

Ascension Sunday

On Sunday, most of the world will celebrate the **Seventh Sunday of Easter**. As if in preparation for Pentecost Sunday on June 5, we read in Acts of the stoning of Stephen, who is “filled with the Holy Spirit.” In John's Gospel the poetic words of Jesus are a love song to us as he prays to his Father, “Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me....”

During the upcoming week, the first reading continues from the **Acts of the Apostles**. We are following the preaching and ministry of Paul. We can feel his intensity as he urges the Ephesians to follow his example in living the faith “I served the Lord with all humility and with the tears and trials that came to me...” He returns to Jerusalem to face persecution but remains under house arrest, teaching and meeting with followers.

The gospels are mostly from **John's Gospel**, chapter 16 and 17. Jesus warns his disciples that they will be scattered and says they will find trouble in the world but assures them he has conquered the world. Jesus' prayer reflects the passionate, inseparable nature between him and his Father. “I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do.” “I pray ... that they may all be one ... as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us.” Jesus challenges Peter three times to “feed my sheep” and the Easter season comes to a close with **John's gospel** on Saturday. Jesus reminds us, “It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.”

Daily Prayer This Week

We can hardly believe the message from this week's gospel. It is one of complete invitation to us. Jesus tells us of his intimate bond with the Father and invites us into the same kind of close relationship with Jesus himself.

He does not promise us a trouble-free life, and is clear about the challenges we will face as his followers. He cautions us that the world will want to make us one of “its own” and Jesus lovingly protests that we are his, not the world's. He prays to the Father of us, “They are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me...”

This kind of loving dialogue with the Father is what Jesus wants with us. It does not mean our lives will be trouble-free but we are offered the peace in our hearts that Jesus longs to give us.

Some days we may feel anything but peace in our hearts. That is the time to pause and open our hands and our hearts to the Lord. Just the simple physical act of opening our hands can send a signal to our hearts. We can stop thinking and start feeling the love that Jesus has for us.

We can begin each morning at the side of our beds, aware of the sacredness of the day ahead of us, and ask for peace, courage and guidance. On our way to work or while taking care of our family, cooking or running errands, we can stop for the briefest moment and ask again: “Lord, help me to feel how much you love me. Help me to accept that love and carry it to all those you send into my life today.”

And at the end of the day, we can pause again at the side of our bed, reflect for a moment on our day and offer thanks for the moments where we felt in our hearts the love of Jesus. And, we can ask that tomorrow we can feel the Lord's own love and compassion for us - and beg that we can pass that along.

Like Peter in Friday's gospel, we have denied Jesus many times in our lives but he looks at us again with love and simply says, “Follow me.”

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

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.

Resurrection at Holy Spirit Parish

With the budding of trees, the greening of the grass and the new flowers breaking through the ground, all point to ‘resurrection’. We see ‘resurrection in the face of a new baby and their happy families. We see ‘resurrection in the faces of old friends meeting for the first time after a two year break. A resurrection is happening at Holy Spirit Parish-our community is coming back to life after the long pause caused by the pandemic. While we are not totally out of the woods with the virus, vaccines have made it possible for us to return to gathering and many more people have returned to attend our liturgies again.

Throughout the past year, I have been counting the number of attendees at each Mass. Our lowest number of people attending happened this past January with a total of 88 parishioners for all three masses. After that ‘lull’ and the lifting of restrictions, people began to return. During Holy Week we had over 500 people in attendance (combination from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday). We had many of our regular parishioners return and we welcomed some visitors. Also new families who have moved here from other parts of Canada have been welcomed into our fold. Many people have shared with me that they had missed their church and the Mass, that they were doing everything else (with caution), why not Mass? They also shared that something was missing such as ‘praying with the worshipping community’. The Easter celebrations, with music, song, and energy drew them into new beginnings.

Last week, you received the “Holy Spirit Accountability Report for 2021” which gave you a look at faith community at work, spreading the Gospel message. Copies are available at the entrance of both worship sites and on our parish website. It is remarkable to see the amount of work that has been accomplished even as we navigate our way through the current pandemic.

