

Daily Prayer This Week – July 30 - Aug 05, 2023

This whole week could be a time for each of us to grow in a sense of what we most deeply desire. If we let Sunday's gospel open our hearts we might find ourselves asking, begging God for what we need.

And we can let the daily gospels renew our hope. Have we become cynical and jaded a bit? The world does seem to be like a field someone sowed weeds into. God's reign in this world doesn't seem to be growing, and the seeds seem so small. This is a good week to get in touch with what is discouraged in our hearts and to let the courage the Lord is offering us renew us. He promises that even small seeds work and that even a little yeast allows dough to grow. The process is sometimes imperceptible, but that's why Jesus reminds us to place our trust in him. Our own hearts might be full of weeds, but the Lord doesn't want us ripping ourselves apart. He is full of mercy and healing reconciliation. Jesus does not want us to be scandalized by the evil we see in the world. God is patient. And, God alone will judge.

So every day this week, we can begin our day, establishing a focus. This might be while standing next to our bed for a brief minute, or while pouring ourselves a cup of coffee, or while in the shower or getting dressed. This is the time that can transform any busy day into a more focused time of connection with our Lord. Using all sorts of background times throughout the day will take no "extra" time for prayer, but will make it possible to let these powerful scriptures interact with the daily events and relationships with which we are involved.

One morning we might begin our day, simply by saying, "Lord, thank you for this day. Help me to pay attention to what and who I'm treasuring today." Or, "Lord, be with me this day and help me check my need to judge others. Help me place my trust in you today." While in the shower or driving to work I might talk with the Lord about the day ahead, asking for particular help, focus, or a new way of valuing during that difficult 10 a.m. meeting or with the clients or students or patients I will see. While doing the wash or shopping or preparing meals or while taking time with my family or friends in the evening, I can let myself have these 30 second friend-to-friend conversations with the Lord. The readings provide a compass for our daily journey, but it is the continual practice at connecting with our Lord that carries us through the day. Looking back and saying "thank you" every night, if even for 30 seconds, will gradually transform us and give us more courage and hope.

Daily Prayer This Week – Aug 06 – 12, 2023

This week we can ask, in the variety of ways, in the situations of our daily lives, that our eyes might be opened to see Jesus as he really is - glorified, with the Father, and ready to renew our faith and trust in him.

As we begin our day, and at brief times throughout our day, we can pull our consciousness together by letting the themes of this week's reading guide us.

One day, we might ask to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as we go through a day full of strong wind and waves. We can ask again and again, as things get tougher and more challenging. Another day, we might focus on what comes out of our mouths. Is there cynicism, judgments, distortions of the truth, divisive and self-serving manipulation, yelling and hurtful put-downs? How do I practice using my voice to give praise to God by affirming others, forgiving them, by telling the truth, by defending the poor and the voiceless, by giving God thanks?

Another day, I might be conscious of those I regard as "dogs," those I disdain or think of as "the enemy." I might ask for the grace to open my heart to whatever faith in God they have, however different from mine. I might ask for a sense of solidarity with them, not because it is my desire or inclination, but because it is God's desire for me. How can I heal and reconcile, at least in my heart, what needs healing: racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, anti-Muslimism, fear and hatred of foreigners, hostility against the poor or my harsh judgments about "sinners."

Later in the week, we can get in touch with the call of Jesus to deny ourselves. This is not self-denial for its own sake. This is the dying to self that comes from loving in the self-sacrificing way that Jesus did. Who in my family, friends, relative, co-workers, and members of my parish or congregation needs my self-denying love? How have I focused on "gaining the world" and lost some of my true self in the process? Is there some way this week that I can taste discovering my true self in giving some time, some compassion, some love, some special care to someone who needs this from me?

And throughout the week, perhaps at a special time of powerlessness or some time when I feel that I don't have the energy or gifts to do the "more," to move a mountain, I can ask for faith the size of a mustard seed. And, each night I can give thanks to God for being generous to me all week, for this simple focus on our relationship every day.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Religious Education program registration for the upcoming school year will be held following each Mass on August 12th and 13th.

