

Daily Prayer – March 03, 2024

This is a pivotal week of Lent. We can solidify the patterns we have begun or we can make a new start, if we haven't been able to get started yet. If we have begun to recognize what needs realigning in our lives and have begun to fast and abstain from some things that get in the way of our relationship with the Lord, then we are engaging in a struggle. We are likely uncovering resistance and experiencing our personal sinfulness face-to-face.

This is all preparing us for a deeper conversion, a readiness for reconciliation with God and the graces that will allow us to be a source of reconciliation with others. This is the time when we begin to see and experience how much God loves us at a new and more personal level. These graces prepare us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus in the weeks ahead - to learn from him, to fall in love with him more deeply and to be drawn to imitate him more completely. If we are just getting started with our Lenten journey, renewing our desires for these graces will be all we need to begin with a renewed openness. God does not need a lot of time to convince us of his love for us.

This is a week about God's love for us and our call to love others the same way. It is a week to keep our daily focus on naming a desire each morning. The day ahead will shape what we ask for as our feet hit the floor in the morning. Pausing to thank the Lord for this day and to ask for the grace to let our mind and heart be renewed in the concrete circumstances, relationships and obligations of our day. Throughout the day, we can then return to those desires in background of our awareness. Our request for the Lord's help is always there and our consciousness of it will help us make the choice we desire to make, to let go of what we need to let go of, to add what we need to add. This will take us deeper and deeper into self-awareness and a sense of our need for a Savior, who is right there to embrace us and give us the graces we ask for.

Daily Prayer – March 10, 2024

The gospels this week make it very clear, toward the end of the week, that Jesus faced opposition that couldn't accept who he is. We see that Jesus comes to lay down his life that we might live. So, this week of Lent is an important time for us to ask ourselves if there are any parts of our hearts, any of our patterns, that oppose Jesus and his desire to give us life. This kind of honesty can transform our lives. It can allow the grace of God to bring reconciliation and healing we might not have imagined.

Even if it hasn't been easy to get really engaged with Lent so far, we can still make a beginning, even now. The keys are openness and desire. If we can feel any attraction, any sign that the Lord is possibly drawing us, then the Lord can work with us - no matter what resistance or fear we might also be experiencing. All we have to do is act out of these desires and simply ask the Lord for the grace to help us be more honest and more open to what he is offering us. For example, we can ask for the grace to examine our consciences more thoroughly. We could try a different approach to facing any resistance we might have to the Lord's working in us. We might not commit the big sins, but we may not have examined what we fail to do. Who am I failing to love, to forgive, to be generous to? From whom am I withholding affection, care, reconciliation? Where can I live more honestly, with more integrity? How might I proactively change my own personal patterns of escape with patterns of care for others?

It is a time of grace when we can experience moments of "recognition," or self-understanding. But it is not a grace to beat up on ourselves or become self-absorbed in our own guilt. It is grace to feel grateful to the Lord for showing us obstacles to the life he is offering us. It is grace to feel our spirits lighten as we feel drawn to greater freedom and peace. It is incredible grace when we are drawn to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This week, let us give thanks to the Lord who deeply desires our greater freedom and joy. As we go to bed each night, let us thank the Lord for what we saw that day and renew our desires for the next day of grace.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

BLESSINGS TO ALL DURING MARCH BREAK MARCH

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.

LENT 2024

"How is my Lent going?"

As we continue our Lenten journey, the Third Sunday of Lent is a great time to ask ourselves, "How is my Lent going?" Is it going well? Are we able to tap into something about ourselves that we would and can change for the better? Is our Lent going too fast? Perhaps I have not really thought about Lent... only in church? Or perhaps this has been the worse Lent ever...? Am I able to spend quality prayer with God and not quantity? Have I addressed a need through almsgiving? Am I able to fast from something that draws me away from the heart of God?

Lenten theme for this Lent is "Journey to a merciful heart." Have we discovered which 'heart' it is that we are journeying to? Is it the heart of Jesus who shows love and compassion to those he encounters in Scripture? Is it our heart in need of change... conversion... to become more 'merciful'? If you answer "yes" to both of these hearts... how right you are! I want to share a poem that I found about Lent that best sums up what our journey to a merciful heart should look like:

LENT

Seeds grow in two directions,
they send roots spreading deep into the earth
supporting the life of stems and leaves
reaching upward to the sun.
Human growth, being who we are,
requires deep roots,
nourishing our reach outward,
toward the sun, toward others,
toward life, toward God.

Lent is love moving in two directions-
a spreading search within our soul,
and a thrust outward beyond ourselves
toward others.

Lent is a time to dig deep and reach out.
We ought not waste the chance
to be the love we are made to be.

Amen.

Mark-David Janus, CSP, Phd

As Baptized Christians, we are called to model our heart on the heart of Jesus. The Lord's heart is open to the oppressed, the vulnerable and the ostracized. He reaches out to the need by travelling from village to town to city. Jesus doesn't stay in one place... a forte to his Resurrection and Ascension. Jesus journey's to Jerusalem to fulfill his ministry to us by dying on the cross. The ultimate gift of all love given to humanity. If you Lent is going good... great! If not, do not give up... Remember that in Lent "love is moving in two directions... deep within our soul and outward beyond ourselves toward others." Continued Blessings on your journey everyone!

Fr. David

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.

Mar 27 * Apr 24 * May 29 * June 26

Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord..." Our prayers and condolences go out
to the families of Patricia Wallace, Carol Rankin, Danny Arseneault and
Fr. Maurice Swift

MASS SCHEDULE 2024 – Bulletin is for 2 weeks!!!

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

Mar 06, 2024	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Kay Losier
Mar 07, 2024	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Mr & Mrs Harry F. Recker Mr. & Mrs George Randall & DFM
Mar 09, 2024	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Ronald Ferguson
Mar 10, 2024	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Medor & Alice Arsenault Jack Murphy
Mar 10, 2024	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Parishioners
Mar 13, 2024	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	Leo Wallace Gary Mittelholtz
Mar 14, 2024	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	Anita Barnes
Mar 16, 2024	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Wendy Whynot Colleen Durant
Mar 17, 2024	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Parishioners
Mar 17, 2024	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Jayne Cormier Edith Parker Mary MacDougall

****OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL MAR 13, 2024****

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 March 15, 2024.

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 jillrobbillard5@gmail.com

COLLECTIONS – Feb 25, 2024

Regular - \$2,173.00 Loose - \$403.50 Catholic Missions Cda - \$15.00

Food Bank - \$45.00 eTransfer - \$40.00

PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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 jillrobbillard5@gmail.com or Patti (506) 738-8264 or pattiblake07@outlook.com

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”

Third & Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mar 03 & 10, 2024

“Journey to a Merciful Heart”

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: Mar 03, 10, 24 & 31, 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/

Charitable # - 85377 7175 R0001