

## Fourth Week of Ordinary Time

On the **Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time**, **Luke's gospel** continues the story of the Jesus teaching in the synagogue. The crowd, although “amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth” began to challenge Jesus. He responds that “no prophet is accepted in his own native place” and challenges their assumptions, angering the crowd. When they try to drive him out of town, he passes through their midst.

Wednesday is the **Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**. Thursday is the Memorial of the Japanese Jesuit **Saint Paul Miki and his Companions, Martyrs**.

The first reading this week continues with the **Letter to the Hebrews**. Jesus is priest and we should not be discouraged.

In **Mark's Gospel** this week, Jesus continues to heal and teach. A man in the Gerasenes is healed of unclean spirits and wants to stay with Jesus but he tells the man, “Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you.” The young daughter of a synagogue official is sick and, on the way, to cure her, as Jesus stood in a crowd, he felt the power go out of him as a woman with a hemorrhage touched his cloak. “Your faith has saved you,” he reassures her. To the synagogue official he says, “Do not be afraid; just have faith” and heals his daughter. He teaches in the synagogue in his hometown “and they took offense at him.” He was not able to perform miracles there, because of their lack of faith. Jesus sends his apostles, in twos, to share the good news. After publicly promising a dancer anything she wants, Herod reluctantly gives the girl her wish and orders John the Baptist to be beheaded. When Jesus' disciples return from their journeys, he encourages them, “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.” But as they tried to get away “and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, for they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.”

## Daily Prayer This Week

This week is set at the beginning of Jesus' ministry and the pictures we get of how challenged and pushed he is preparing us to hear the simple parables he tells us. All of us get challenged and pushed in our daily lives. Even when we are on the right road and following a faithful path, there are forces, conflicting demands, tempting alternatives, differing values that batter us. It takes grace and courage to trust our real mission and that our Lord will be with us through it all.

Each morning this week, we can take a moment, to ask for what we desire. The entire day will be different just by spending 20 seconds sitting at the edge of the bed saying, “Lord, I want to keep my eyes open today. Whatever comes at me today, I want to stay in touch with you. Thank you.” Another morning, I may be aware of a big decision I have to execute that day or a conflict I am planning to face, and I might pray, “Okay, Lord, this is the day. This is how I live out my relationship with you. Be with me and give me what I need. Keep reminding me I can't do it without you.”

Each day will offer a different brief moment of connection with our Lord, but each will ground the day. Then it is so very easy, while in the shower or walking down a hall, for just brief moments here and there in the background of our day, to stay in touch with our Lord.

## Continued....

These guides can help keep us focused on the nourishing Word which interacts with our daily life. Every day can seem like a living Parable of the Sower. There is seed being scattered all around us and we can see and experience our degrees of receptivity. And while we are doing the best we can, all day, every day, in a variety of things, we can be consoled by the Lord's smile reminding us that the Kingdom is like a mustard seed. The real graces come from very small seeds, the smallest of efforts that make a big difference. Most of all, when things get rough, during any day, we can pause and take a breath and ask him to calm the wind and sea in our hearts.

Every night we can thank him for his presence and ground our growing relationship with him.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

## CONTRIBUTING TO THE COLLECTION

Next weekend, we will be re-instating the practice of putting ‘plastic cards’ in the collection for those who contribute to parish coffers by PAD (Pre Authorized Debit). You will find the cards in the foyer of each worship site. You will now be able to place one of these cards in the collection baskets. If you are unsure, please ask one of our parish greeters.

## FOOD PREPARATION FOR RECEPTIONS

For those who may be interested in participating in the proper way of preparing food for parish gatherings, dinners and other functions where food handling is involved, we have room for 5 participants. Our Revitalization Chair, Tom Paisley has taken this course on-line and has found it very beneficial. If you are interested, please call **Tom at 506-333-1730**.

## LOOKING FOR FEEDBACK!!!!

For the past year the attendance for the Thursday 12:10pm Mass at St. Rose Worship Site has been poorly attended. With the rising cost of fuel and the distance for me to drive is an added expense to the parish. I know that some of you attend the 9am daily Mass at the Assumption, **which is great**. My question is...should we try another time or has the Westside already been covered by the Assumption daily Mass? I appreciate your feedback as I will have to make a decision in the coming weeks.

Thank Your – Fr. David

## BAPTISMS AT ST. ROSE WORSHIP SITE

St. Rose Worship Site is looking for volunteers to assist Fr. David with baptisms. This would involve setting up, holding the book, etc. Training will be provided. Please contact the office 506-653-6850 if you are interested or have any questions.

## MASSES

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

Feb 05, 2025	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Regina Legacy Wayne Stymiest
Feb 06, 2025	Thur	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	David Green
Feb 08, 2025	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Rick White
Feb 09, 2025	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Jeannette Pascon
Feb 09, 2025	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Rachel Quinn Gary Osborne

### 2024 Accountability Report

Its that time again where we are asking each committee and/or ministry to prepare your accountability report for 2024. Please submit to the office by **March 21, 2025.**

#### COLLECTION – Jan 26, 2025

Regular - \$3,447.00   Loose - \$272.00   Indigenous Solidarity - \$578.00  
 Food Bank - \$20.00   Init Offering - \$40.00  
 New Years - \$10.00   eTransfers - \$131.00  
 PAD Weekly Avg - \$1,580.00   PAD Bldg - \$148.00

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

#### SHOVELLING/SALTING & SANDING

We are in urgent need of someone to shovel the stairs and entry way at St. Matthews Worship Site. At present it is hit or miss if/when the shovelling gets done. Salting & sanding is required during icy conditions. Please contact the office 506-738-2320.

#### MINISTRIES

We are looking for volunteers to join the ministry of serving mass and communications at both worship sites. What better way to practice our baptismal call!! As well, we need to form **Fundraising Committee**. Please contact the office at 506-738-2320 or 506-653-6850 if you are interested or want more information.

## Holy Spirit Parish – Feb 02, 2025

**“The Presentation of the Lord”**

**“World Day for Consecrated Life**

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

**OFFICE HOURS 9 am to 4 pm**

**SMWS – Wed & Thur – 506-738-2320   SRWS - Tue -506- 653-6850**

**Mon & Fri: BOTH OFFICES CLOSED**

**Mailing Address: 279 Nerepis Rd, Grand Bay-Westfield, NB E5K 2Z9**

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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**

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

#### 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/  
gentlepathcounsellingservices/](https://www.facebook.com/gentlepathcounsellingservices/)

Charitable # - 85377 7175 R001