

## Saint John High School Choir

Once again, under the direction of Trish Gallagher, the Students from SJHS will come and perform for us all the classics of the season, including some of their own selections. This has become a beautiful tradition at **St. Rose Worship Site, Thursday, December 15 at 6:30pm**. A free will offering will be taken.

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

Dec 04, 2022 Regular \$2,940.00 Loose - \$219.80 Food Bank - \$70.00 Missals - \$89.00

Pro-life - \$504.00 Building Fund - \$915.00

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.

Cribbage Games at St. Matthews Hall Wednesday evenings at 7pm. All Welcome!!

*Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord...* Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Richard Feeney, Theresa Keenan, Donald Rousselle and Donnie Coholan

### CHRISTMAS EVE CHOIR – ST. MATTHEWS WORSHIP SITE

Dec 11 & 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

The 2023 collection envelopes just arrived. I will be working on them in the next couple of weeks – please be patient as I need to attach labels to each box with the owners 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!!

Our Prayers and Congratulations go out to the 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation Class that received the Sacrament of Reconciliation this past weekend – Dec 04, 2022

*Austin Boudreau*

*Tiernan Grasse*

*Landon King*

*Peyton Little*

*Cassie McSorley*

*Hillary Melanson*

*Leo Mittelholtz*

*Carlos Rivas*

*Carter Thompson*

*Ivan Turkali Arrijoja*

*Pedro Turkali Arrijoja*

## MASS SCHEDULE 2022

Dec 13, 2022	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Confirmation
Dec 15, 2022	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Mary Robinson
Dec 17, 2022	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Yvonne & Leo David Brian LeBlanc Millie Kingston
Dec 18, 2022	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Parishioners
Dec 18, 2022	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Barb Howard

### 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*

*JAN 01, 2023 – REGULAR WEEKEND MASS TIMES*

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

This coming Tuesday evening, Dec 13, 2022, at 7pm we welcome Bishop Christian Riesbeck who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation for our candidates. For the past two years our candidates have been preparing to receive this sacrament in conjunction with the ALPHA program.

### 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 on the 4th Sunday of Advent 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.

### Third Week of Advent

The **Third Sunday of Advent** repeats an Isaiah reading from earlier in the week, filled with promise, healing and a hope for our longing: "Then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing.... They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee." In **Matthew's Gospel**, John the Baptist hears of Jesus' work and sends a message to his cousin: "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus replies that his work speaks for itself. "The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them."

Monday is the **Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, in the Americas. Tuesday is the **Memorial of Saint Lucy**, virgin and martyr. Wednesday is the **Memorial of Saint John of the Cross**, priest and doctor of the Church.

We continue to focus on the first readings in this first part of Advent. From the **Book of Numbers**, we have the proclamation that "a star shall advance from Jacob..." **Zephaniah** is the prophet of impending doom, if the people don't abandon their idolatry. But this week we read about consoling healing, "on that day," when the Lord comes. **Isaiah's** message is full of promise: "Turn to me and be safe ... for I am God; there is no other!" "Fear not, you shall not be put to shame ... with great tenderness I will take you back ... My love shall never leave you."

Gospels are chosen to show Jesus as the fulfillment of these promises: his question to the Pharisees who challenge his authority; the parable of the two sons; the Baptizer's question about whether Jesus is the promised one; the fulfillment Jesus points to; Jesus' praise of John the Baptist; Jesus points to his works as his testimony.

Saturday is December 17th, which begins the second part of Advent. In these last eight days of Advent the focus returns to the gospels with stories from Jesus' family in the time before he was born. In **Matthew's** gospel, we read the genealogy, the list of Jesus' ancestors. Joseph decides to divorce the pregnant Mary until an angel appears to him in a dream, saying, "It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

### Daily Prayer This Week

This third week of Advent, our daily prayer continues to allow us to become much more concrete about naming our desires and preparing the way for the Lord. We begin this week with joy, knowing that our celebration of all the ways our Lord comes to us is near.

For some of us, the great grace will be to ask that expectant hope - and the joy that this can bring - will fill our hearts and replace whatever is heavy or dark or sad there. We can only let our Lord bring good news to us in our own poverty, if we acknowledge that we are poor in some ways. He can only proclaim liberty and release to us if we can admit that we are captives and prisoners to so many habits and patterns that inhibit joy.

This is a week of recognizing ourselves, and recognizing our need for a Savior - a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas.

We can only turn to our God and trust in the safety we find accepting our God as the only god of our lives, if we first can name the place in which we are in danger from the choices we are making.

We can surrender our fear of being put to shame by humbly coming face to face with the un-humble person we can sometimes be. The depths of gratitude and joy come when we can experience the tenderness with which our Lord keeps taking us back.

This is a wonderful week to examine our consciences as we let our daily, prayer filled background moments interact with some of the places in our daily lives in which we discover the need for mercy and peace. Wherever we encounter some experience of darkness or fear, some struggle with faith or hope, some discouragement about my own generosity or freedom, it is there that we have an opportunity to pause, in the briefest way and pray, "Come Lord Jesus; come and visit me here, in this place." Preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, individually or in common, can be a powerful Advent religious experience. And the one who forgives us deeply desires to heal us and give us his peace.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

### 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.*

### Third Sunday of Advent –December 11, 2022

**Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Dec 11, 2022 at St. Rose Worship Site 1 – 2pm**

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

**Holy Spirit Parish –Please contact Linda Spinney at 636-0677 or email her at [holyspiriteducationsj@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.gentlepathsj.com)**

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**services/**  
**Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001**