Holy Spirit Parish Welcome 2023 - 2024 Party

On Sunday September 24th after the 11:00 am Mass we are having a party at St. Matthews Worship Site, and everyone is invited! Starting at 12:00 noon there will be food and music followed by games and prizes! Transportation will be provided for West Saint John parishioners @11:45am from St. Rose Worship Site to St. Matthews Worship Site with a departure time of 2:30PM.

Tom Paisley has volunteered to be the Event Coordinator and planning has started with a small group of volunteers. To roll out the plans made thus far we need help with hospitality including food and beverage, greeters, games for children, our youth and games for adults, donations for prizes, venue set-up/clean-up. Please email special.events@holyspiritparish.ca and let us know if you can help. Your energy and support are greatly needed.

We also need your help in another way. Because we are missing some of our parishioners, that may be known to you such as family and friends, and who do not attend Mass regularly and do not see the bulletin and you think they might appreciate an invitation to the celebration please pass on their names. Either email special.events@holyspiritparish.ca or write their names on a piece of paper and drop it into the box in the foyer at the church.

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

What is RCIA? (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) RCIA is a journey through which adults become members of the Roman Catholic Church. This consists of steps, periods, and rites that make up the model of Christian Initiation as restored in the second Vatican Council.

Invitation to participate? Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church as your church home? Have you been sitting in the pew next to your Catholic spouse for years wondering what you have to do to become Catholic? Statistics show that most people respond to a personal invitation. So this is that personal invitation and a challenge to all of you who might know someone who fits the categories above invite that person.

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Jul 16, 2023 – Regular - \$2,405.00 Loose Collection \$326.50 Food Bank - \$60.00
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00

Jul 23, 2023 – Regular - \$2,367.00 Loose Collection - \$294.50
Food Bank - \$120.00 eTransfers – \$100.00
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MASS SCHEDULE 2023

Aug 01, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Aug 03, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Aug 05, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Dorothy & Wilbur Doyle & DFM Winnifred Britt Patricia McIntyre
Aug 06, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Regina Chevarie
Aug 06, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Jayne Cormier
Aug 08, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Aug 09, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Aug 12, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Anita Barnes Jeanette Cosgrove
Aug 13, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Medore & Alice Arsenault
Aug 13, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Blanche McGowan

BULLETINS WILL BE BI-WEEKLY FOR AUGUST

****NO WEEKDAY MASSES DURING AUGUST****

SUMMER FUN – HOLY SPIRIT PARISH IS HOSTING A PHOTO CONTEST

The photos submitted will be used to create a Parish Calendar for 2024

Send your photos to Special.Events@holyspiritrcparish.ca

- *Contest Theme! You are on a Treasure Hunt and the treasure to find are photos that match the 12 scriptures which will be used for each calendar month.*
- *The scriptures and contest rules are listed on our inside bulletin boards, on Faithbook (Facebook) www.facebook.com/HolySpiritRCParish and our Website www.holyspiritrcparish.ca*
- *Contest is open to everyone – not just parish members - your friends and neighbours and strangers can participate. Open to ages 6 to 106.*
- *Send in photos new and old. Please identify the scripture that your photo aligns with.*
- *There will be cool prizes for First, Second and Third, as well as winners for the photo for each of the 12 scriptures. Winners will be announced later in the fall when the calendar will be available.*
- *Any questions or if you require the list of scriptures – send inquires to Special.Events@holyspiritrcparish.ca*
- *Contest ends September 30th, 2023.*
- *Happy Hunting – have fun! Lots of treasure to be found!*

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.

Cheques to be made out to St. Augustine's Cemetery

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of Mike Henry,

OFFICE HOURS

9 am to 4 pm
SMWS – Tues & Thur - 738-2320
SRWS - Wed - 653-6850
Mon & Fri: 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)

17th & 18th Sunday of Ordinary Time - July 30 & Aug 06, 2023

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Aug 06, 13 & 20, 2023 at St. Rose Worship Site 1 – 2pm

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

The Bread/Wine/Bulletin & Sanctuary Light at St. Matthews Worship Site for the month of July is in memory of David Goddard donated by Irene & John Goddard
Sanctuary Light at St. Matthews Worship Site for August is in memory Rose Anna Ptire

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/
Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001