

Holy Spirit parish is pleased to announce our Lenten theme for 2023 is “Enlarging the space of your tent,” (Isaiah 54:2). This theme title is taken from our global Synod. I want to thank the Liturgical Committee for their input and support. ~Fr. David

The Second Week of Lent

The **Second Sunday of Lent** offers us **Matthew's Gospel** of the Transfiguration. When the stammering disciples are overwhelmed at the reality of who Jesus really is they “were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and do not be afraid.”

The second week of Lent begins with Jesus telling us: “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you.” All week we will be taught by Jesus about the simple lessons of being his followers. “Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.” Jesus predicts his passion again. Again, they misunderstand, and so he says, “whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant.” Jesus tells the Pharisees a parable about a poor man and a rich man. The rich man asks Abraham to warn his brothers about the consequences of this behavior. Abraham answers: “If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.” Then Jesus tells the scribes and religious leaders the parable about the farmer whose servants were abused by his tenants. Finally, they killed his own son. Jesus concludes, “the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.” While tax collectors and sinners are being drawn to Jesus the Pharisees complain, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus tells them the wonderful and beloved parable of the Prodigal Son.

Daily Prayer This Week

During this second week of Lent we continue to try to make use of more reflective time each day. We are using all the resources available to us to practice new habits and patterns. We are still in the beginning stages of that process, so we shouldn't be discouraged if it takes more practice.

It is good to begin by being reminded that God is rich in mercy to us and that we should therefore be merciful to others. It is great to remember that exalting ourselves is dangerous and that there will be consequences for our mistreatment of the poor. We are like tenants of our Father's gifts to us. We can ask ourselves if we use them gratefully and return the fruits that our Lord desires, or do we reject the prophetic words that come to us? Do we reject Jesus himself? Are we like the Pharisees or the older son who resents the Father's prodigal love for all sinners?

This can all be part of the background of our busy, daily life. Each morning, when our feet hit the floor, we can take only a few moments to ask for a simple grace. At first, it might only be, “Dear Lord, help me today.” As we brush our teeth, shower and get dressed we might specify our prayer more: “Dear Lord, give me the grace to recognize my impatience, anger and judgment today. Help to soften my heart to hear your love. I need your healing, Lord.” Or we might get even more concrete, “Lord, Chris is such a struggle for me. Help me to remember how much you love me when I see her today. And, when I'm tempted to be impatient or angry with her, just help me pause and give that over to you, in gratitude for your love.”

Each of us will be able to grow in our ability to have brief conversations with our Lord. Whether driving or shopping, doing laundry or paying bills, working in our office or walking down the hall to the bathroom, we can use brief “background” moments to connect with our Lord. These moments of “contemplation in action” will give a character and shape to our day. Lent becomes a living reality for us when our days are spent with the Lord, listening to his love for us, calling us to gratitude and freedom.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord...” Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Brian “Herbie” Beddow, Joseph “Dale” Goguen, Anne Marie Hatty, Jeannette Cosgrove and Jeannette Gallant-Steven

LENT 2023

“Enlarging the Space of Your Tent”

This Lent, as we had done in previous years (before the pandemic) we have decided to have a theme to help us in our Lenten season. Hopefully, you have noticed the ‘Large Tent’ in each worship site, to help us to focus on our “journey together”. This quote from Isaiah 54:2 which is the translation of the word “SYNOD”. Based on the document from the Vatican, “**Enlarging the Space of Your Tent,**” informing us on the survey that the whole world was invited to take. This report is providing valuable feedback to the People of God (Church) regarding the survey. It was decided that this would not only be a great theme for our Lent, but also keep us connected to the Synodal process that will end in 2024. Below are some things that you're invited to keep in mind and to put in your calendar for the beautiful season of Lent.

