

The Fifth Week of Ordinary Time

The **Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time** has readings that deal with suffering and weakness. In **Mark's Gospel**, we see Jesus go to Simon Peter's house to heal Peter's mother-in-law. Crowds of people gather for healing outside the house. In the morning, Jesus slips away to pray, only to be searched out by Peter. Jesus says, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come."

Monday is the **Memorial of St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**, Tuesday is the **Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions**. Saturday is the **Memorial of Saint Scholastica**.

The first reading this week, from the **First Book of Kings**, continues the story of David's family as his son the wise Solomon is now King of Israel. He is honored and praised for his wisdom, but falls away from the Lord and worships false gods, and for that the Lord tells him he will lose the Kingdom of Israel.

During the week, the fast-paced **Gospel of Mark** continues with stories of Jesus healing, teaching and challenging the authorities. As Jesus and his disciples step on shore, people scurry from all over to bring those in need of healing. The Pharisees, watching for Jesus to break rules, criticize his followers for not washing their hands. Jesus responds, "You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." Jesus teaches his followers, "Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." Jesus goes to Tyre and tries to slip into a house unnoticed, but a foreign woman finds him and Jesus, impressed by her faith, heals her daughter. He heals a man of his deafness and speech impediment and like so many others he healed, he orders him not to tell anyone. "But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it." Moved with pity, Jesus feeds the huge crowds who had followed him for three days. "They ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over – seven baskets. There were about four thousand people."

Daily Prayer

"My heart is moved with pity," Jesus says in one of the gospels this week, and we see his compassion in the healing stories in this week's gospels. This seems like the perfect time for us to ask Jesus for the healing we need in our lives.

We can take one gospel and pray with it as if we were in the story. Jesus and his disciples cross the sea and as soon as they land, people rush to bring those who need healing to him. We can imagine ourselves seeing Jesus, the crowds gathering, the jostle of people bringing their sick on mats. People yelling for Jesus' attention.

Then we can imagine a moment where Jesus steps away from the throng and takes us aside. With loving eyes he looks at us and asks us, "Where do you need healing? Where can I be with you?"

It is there in that powerful moment that we can speak to Jesus as we would a friend. We can search our hearts and ask Jesus for the healing he already knows we need:

- "Help me, Jesus, with my impatience with my family. Let me not nag at those I love so much. Heal my lack of compassion for them."

- "Touch my heart, Jesus. Give me the selfless love I need in my marriage not to 'keep score.' Only with your help can I continue to be loving, even when it feels like some days I am the only one carrying my marriage."

- "Jesus, I become afraid of failing and I feel like one of those people lying on a mat, waiting for you to touch my life. Yet when I sense your healing presence coming close, I roll away from you so you don't see me. Give me the courage I need to ask for your healing and to get up and answer your call for me to serve."

When we pray with a gospel, we can carry an image of that prayer with us all day long. As we get out of bed in the morning, cook meals or go about our day, we can be aware of Jesus standing with us, ready to heal us, if only we would ask.

What is it that needs healing in me this week? Where will I allow Jesus to touch my life?

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

Cribbage is held on Wednesday Evenings at St. Matthews Church Hall beginning at 7pm.

Dear Jill Robillard and Esteemed Members of Holy Spirit Parish,

I write to you on behalf of the entire staff and clients of Horizon Recovery Centre (formerly Lonewater Farm), Ridgewood Detox centre, and the concurrent disorder rehab program, with a heart full of gratitude. Your remarkable generosity during the holiday season has profoundly touched the lives of everyone at our facility. Your donations, thoughtfully provided year after year, have become a cornerstone of our holiday celebrations, bringing immeasurable joy and warmth to those we serve.

The holiday season, often a time of reflection and connection, can pose significant challenges for our clients, many of whom are distanced from family and friends. In this context, the gifts and support you have provided shine even brighter, illuminating our facility with a sense of community and care. The excitement and gratitude displayed by our clients upon receiving your gifts were deeply moving, affirming the importance and impact of your kindness.

Moreover, your contributions have enabled us to organize a festive and joyful holiday celebration, for all the program's clients here at Ridgewood Addictions and Mental Health, ensuring a safe and merry environment for all. The ability to celebrate together, to share in the spirit of the season, has been a source of great comfort and happiness for our clients. It has been a privilege to witness the transformative power of your generosity, as it uplifts spirits and fosters a sense of belonging.

