

Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time

On the **Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** we hear the wonderful story of the healing of Jairus' daughter. In the middle of that story is the beautiful story of the healing of the woman with a hemorrhage. He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction.'" Jesus tells Jairus, "Do not be afraid; just have faith." When the girl was healed the people "were utterly astounded."

Wednesday is the **Feast of Saint Thomas, Apostle**. Thursday in the US is **Independence Day**, when many parishes offer a Mass with special readings.

The first readings this week are from the **Book of the Prophet Amos**. Amos was a shepherd who was called to deliver God's word to the northern kingdom, Israel.

Matthew's Gospel takes us through several stories about Jesus' ministry. We begin as Jesus demonstrates that following him requires a radical change in life: "Follow me, and let the dead bury their dead." Jesus calms the storm at sea. Then he drives demons out of two men living among the tombs. When a paralyzed man is brought to him, Jesus has compassion on the man and forgives his sins, which causes a controversy. Jesus then heals the man's paralysis. He calls Matthew to leave his customs post and follow him, and the many tax collectors and sinners who come to have dinner with Jesus cause a controversy with the religious leaders. "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, I desire mercy, not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners." When Jesus' disciples are criticized for not fasting, Jesus talks about the difficulty of combining the old and the new. He is calling for something radically new. Not a patch, but new wine in new wineskins.

Daily Prayer

One of the blessings of reading passages that describe Jesus' ministry is that they can help us become more and more attracted to him. We can become fascinated by his pastoral care for those on the margins of Society or his courage in the face of opposition. The more we watch Jesus, the easier it is for us to fall in love with him. Being drawn to Jesus with growing affection will ultimately lead us to want to be with him and like him.

So each morning this week we can begin our day with a very brief prayer. "Lord, let me see you, love you and desire to follow you more closely today." We might say, "Drive away the demons that tempt my spirit today" on one day and repeat that prayer at various times, especially when we are tempted to look good, or to escape into over-indulgence with food or drink or fantasies, or when we are tempted to let anger get the better of us. On another day, we might pray, "Dear Lord, I get paralyzed sometimes - just stuck and unable to move. Free me today, by reminding me of your love and mercy." Still another day, we might ask, "Let me respond to your call with the freedom Matthew had." We might turn to the Lord some day and simply say, "Lord, I know you desire mercy and not sacrifice, please free me from the judgments I will be tempted to make today." Finally, I might pray, "Lord, pour your new wine into me. Let me be a new wineskin to receive it. Give me the freedom today to let your word transform how I act and how I choose today."

The key to finding intimacy with our God in the midst of our busy lives is to let God's Word interact with the real events and people who are there. No matter what our responsibilities are today, no matter how unrelated they seem to be to faith or devotion, and no matter how busy we might be, we can all let God's Word into the background, in brief moments of connection, conversation and intimacy. All it takes is desire and focus.

As we practice using the background moments of our days, we will grow in experiencing that this intimacy is possible. And, when we sense it and enjoy it, and see what a difference it makes, let's not forget to give thanks each evening for the gifts we have received.

[Creighton U Online Ministries](#)

"Eternal Rest Grant unto them O Lord"...Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of J. K. Irving, Patty Stephens, Susan Nelson and Leona LeBlanc

Our Sacred Stories

The Touch of God's Healing, Life-giving Love

Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years..... 'If I can touch even his clothes,...I shall be well again.'... 'Your daughter is dead: Why put the Master to any further trouble?... And taking the child by the hand he said to her, Talitha, kum! Which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about. (Mark 5:21-43, passim)

A few days ago, I experienced two common and seemingly unrelated events. They may not have seemed alike in any way, but they were. The first was simply noticing a young couple walking along on the street, holding hands. The other, was the anointing of a man in the hospital with the oil of the sick. Each of these events seemed quite different from the other, except that there were several commonalities that the events shared. Each event involved one person touching of another. And both of them were in fact an expression of love and the bond between persons.

The young couple, in holding hands expressed the love that they shared with one another and they revealed it in the simple gesture they took. The anointing of the person in the hospital was also an expression of love shared by the Christian community through the sacrament. At the same time, the anointing revealed the shared faith that ties the whole community together and that calls us to reach out to a person in need of our loving support.

Mark's Gospel often presents us with the healing Jesus. In the very poignant account of a woman who had suffered for years, we discover the loving touch of God that Jesus brings. He is present to her. Having heard of Jesus, she was unable to get close to him, but thought: "If I but touch his clothes." What faith!

The same loving and healing presence is revealed in the second story related by Mark. The sick child has brought desperate parents to seek out Jesus. We might be tempted to see Jesus as a wonder-worker in the story. But what is more wonderful perhaps is that Jesus went out of his way to be present to both the child and her parents. As Mark relates it, Jesus says: "The child is not dead, but sleeping."

The Gospels are full of stories of Jesus as he heals people. What is this all about? The temptation is to see Jesus as a wonder-worker, a miracle-maker, someone who suspends the rules of the natural order in order to heal. To be sure there may be some instances of physical healing. But if we stop there, we miss the real point of these accounts.

Jesus is the incarnate presence of God – God who is present to us, sharing our humanity. To say this is to say that Jesus reveals the love in which God holds each and every one of us in humanity. He is the touch of God's love for us all. When we stand with another in the midst of suffering, difficult times and challenging wounds personally, communally and globally, we express the incarnation. We speak God's love. We do not seek miracles we seek expressions of God's love, that is always with us.

John Jennings
13th Sun Ord Time

COLLECTIONS – June 23, 2024

Regular - \$2,353.00 Loose - \$317.00

Food Bank - \$40.00 PAD Weekly Average - \$1,713.00 PAD BLDG - \$148.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MASS SCHEDULE 2024

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

Jul 02, 2024	Wed	St. Matthews Worship Site	7pm	NO MASS
Jul 03 2024	Thurs	St. Rose Worship Site	12:10pm	NO MASS
Jul 06, 2024	Sat	St. Rose Worship Site	4pm	Edgar Gogan Gerald Butler
Jul 07, 2024	Sun	St. Rose Worship Site	9am	Eva & Joe Murphy Camille LeBlanc Anita Barnes
Jul 07, 2024	Sun	St. Matthews Worship Site	11am	Dave Goddard Jayne Cormier Don Cyr

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE ONE BULLETIN FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST BEGINNING NEXT WEEK



CHURCH YARD SALE

Parish Yard Sale – Sat. July 27, 2024 from 9 AM to 1 PM.
Saint Ann’s Church (135 Simpson Drive, Saint John, NB).

A little of everything. A lot of some things. Come and see. You won't be disappointed!

WEBSITE UPDATE!!!!

The communications team is actively working to update our Holy Spirit website. **We plan to go live on July 02, 2024.** We’d appreciate your help by submitting any photos you would like included for the gallery section. We are including sections on St Augustine’s, St Brendan, St Rose and St Matthews. We are looking for photos of the church, church artifacts, celebrations, group photos etc. This is an opportunity to pay tribute to our rich history. If you have any digitized photos, please send to pattiblake07@outlook.com. If you have any hardcopy photos, we will scan them and return them to you. Please drop an envelope with your photos, name and phone number with the Parish Office. It would also be helpful to write on the back of the photo what/who we see in the photo and approximate date.

Anyone who would like to help us test which will include testing that the content can be seen, links work etc. on a variety of devices. Please contact Patti Blake at 506-609-1318 or pattiblake07@outlook.com

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

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”

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time - June 30, 2024

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: June 30 - St. Rose of Lima 1-2 p.m.

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

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