- Each week, emphasis will be placed on one of 5 themes that have come from the Synod Document: Week 1, **Listening**; Week 2, **Mission**; Week 3, **Dignity**; Week 4, **Communion**; and Week 5, **Liturgy**. All designed to expand our understanding of what it means to be “Church”. While at the same time, bringing us closer to God and one another.
- Each Weekend Mass will begin with the announcement of our theme followed by a 2-3 sentence reflection, to help focus us for the Liturgy.
- For the next 40 days, emphasis will be placed on **SILENCE**. We are invited to save our conversations for after Mass (tough one for me!!).
- You are invited to use the whole church space for prayer... a lot of time and effort has gone into preparing our worship sites for our Lenten Season, look at the tent... bring our younger companions! Please, take advantage of it to help us in our Lenten journey!
- Be sure to see the beautiful sign made by our Religious Education Program: some very thought-provoking tidbits can be found here!!
- Some dates to keep in mind:

March 15: Evening Prayer 7:00 pm at St. Matthew's WS

March 22: Reconciliation Service 7:00 pm St. Rose WS

April 4: Chrism Mass Cathedral Immaculate Conception

Have a Holy and Blessed Lent!

Fr. David

WE ARE LOOKIN FOR.....

It has become apparent that we are in need of a Technology Committee. We'd prefer a little diversity with a couple of adults and a couple of youth. We need some experience with IT as well as people with an aptitude and desire to learn. Editing and photo editing skills would be helpful. This team will be led by Matthew Tingley, a member of the Revitalization Committee. This subcommittee will work closely with a soon to be established Communications Committee. Duties will include:

- **Maintenance of our website (learning and implementing the technology)**
- **Setting and delivering on a social media presence**
- **Implementation, utilization and upkeep of audio-visual tools**

Interested parties, please contact the office – 506-738-2320 or 506-653-6850

ALSO

Wanted 1-4 volunteers for a one-time project. To build our sense of community, we are looking for an outreach program where many people can get involved. Rather than re-invent the wheel, we are looking for a group that already has infrastructure, a mandate etc. The plan is to gather information on projects that already exist within faith and community groups in Saint John West and Grand-Bay Westfield. A short list will be presented for voting to understand what our Parish Community is excited to embrace. For input, ideas and to volunteer, contact Patti Blake at pattiblake07@outlook.com or 738-8264

The Prayer Shawl Group meets Wednesdays at the Rectory from 10am to 12pm. We provide all the materials as well as lots of fun. **New people are always welcome!** Prayer shawls, hats, and mittens can also be made from the comfort of your own home. **Please contact Jill if interested: 639-0007**

MASS SCHEDULE 2023

Mar 07, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Blanche McGowan
Mar 09, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Frank Perry Lori Ann Galliera
Mar 11, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Parishioners
Mar 12, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Patricia McIntyre
Mar 12, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Gerry Abbott Jayne Cormier

WE ARE IN NEED OF MASS INTENTIONS – ESPECIALLY WEEKDAY!!!!

****PLEASE NOTE: IF SCHOOL IS CANCELLED SO IS THE WEEKDAY MASS FOR THAT DAY****

HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY MARCH BREAK

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Feb 26, 2023 - Regular - \$2,147.00 Loose Collection \$449.00
 Food Bank - \$30.00 eTransfer - \$20.00 Catholic Missions in Canada - \$553.00
 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.

SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSESCAN YOU HELP?

Once again, we are appealing to your generosity. As you can see below both December and January have been costly months for snow removal. Whatever monies you donate will be credited to your 2023 income tax receipt. Thank You!

**Here are the totals for December & January for both worship sites.
 Snow Removal - \$10,006.72**

2022 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

It is that time of year again when I ask you 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 March 24, 2021.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BE A GUEST AT THE HOLY SPIRIT ALPHA PROGRAM

When: Thursday, April 13, 2023

Duration: Every Thursday Evening for 11 weeks:

Where: St. Matthews Worship Site, Holy Spirit Parish – 45 Dollard Drive

For whom: Everyone and bring a friend

To register or if you have questions: email alphaholyspiritparish@gmail.com

LET US DREAM - THE PATH TO A BETTER FUTURE

Francis of Rome in conversation with Austen Ivereigh
 Sunday – March 19 or March 26 from 2 to 4 at Villa Madonna
 Session facilitated by Muriel Jarvis of Chamcook
 To register and receive book: call:506-642-3152 (Doreen/weekdays)

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.

Second Sunday of Lent - March 05, 2023

“THOSE WHO LOVE MORE CAN DO MORE”

~St. Gregory the Great

For the month of March the Sanctuary light at St. Matthews Worship Site is in memory of Jacqueline Pitre

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Mar 05, 12 & 19, 2023 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

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