Outreach & Prolife, Building & Maintenance, Responsible Ministry, K of C 9176 & K of C 8094

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

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
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.holyspiritparish.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.

Apr 17 & 24, 2022



EASTER BLESSINGS

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