As we step into a new year, we carry with us the memories of a holiday season made special by your unwavering support. Thank you for being a beacon of hope and compassion, for embodying the true spirit of giving, and for your continued commitment to enriching the lives of those at Horizon Recovery Centre.

Wishing you and all the parishioners and supporters within our great community a healthy and prosperous New Year, filled with the same kindness and warmth you have so generously shared with us.

With deepest appreciation and warm regards,

Joshua Holden
Addiction Attendant
Horizon Recovery Centre

TALENT SHOW FUNDRAISER

Do you have a talent?? A talent show is planned for the afternoon of Saturday May 25 at St. Matthew's worship site, as a fundraiser for St. Augustine's Memorial Garden, & we are looking for talent. Do you juggle, are you a mime, do you sing or dance or practice a martial art? What about a monologue, stand up comedy, or is acting your passion? Are you a ventriloquist, are you in a hand bell group, or are you a yo-yo pro? If you have a talent that you would like to perform at our talent show, please contact Jill at (506) 639-0007 or jillrobillard5@gmail.com or Patti (506) 738-8264 or pattiblake07@outlook.com

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH 2024 CALENDARS

There are still a few extra for sale, they will go first-come-first-serve. Price is \$18.00. Please call John Doubt if you would like to purchase one.

The Women's Society is looking for someone with carpentry skills willing to donate their time to build some shelves in the rectory hall. We will cover the cost of material. Please contact Jill if you can help: 506-639-0007 or jillrobillard5@gmail.com

The Women's Society is looking for someone to deliver the monthly soup to Ave B. If you are interested or have questions please contact Jill at 506-639-0007 or jillrobillard5@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE 2024

(Due to unforeseen circumstances pre-booked Masses may have to be rescheduled)

Feb 07, 2024	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Parishioners
Feb 08, 2024	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Paula Woodworth
Feb 10, 2024	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Mary MacDougal Mary Fletcher
Feb 11, 2024	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site National Day of Prayer for the sick	9am	Colleen Durant Joseph Ledoux
Feb 11, 2024	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site National Day of Prayer for the sick	11am	Josephine Chase Mary MacDougal Laurie Melanson

Evening Prayer at Carmel Chapel, 103 Burpee Avenue, last Wednesday of each month: Jan-June, 2024
Instrumental music by a local musician at 6:00 pm; Ritual begins at 6:30 pm. PARKING: Both sides of Burpee Ave. and Rocmaura lot off Park Street. Contact Info: 634-4970 weekdays.

Feb 28 * Mar 27 * Apr 24 * May 29 * June 26

BOBBY’S HOSPICE MAJOR FUNDRAISER TICKETS

On Feb 10, 2024 Bobby’s Hospice will be hosting their Hospice Gala 2024 at the Trade & Convention Centre. This includes a silent auction with concert style entertainment by the famous Donny & The Monarchs. There are still 8 tickets available on a first come first serve basis. If you are interested please contact the office by Thursday, February 8th. **PLEASE NOTE – THESE TICKETS ARE FREE TO YOU!** ~Fr. David

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 14, 2024

MASS TIMES

12:10pm – St Rose Worship Site & 7pm at St. Matthews Worship Site

2023 ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

It is that time of year where we ask you to submit a report from your respective committees so we can prepare our Accountability Report for the parish.

Please submit your Report to the office via email by February 29, 2024.

The Prayer Shawl Group - Wednesday mornings from 10-12 at the Rectory Hall, 279 Nerepis Road, Grand Bay-Westfield. Call Jill (639-0007) or Angie (639-6582) if you’re interested. New people always welcomed!! Yarn, needles, & patterns will be supplied; you can create from the comfort of your own home.

COLLECTIONS - Jan 28, 2024

**Regular - \$2,247.00 Loose - \$422.00 Initial Offering - \$15.00
New Year’s - \$10.00 eTransfer - \$40.00 Indigenous \$463.00
PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

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 Email: 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”

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Feb 04, 2024

**Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Feb 04, 11, 18, 25, 2024
at St. Rose Worship Site from 1-2pm**

**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

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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