In Act of of the Apostles the early converts to Christianity dedicated themselves to four things: *“They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.” (Acts 2:42)*. While we can serve (Women’s Group, Knights of Columbus, Alpha to name but a few) we can pray together, even for our shut-ins or those who are still cautious about gathering. The fullness of the Christian experience requires people be present together in person. We have known the painful time of separation - and rightly so - to get through the danger the virus posed before vaccines were available. With many vaccinated, taking on regular chores such as groceries and banking, many people have heard the call to come and pray and thankfully are returning.

With this in mind, I want to share with you an event that the Revitalization Committee is planning. On **July 23rd**, the Revitalization Committee will be gathering at **St. Matthew’s Worship Site Hall** with the chair of all the other committees (along with 2 support members) to discuss how to continue to build up our parish and discern what direction we want to move in to best serve our community. **This meeting is IMPORTANT**. Yes, it will mean sacrificing a Saturday, but hopefully you will look at this as an investment in our parish.

Along with all committees and parishioners, our Revitalization Committee is committed to rebuilding our parish with both worship sites and exploring new ways to be Church. The pause of the pandemic caused many of us to realize how important Holy Spirit Parish community is, and it gave us the space and time away from what we “normally do” to explore other avenues to bring the Gospel out into the world.

We are Holy Spirit Parish... if we allow our ‘namesake’ to move us, hopefully we will not emerge from the tomb like Lazarus-bound and tied up, but like Jesus, filled with the Spirit of God, transformed and empowered to go beyond what we were before.

We are glad for everyone who has returned and for the new people who have joined us! Resurrection is happening at Holy Spirit Parish. Our doors are opened and everyone is always welcomed. It’s great to be back!

“Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created. And You will renew the face of the earth.”

Fr. David Martin

MASS SCHEDULE 2022

May 31, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Jun 02, 2022	Thurs	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Jun 04, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Reg & Gertie Johnston & Children Jean Gauthier
Jun 05, 2022	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Lloyd Dickson & Margaret Dickson-Hamilton
Jun 05, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Claudette Robichaud

****THERE WILL BE NO WEEKDAY MASSES DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE****

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: June 05, 12 & 19, 2022 - St. Rose Worship Site 1-2 p.m.



ON JUNE 10TH AT ST. MATTHEWS HALL THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 9176 AND THE CANCER SOCIETY WILL HOST A ONE TIME CHASE THE ACE EVENT. THIS IS TO COMPLETE THE SESSION THAT HAD TO STOP DUE TO COVID. THE JACKPOT WHICH IS PRESENTLY \$2, 438.00 MUST GO! THEY WILL BE SELLING TICKETS FROM 6PM - 7:45PM SO THE JACKPOT WILL DEFINITELY BE MORE. TICKETS ARE 1 FOR \$5 OR 3 FOR \$10. FIRST TICKET DRAWN WILL GET 20 PERCENT OF THE DOOR PROCEEDS. THEN TICKETS WILL CONTINUE TO GBE DRAWN UNTIL THE ACE OF SPADES HAS BEEN REVEALED.

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of the victims of the Uvalde, Texas Massacre

The Women's Society is hosting a pot luck lunch, for all the women of Holy Spirit Parish on Wednesday June 1st at 12:30 pm in the rectory hall 279 Nerepis Road. Please bring your favourite dish to share. We really hope to see you there!

This Saturday we welcomed Miss T. Gallagher and some of her students from the SJHS Choir. We are grateful for their presence and for enhancing our liturgy.



MARK YOUR CALENDER!!

"SJHS CHOIR PERFORMS"

WHEN: TUESDAY - JUNE 07, 2022

WHERE: St. ROSE WORSHIP SITE

TIME: 6:30PM

PRICE: FREE WILL OFFERING



COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

May 22, 2022 - Regular \$2,205.00 Loose - \$139.80 eTransfers - \$190.00

Papal Charities - \$565.00

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.

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.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.

Ascension Sunday - May 29, 2022

For the Month of May the bulletin, altar wine, bread is in memory of Rose Anna Pitre

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Holy Spirit Parish - Please contact Linda Spinney at 636-0677 or email her at linspin@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