

Twenty-third Week of Ordinary Time

Sunday is the **Twenty-Third week in Ordinary Time**. As faithful followers, we are encouraged to “love one another” throughout the readings. **Ezekiel** tells us that we are responsible for each other and Paul’s letter to the **Romans** offers: “Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another.” In **Matthew’s Gospel**, Jesus tells us to challenge each other on our behavior and to pray, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

This week we have the **Memorial of Saint John Chrysostom**; the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**; the **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows**; and the **Memorial of Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**.

The first part of the week, the first readings are from the **Letter to the Colossians**. Paul is in prison, encouraging this community to put their trust in Christ, not mystical teachings and powers. He challenges them to live their baptism and to walk in the union they have with and in Jesus. Then we begin reading Paul's **First Letter to Timothy**. The opening words boldly proclaim that Paul is the "foremost" among sinners and a sign of God's mercy.

In the first part of this week, following **Luke’s Gospel**, Jesus heals a man with a withered hand, on the Sabbath, in front of his religious critics. Then Jesus goes up on a mountain to pray and comes down to name his twelve apostles - all of whom seem to be unknown or questionable at best. The people bring all their sick to hear him and to be healed. Jesus tells them of their blessedness and warns them of the dangers. We can't be blind guides. We must have the humility to acknowledge and be forgiven our own sins before we can help others. Jesus tells us that our goodness will be seen in what we do and that our only security is in building our lives on him.

Daily Prayer This Week

When we place Jesus at the center of our lives, as Paul calls the Colossians to do, two marvelous graces are given us. We experience God's love for us in the mercy and forgiveness of Jesus. As grateful sinners, we then are able to forgive others.

As we begin each day this week, we can let these two graces be part of our reflection. We can ask our Lord to show us his love. We can fear-less-ly ask to understand who we are as sinners, in the concrete ways each of us falls short, gets distracted, becomes uncentered and makes very unfree choices. We can ask to be forgiven and healed. This journey each day might take us into specific patterns, habits, ruts we're in. We may even want to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week, in preparation for celebrating the upcoming Sunday's readings.

We can choose to focus carefully this week on those people we ask for the grace to forgive. Whose faults do I pay most attention to? Whom do I judge harshly? From whom do I withhold forgiveness? If we begin each day, asking our Lord to reveal the answers to these questions, throughout our day, our days this week will show us deeper places where the Lord can forgive us and where we can share that mercy.

From the beginning of the week, we might ask Mary to gently guide us to trust her Son's love and to be more tender in loving those people her Son invites us to forgive and be a source of healing.

Throughout this week, we can also give thanks for the ways we are called to be Jesus' followers - not because we are extremely talented or because we are perfect, but because he saw in us something that he could heal and then send us to heal others. We can be especially attentive to the ways we are blessed in our poverty and in the ways we sometimes experience rejection as his disciples.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

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

Congratulations to Caroline Quinn & Pierre DuMouchel who celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage on Sept 09, 2023

Holy Spirit Parish Welcome Back 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@holyspiritrcparish.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@holyspiritrcparish.ca or write their names on a piece of paper and drop it into the box in the foyer at the church.

"You are invited to explore and discuss the Bible, in particular the New Testament, through the showing of the series "The Chosen" at St. Matthew’s Hall starting Monday, September 25 at 6:30 pm and finishing November 27. We will watch one episode per week, following which we will break into small groups for discussion. Looking forward to seeing you there."

COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Sep 03, 2023 – Regular - \$2,540.00 Loose Collection - \$253.00 Bldg Fund - \$1,615.00
Food Bank - \$110.00 Avenue “B” - \$100.00
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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!*

CHOIR RETURNS!!!!

Beginning next weekend the choir for St. Matthews Worship Site returns.
Returning with experience? OR Think you would like to join the choir and give it a try?

Mary Rose would love to have you join!!!!!!

HAVE YOU NOTICED THE ADDITION FROM ST. AUGUSTINE’S IN OUR CHOIR AREA?????

MASS SCHEDULE 2023

Sep 12, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Special Intention
Sep 14, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Violet Legere
Sep 16, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Eileen & Lawrence McGrath Eric Vautour
Sep 17, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Maddy Murphy
Sep 17, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Rachel Quinn Victor & Blanche McGowan DFM of William & Ida Ferguson

IMPORTANT - Religious Education Information

The first session of the online Confirmation preparation video program, Decision Point, will be held on Wednesday, September 13, at 7 PM, email invitations will be sent to all registered grade 8 and 9 students by Wednesday morning at the latest. The first class for Religious education, all grades, will be held in the hall at St Matthew's Worship Site, Sunday, September 17, at 10 AM, parents are invited to stay!

Holy Spirit Women's Society

We are holding our annual school supplies drive for Harbour View High School, from Sept 9-Oct 1. They are in need of the following items: Duo tangs, pens, pencils, rulers, erasers, scissors, calculators, highlighters, markers, loose-leaf, math sets. Non-perishable food items would also be appreciated. **Please note all food items must be NUT-FREE:** Breakfast cereals, packaged pocket snacks, canned fish & meat, canned milk, canned fruit, thick & hearty soups. Dried or canned legumes (chickpeas, black beans, and kidney beans), rice, pasta, pasta sauces. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!

The Prayer Shawl Group resumes Wednesdays, Sep 13 2023 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**

Cribbage Games resumes at St. Matthews Hall Wednesday, Sep 20, 2023 at 7pm. All Welcome!!

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.

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the family Joan Mawhinney (mother to Fr. Stephen Mawhinney)

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
Civic Address: 45 Dollard Drive

St. Rose of Lima Worship Site (SRWS)
(506)653-6850
Civic Address: 541 Milford Road

WEBSITE: www.holyspiritrcparish.ca

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

ST. MATTHEWS & ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITES

"Where we WELCOME everyone, WORSHIP together and WITNESS to Jesus Christ"

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time - September 10, 2023

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Sep 10, 2023 @ 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

Sanctuary Light and Bulletin/Wine/Host at St. Matthews Worship Site for September is in memory Blanche & Victor McGowan

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