

The Sixth Week of Easter

On the **Sixth Sunday of Easter**, we hear the incredibly comforting news from Jesus in **John's Gospel**: "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you" as he promised to send the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth to us.

Thursday in many dioceses around the world is the **Feast of The Ascension of the Lord** with its own special readings.

Our Easter season readings from **Acts of the Apostles** continue this week. We read of Paul converting a wealthy cloth trader, Lydia; of the dramatic conversion and baptism of the jailer and his family; Paul's bold speech to the crowd at the Areopagus and his fearless preaching in Corinth, despite the growing threat from the Jews. We also see how followers of Paul begin to convert others.

In **John's Gospel**, we realize we are approaching Pentecost in a few weeks as Jesus begins to speak of his leaving the earth and of the coming of the "Advocate" - the Spirit of Truth. The image of the Trinity is clear: "when the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father..." To his disciples, the idea of his leaving fills their hearts with grief but Jesus reassures them, "it is better for you that I go" so that the Spirit can come to them. The Spirit "will guide you to all truth." Jesus promises, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy." "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." "Whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you."

Whether the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** is celebrated on Thursday or on the following Sunday, it is a stirring story from **Acts of the Apostles** of Jesus leaving his disciples and promising them the support of the Holy Spirit. The **Matthew's Gospel** tells of how they gathered at the mountain and Jesus said, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Daily Prayer This Week

We sometimes keep the idea of the Trinity firmly in our heads, rather than move it to our hearts. Our logical, practical minds cannot make sense out of three persons in one God.

But clearly this week Jesus wants us to have some sense of what the Trinity is - a continuation of the seamless love and identity between him and the Father. It is the Spirit of that love between them that lives on in us today, guiding us and helping us to follow the message of Jesus' life. It is that Spirit of Jesus that is with us in each of the difficult and joyous moments of our days.

Jesus invites us to discover the power of the Spirit in our lives through an awareness of "the Advocate" supporting us each day. Jesus encourages us in the same kind of intimate relationship he has with the Father. The startling idea of this close, personal conversation one might have with a parent models for us how we can speak to him.

If we feel tongue-tied or don't know where to begin, that is exactly the place to start. Each morning as we awaken, we can speak from our hearts.

Loving Jesus, I'm not sure how to do this. I can feel in my heart an emptiness or longing for something deeper in my relationship, but I don't always know where to begin. Help me to open my heart to you this day, and to carry with me the sense of how much you love me and how much you want this kind of personal relationship with me.

Let me feel your Spirit present with me as I face the challenges of the day and let me live my life this day as your follower, in the peace of your love.

It is a simple prayer and one that we can remember as we go about our day, head to a meeting, stand in the kitchen or fold laundry. It is not complicated to have a closer relationship with God but it takes focus. And always, we can end our day with a simple prayer of thanks for the many blessings of the day.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

**This weekend we welcome into our Faith Community through the 'Waters of Baptism'.....
Oaklyn Emma Aberdeen Jennings**

Come and join in our Celebration!

Pentecost Sunday May 28th

Following the 11am Mass at St. Matthews Worship Site Hall

Our parish will be celebrating Pentecost, one of the most important feast days of the year, where we celebrate the person of the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles, Mary, and the first followers of Jesus, who were gathered in the Upper Room. Pentecost is also the parish "Feast Day".

If you can, wear clothing with colours of fire (red, orange, yellow) to honour the Holy Spirit.

And there is more - Twelve of our cherished children are receiving their First Holy Communion on Pentecost Sunday. These children will be our special guests at our celebration.

Holy Spirit Parish has so many blessings and so much to celebrate all in one day! **"Celebrating Who We Are" is important for our faith and fellowship.**

No matter which Holy Spirit Parish Mass you plan to attend, you are welcome to join us for the Celebration at St Matthew's Hall at noon Sunday, May 28th!"

Refreshments and Celebration Cake will be provided.

If you wish to, please provide food for our table.

St. Augustine's Memorial Garden - how to make a donation: if you would like to financially support the garden, simply put your donation in a clearly marked envelope with your name & envelope number (if you have one), & drop it in the collection basket any time. Or contact the office for other options such as e-transfer.

Saint John High School Choir

Under the direction of Trish Gallagher, the Students from SJHS will come and perform for us at St. Rose Worship Site, Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 6:30pm. A free will offering will be taken.

LAST CHANCE!

The Women's Society will be selling raffle tickets on the quilts at both worship sites for all 3 masses on May 13 & 14. All proceeds are going to the St. Augustine Memorial Garden. Draw will be June 2.

Saint John Chapter NBRL has received a gift of items from the diocesan center and the Catholic Bookstore. There will be a table with numerous items for sale at the reception in the basement of St. Matthew's Worship site on Pentecost Sunday May 28th. First Communion and Confirmation gifts, as well as numerous other items will be available at a discount price. All funds raised will go to help the important ministry of Respect for Life through NBRL.

MASS SCHEDULE 2023

May 16, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
May 18, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
May 20, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Brian LeBlanc
May 21, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Deanne Blizzard
May 21, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	DFM of the Savoie Family Delcia Brideau

PLEASE KEEP ALL OUR PRIESTS AND OUR BISHOP IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK AS THEY ENTER THEIR YEARLY PRIEST RETREAT

We welcome Fr. Paul Scaglione, the Diocesan Retreat Director, who will be with us this weekend

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



TO ALL MOTHERS AND MOTHER FIGURES

BLESSINGS ON YOUR ANNIVERSARY

On Wednesday, May 16, 2023 Fr. David will celebrate his 20th Anniversary of his ordination. We are truly blessed and grateful to have you as our parish priest!

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

May 07, 2023 – Regular - \$2,230.00 Loose Collection \$263.00 Easter - \$200.00
Food Bank - \$60.00 eTransfer - \$220.00 Cemetery - \$386.00 Building Fund - \$748.00

PAD Weekly Average - \$1,794.00 PAD BLDG - \$179.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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

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

“THOSE WHO LOVE MORE CAN DO MORE” (St. Gregory the Great)

6th Sunday of Easter - May 14, 2023

SUNDAY EXPOSITION/ADORATION: May 14 & 21, 2023

at St. Rose Worship Site 1 – 2 PM

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION HAS RESUMED AT ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITE BEGINNING AT 3:15PM PRIOR TO THE 4PM SAT MASS

During the month of May the Bulletin/Wine/Host at St. Matthews Worship Site is in memory of Rose Anna Pitre

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 199 Chesley Drive, Saint John 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/>

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