

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Dec 11, 2022 Regular \$2,251.00 Loose - \$376.00 Food Bank - \$20.00 Christmas Exchange - \$365.00
Pro-life - \$90.00 Building Fund - \$325.00 eTransfer - \$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.

Looking for someone to shovel the Rectory & St. Matthews Worship Site Entrances – please call the office

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord...” Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of Jerry Osborne

CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR – ST. MATTHEWS WORSHIP SITE

Dec 18, 2022 following the 11am Mass at St. Matthews Worship site Mary Rose will have a practice for the kids pageant and kids choir. This is for the Christmas Eve Mass at 3pm at St. Matthews. This is for all children of both worship sites.

2023 COLLECTION ENVELOPES

I am still working on them– please be patient as I need to attach labels to each box with the owner’s name. Thank you for your patience!
Bernice Martin

AVENUE B

Avenue ‘B’ are looking for clean, gently used, blankets and/or sleeping bags. If you have any to donate you can drop them off at either Worship Site office, Tue/Wed SMWS Office or Thur/Fri at SRWS Office or you can bring them with you to Mass. We will ensure they are given to Avenue ‘B’. Thanking you in advance! God Bless!!

The donations for Horizon Recovery Centre were delivered this past week from both worship sites. Once again, parishioners have demonstrated overwhelming generosity for others in need of help. Joshua Holden’s pickup truck was filled twice with our boxes. Cash donations of \$490 dollars was received and converted to gift cards, some small ones from Tim Hortons to go in the men’s Christmas gift bags, and larger ones from Walmart & Presidents Choice to be used to help the men get back on their feet.

Thank you so much for your wonderful kindness.

Holy Spirit Women’s Society

I think I speak for all the women when I say that we are very honoured that the Knights feel so positively about what we do for our parish & outreach that they are giving us this remarkable gift.

I don’t have the words to adequately express our sincere gratitude to the Knights for their generosity. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for all that you have done for our parish, so much over so many years, and for your final act of entrusting the Women’s Society with this donation.

I’d like to thank everyone for supporting our recent fundraisers of the bake sale and quilt raffles. Both events were very successful. We drew the winning tickets on Dec 9th at the Women’s Christmas Pot Luck Lunch. The small Christmas quilt winner was a man from the Kingston Peninsula, whose 8 year old daughter was quite thrilled to win that sweet quilt. The large quilt was won by our very own Paul Cormier!

Jill Robillard – Chair Person – Holy Spirit Women’s Society

MASS SCHEDULE 2022

Dec 20, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Dec 22, 2022	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Dec 24, 2022	Sat	St. Matthews Worship Site	3pm	John White Peter & John Leger
Dec 24, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	6pm	William Fox Reg Johnston Leonard & Eldora Martin & DFM
Dec 25, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	10am	Charles (Homer) & Laurretta Moyer Charles E & Wanda Moyer

PLEASE NOTE – THERE WILL BE NO WEEK DAY MASSES UNTIL 2ND WEEK IN JANUARY 2023

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

*DEC 24, 2022 – 10AM – MASS AT SISTERS OF CHARITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
DEC 24, 2022 – 3PM – ST. MATTHEWS WORKSHIP SITE
DEC 24, 2022 – 6PM – ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITE
DEC 25, 2022 – 10AM – ST. MATTHEWS WORSHIP SITE
DEC 31 & JAN 01, 2023 – REGULAR WEEKEND MASS TIMES*

SAINT JOHN CHRISTMAS EXCHANGE 2022

Once again this year we will be sponsoring several families for the Christmas Exchange. This is in the form of a gift card from No Frills for the family to purchase food/necessities to help get them through the holidays. These past few years, with the fall out of the pandemic, has been especially tough on people’s income. Any assistance from you to help defray the costs would be greatly appreciated. Just drop it in an envelope into the weekly collection with your envelope number and this will be included in your yearly tax receipt. Thank you for your generosity now and in the past for your support.

