

## OUR 'WELCOME BACK PICNIC... "So, how did it go?"

- "I've never been so proud of my parish!"
- "It's been a long time since I've had this much fun... probably before Covid..."
- "I am so happy that I came!"
- "It was great to see so many people!"
- "Look at all the prizes I got" (Grade 2)
- "It was great to see so many families with kids."
- "So beautifully decorated and 'Welcoming'"
- "Even the weather co-operated with us!"
- "We're out of cake!!"
- "Thank you!"

These are just some of the comments that I received from you regarding our Welcome Back Picnic held last week... all so very true! To say that I am overwhelmed by this much needed event is definitely an understatement! Where do I begin to "thank" those involved...those who pulled off such a great experience? The answer is "Everyone!" Our Revitalization Committee began to talk about this last spring and spent months bringing it to fruition. On your behalf, I want to thank the many dedicated volunteers who prepared and decorated the space, those who donated, picked up and prepared the food. To those who spent their time with the children's games, and sat at various ministry tables, those who donated prizes and for those of you who came to support such an important event. Thank you to everyone! As your parish priest, nothing gives me more life and affirms my faith as to witness the Holy Spirit (our parish name) working in the lives of other people! I witnessed that first hand last weekend, gathered with so many of you, from both Worship Sites, who came to be part of this important event in our parish community!

May we be always grateful for what God has given us!

Fr. David

### Daily Prayer This Week

This week we can ask for the desire to become the least, not the greatest, in ways that apply to us. We can ask to experience humility and grace in the real limits we experience in our lives. All of us have some places where we come to know our humanity and are brought to our knees: perhaps we continue to be judgmental of others even after asking for forgiveness ourselves; we keep falling into the same temptations; we present ourselves one way in public, but act a very different way with those closest to us; we never get around to acts of generosity and charity, perhaps even to our parents.

We can all begin our mornings with our own version of this prayer: "Lord, help me to be more simple, authentic, transparent and trusting today. I don't want to try to be someone else." We might ask, "Help me not 'look back' today, Lord" or "Lord, I need your help today to be more accepting of others who are different. Help me to see you in those who suffer or struggle in any way."

For those who have hurt us in some ways, we can do as Thérèse of Lisieux suggests and pray for those people. It is nearly impossible to hold a grudge or hang onto a hurt inflicted by someone when we are praying for that person each day.

Throughout the day this week, we can take brief moments, in the background of our consciousness, while driving, going to a meeting, shopping, doing laundry, to repeat and deepen these prayers. And, may our God send prophets and angels and his own Son to help us find intimacy with God in the midst of our busy lives. We can beg God to increase our faith and in the simplest ways each day, we can let our tiny seed of faith bloom in extraordinary ways in our lives.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

## Holy Spirit Parish Fall 2023 Alpha Program

### NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN

Guests who attended the Spring 2023 Alpha Program encouraged us to run the program again. We are excited to offer it starting September 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm-8:15pm for a duration of 11 weeks. Supper is included at no cost to you.

Alpha is a proven international Program for all Christians worldwide. In 2022 nearly 600 alphas were run in Catholic churches, schools, communities, and through collaborative Diocesan initiatives. For more information, check out the Alpha page on the Saint John Diocesan website, <https://dioceseofsaintjohn.org/alpha>.

There is still time to register! There is always room for more guests. To help us with meal planning we would prefer you to preregister; however it is not mandatory, and it is OK that you just "show up". Everyone is welcome. To register contact Roberta Crawford – 506-399-1978, or John & Caroline Doubt – 506-738-1994

Email [AlphaHolySpiritParish@gmail.com](mailto:AlphaHolySpiritParish@gmail.com), Or through the Parish Facebook page –

<https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritRCParish>

### COLLECTIONS - THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!

Sep 24, 2023 – Regular - \$2,698.00 Loose Collection - \$336.80  
Food Bank - \$65.00 eTransfers - \$20.00 Needs of Cda Church - \$537  
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

**Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Pat Chaisson, Tresa Spence and Adele Ross**

### The Prayer Shawl Group

We are in need of knitters & crocheters! Every year in December the Women's Society donates handmade mittens to local school children in need. We could really use some help in knitting the mittens. We also are low on prayer shawls. If you like to knit or crochet, we'd love to hear from you. Yarn, needles, & patterns will be supplied, you can create from the comfort of your own home or join us Wednesday mornings from 10-12. Call Jill (639-0007) or Angie (639-6582) if you're interested.

### NEW PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS WELCOMED

### 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.**

**"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."**

**CRIBBAGE AT ST. MATTHEWS HALL WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 7PM**

## MASS SCHEDULE 2023

Oct 03, 2023	Tue	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Sr. Therese Kergoat
Oct 05, 2023	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Fillippo Rocca
Oct 07, 2023	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Holly Hamilton William Parent
Oct 08, 2023	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Lino Pascon
Oct 08, 2023	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Miriam Hanter

**PLEASE NOTE: THE OFFICE IS MANNED TUE, WED & THURS. ANY EMAILS SENT TO OUR OFFICE EMAIL WILL NOT BE SEEN UNTIL THE FOLLOWING TUESDAY**

This weekend we welcome into our Faith Community through the Waters of Baptism.....  
Anna Parocky Davis and Ivy Fallon Holland

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 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!

**Fall Flavours Cafe** - the **Women's Society** is holding a fundraiser for St. Augustine's garden. Come join us at the cafe in St. Matthew's Hall on Saturday October 14, 12-4 pm to enjoy some delicious fall flavours: the cost is \$10 for either **The Best Apple Crisp** or **Pumpkin Spice Coffee Cake**, with hot mulled cider or tea/coffee (and pumpkin spice coffee creamer, of course!), as well as mini Bundt cakes & loaves available "To Go".

**CALLING ALL BAKERS!** If you enjoy baking, perhaps you could make a pan of apple crisp or pumpkin spice coffee cake for the **Fall Flavours Cafe** garden fundraiser. Recipes will be provided. Please contact Jill at 639-0007 if you can help out. Thanks!

### The Blessing of Animals... It's time to bless your pet!

**Join us as we gather on the front steps of both worship sites on October 21, 2023 – 1pm at St. Matthew's Worship Site and St. Rose Worship Site at 2 PM.**

Pets are not things, but are living creatures who belong to God and who grace our lives with their presence. The prophet Danial calls on "*All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord!*" (DAN 3:81). In their own way, animals honour the creator and it is fitting that we give God thanks for them.

## **TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY**

### **SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**OFFICE HOURS 9 am to 4 pm**

SMWS – Tues & Thur – 506-738-2320 SRWS - Wed -506- 653-6850  
Mon & Fri: BOTH OFFICES CLOSED  
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.holyspiritparish.ca](http://www.holyspiritparish.ca) Email: [holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com](mailto:holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com)

Pastor – Rev. David J. Martin

### **HOLY SPIRIT PARISH**

#### **ST. MATTHEWS & ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITES**

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

**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time – October 01, 2023**

#### **Sunday Exposition/Adoration:**

**\*\*Oct 01, 2023 @ St. Rose Worship Site 12:30 – 1:30 pm\*\***

**Time change to allow people to attend the LIFE CHAIN on Sun 2pm – 3pm at King Square in Saint John**

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

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION**

Holy Spirit Parish –Please contact Linda Spinney at 506-636-0677 or email her at [holyspiriteducationsj@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.gentlepathsj.com)

Facebook: Gentle Path Counselling Services

<https://www.facebook.com/gentlepathcounselling>  
services/

Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001