

Twenty-Fourth Week of Ordinary Time

For the **Twenty-Fourth week in Ordinary Time** we are invited to reflect on how we forgive. Peter asks Jesus “how often” we must forgive, asking the extent of Jesus' call for mercy. The parable of the forgiven servant who can't forgive is meant to give us clear guidance for our lives as followers of Jesus: if we are forgiven, we must forgive others.

This week we celebrate the **Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gōn, Priest, and Paul Chōng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs** and the **Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and evangelist**, as well as the **Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina**.

We continue reading from Paul's **First Letter to Timothy**. It begins this week with the great prayer for our leaders. He then says how bishops and deacons should behave. He urges Timothy to be especially caring for the youth. Paul warns Timothy of the troubles of riches. Finally, Paul encourages Timothy to be faithful.

In **Luke's Gospel**, Jesus praises the faith of the Roman centurion who understands Jesus' power to heal. Jesus then raises from the dead the son of the widow of Nain. In response to constant criticism from religious authorities, Jesus compares the critics to children taunting their playmates. We read of the woman who entered a dinner Jesus was attending and wept over his feet, washing them with her tears, showing what real love is. Luke, who highlights the role of women in his gospel, tells us of women who accompanied Jesus and his disciples. Finally, Jesus gives us the Parable of the Sower and its interpretation about how temptations and shallow roots can prevent the Word from growing in us or how “the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life” can choke the Word.

Daily Prayer This Week

Who among us hasn't wondered about how much is enough? How many times do we need to forgive? How much of the goods of this earth do I need to have? How generous am I able to be? The parables Jesus uses often shock our attention and give us a rich fruit for reflection.

These days, the news stories are centered on war and conflict, and on financial collapse centered on greed. We are not always aware of the scope of the human tragedy that goes on in our neighborhoods, in our cities, in our world. Many people on the earth suffer in so many ways. We can see stories of pain and suffering on the other side of the world and we feel it here. We might be filled with horror and compassion and fear. Insecurity, powerlessness can bring us to our knees and to the Lord. This week's readings help us with continuing reflection that can guide our integration of a confidence in God's love and mercy.

One of the great things that any tragedy brings forward is examples of great heroism and generosity. We also know that the human spirit can be tempted to the worst things imaginable. But, when we see people sacrificing their own lives to help others or showing with their generosity and passionate care how deeply they value human life, it lifts our own spirits and helps us be more generous and free.

We could ask the Lord this week to help us assess what we really need. Do riches become a trouble for us? Do anxieties and the pleasures of life choke my reception of the Word? Can we ask for the desire to walk through our days with trust in Jesus' power to heal, to bring what is dead to life? Each of us can make this daily desire request and reflection very concrete. And, as we prepare for the weekend, we can begin reflecting on how happy I am that God is merciful and generous, even toward those that I don't think “deserve” it.

As we begin each day with a desire, we can end each day with gratitude for what we received.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

**Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord...” Our prayers and condolences go out to the family
Chris McKiel, Rob Murphy, Jeannette Cail and Rose-Delima Daigle**

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

Holy Spirit Parish Welcome Back Party

(We are having a party at St. Matthews Worship Site, and everyone is invited!)

For over a month we have been advertising in the bulletin about our ‘Welcome Back Party’ being held on Sunday September 24th after the 11:00 am Mass. 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 leaving St. Matthews Worship Site to return to St. Rose Worship site at 2:30pm.

One of our biggest challenges as a parish is communications...to reach all our parishioners!! On September 6th we issued over 200 invitations to past parishioners who are no longer with us for whatever reason. We did our best by using the information gathered from our parish database. **So if you know someone who may have received an invitation and you are wondering why ‘I did not get one’??** Our bulletin announcement is considered your invitation, so please don't feel we were not including you – we want **EVERYONE** to come!!!! **This important event is sponsored by the Parish at no cost to you!!!!**

At the party there will be parishioner information forms. We ask you to please fill one out per family. This will help us update our parish database. **This is very important for future communications.**

WE WILL SEE YOU THERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

"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 10, 2023 – Regular - \$2,580.00 Loose Collection - \$285.00

Food Bank - \$60.00 Missals/Candle Recovery - \$386.75

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!!!!

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 19, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Olievette & Maurice Chaliejour
Sep 21, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Rose Ann Pitre
Sep 23, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Eldon Palmer Eudore Theriault Murielle McGraw
Sep 24, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	DFM O'Brien Family
Sep 24, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Elizabeth McGahan

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR ALL GRADES ARE SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM AT ST MATTHEWS WORSHIP SITE. THIS IS FOR BOTH WORSHIP SITES.

FUN RUN UPDATE

On September 9, 2023, a fundraising event was held to raise money for the memorial garden currently being built on the former site of St. Augustine's church. The event included a fun run as well as a family fair, for the entire community of Grand Bay-Westfield and beyond. The event was very successful, raising almost \$2000.

This success would not have been possible without the support of many volunteers, both from our parish as well as other faith communities and community service groups. The sun came out on a day that was supposed to be cloudy with showers; there was an excellent turnout, delicious BBQ, and a great deal of good old fashioned fun!

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 meets each 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**

**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.

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”

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time - September 17, 2023

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Sep 17, 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