Fr. David Martin

DECORATION ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITE

We need your help!! We will be decorating our worship site at Saint Rose after the 9:00am Mass this Sunday, Dec 18th. Many hands will make light work.

Diocesan Census Mid-December 2022 through Mid-January 2023

All parishes across the diocese are participating in the “I Know My Sheep” census over the next month, when there is typically increased Mass attendance. The goal of the census is to update each parish database with current and accurate contact information for our parish families, to update the diocesan database, and to prepare for a planning study to test a potential diocesan wide capital campaign in 2023. Having updated information will also give our parishes a better idea of who is in our parish and hopefully improve communication. This weekend, and every weekend through to January 15, there will be census cards made available. We are asking each family to take just a couple minutes to complete a card. These can be returned by placing them in the offertory basket, dropping them off at the parish office or sending them by mail. Thank you for your cooperation in this important effort.

Fourth Week of Advent

On the **Fourth Sunday of Advent**, we read in **Matthew's Gospel** about Joseph and his decision to divorce the pregnant Mary. An angel comes to Joseph: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

Luke's Gospel is our guide this week. Monday we read of Mary and Elizabeth. Thursday is Mary's magnificent prayer in the continuation of the annunciation story. Friday is the naming of John by Zechariah. Saturday, in the morning, has Zechariah's prayer of praise after being allowed to speak again. The scenes and canticles, or songs, which are part of the story, are so well known to us that we can miss hearing them with an open heart.

If we celebrate the **Vigil of Christmas** on Saturday, **Matthew's Gospel** (though any of the gospels for Christmas may be used at any of the Christmas liturgies) offers the history of Jesus' family.

Daily Prayer This Week

This may be one of the most difficult weeks to be reflective throughout each day. This weekend may be quite full for many of us. Others of us may be alone although we may be a part of the faith community on Friday or Saturday, or perhaps daily this week. While some of us have had guests staying with us and a house to clean this week, others of us will be reviewing memories and struggling, even a little, with being alone.

Even though this may be a very busy week, with final Christmas preparations, or perhaps travel to visit family, it can be a contemplative week if we focus our desires each morning. No matter what our days hold, we can take a few minutes in the shower or while getting dressed to consciously ask for the grace to approach Christmas with faith and with a heart open to the graces offered us. "Lord, help me today to stay focused on your coming in the flesh to be with us. While I'm busy about this and that, I ask your help. Keep reminding me throughout this day about Mary's acceptance of your plan for her, about the poverty into which Jesus was born." We will use our own words to connect these stories of our Salvation with the concrete interactions and events of our upcoming day.

Then, throughout the day, we will be able to let familiar parts of the story sustain us this week. All of us can relate to Zechariah's hesitation. We can look for and notice the times when we are hesitant to place our trust in God and how little we have to say about faith. But, when Zechariah could write "His name is John (God is gracious)," Zechariah could speak again. As we rush from one place to another, we can pray, "Lord, I know you are gracious, even when I act like I doubt it. Let me place my trust in you." A number of helpful contemplations are available on the [Praying Advent](#) site.

Mary herself can be a wonderful guide for us this week, and we can be bold in asking her to show us the graces her Son wants to give us this week. The one who says "Behold the handmaid of the Lord" and "My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord" can help us find words for our "yes" and for our giving praise to God this week.

It could be a great grace to pause before going to church, Christmas Eve or Christmas morning, as individuals or for a brief prayer as a family, to ask for the grace to be touched by how he came in history for us and how he comes now among us still, to set us free.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

Our Prayers and Congratulations go out to our 2022 Confirmation Class that received the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Riesbeck CC this past Tuesday Evening

Natasha Belyea

Carter Donald

Hudson Vail

Ryan Hillier

Will Mason

Alex McCarthy

Trevor Megarity

Alex Peacock

William Quinn

Thatcher Theriault

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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent –December 18, 2022

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Holy Spirit Parish –Please contact Linda Spinney at 636-0677 or email her at holyspiriteducationsj@gmail.com

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>
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Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001