

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

“You’re Invited to... **experience the desert with Jesus**”

In today’s Gospel, the First Sunday of Lent, Jesus is led to the desert and is tempted by the devil. When we think of a desert, what image comes to mind? Wilderness? Sandy dunes? Lonely valleys, Lifeless terrain? Wind? Probably all of these. But why would we have this gospel for this Sunday? What about new life, happiness, and God’s love? Lent is a time of preparing for the great celebration of Easter. Like Jesus, we are invited to spend 40 days in ‘our desert’ preparing the heart and soul for a new beginning... a new way of experiencing the unconditional love of God. We are invited to ‘journey’ inward to the ‘self’ or the ‘heart’ to spend time in reflecting on our lives and our relationship with God. When one takes a journey, it requires us to ‘move’ or to ‘wander’. Lent is a time for us to wander through our hearts and our lives. In the 1960’s, Del Shannon wrote a top hit, “Little Runaway...” The first verse of that song goes, “As I walk along I wonder what went wrong... with our love, a love that was so strong...and as I still walk on, I think of the things we've done... together, while our hearts were young ...” Shannon is singing about a love gone wrong. Now he’s ‘walking in the rain...wandering what happened...why his beloved left... his little runaway?’ Is this not what Lent is? A time to open our hearts and to receive God’s unlimited love again? God’s love is ALWAYS INVITING! However, it is our response to the invitation that sometimes goes awry. We may feel so alone in the desert but we’re not. We are never abandoned during our ‘desert experiences’. Jesus and not the devil is always there walking with us, holding us close to him. During these 40 days of “Wandering the desert with Jesus,” let us take some time and think about what “**we are invited to....**”

- During Lent, “**You’re invited** into your ‘Spiritual Wilderness or Desert.’” What does it look like? Is it dry, fragile and barren? Jesus is there, walking with you... be sure to acknowledge him.
- In this Spiritual Desert, “**you’re invited to** look at the ‘temptations’ that keep us away from God. Or perhaps what is **one** temptation that I could work on and let go of during Lent 2019?”
- Now, “**You’re invited to**” let Jesus help you to take charge of these (this) temptation(s) and to discover where there is new life, light, hope and opportunities for something new.

**Helpful Hint:** A private ‘notebook’ or ‘prayer journal’ kept in our prayer space would be helpful during Lent, keeping track of our thoughts and conversations with Jesus.

~Fr. David

### The Divine Dynamic by John Surette, SJ

Three Tuesdays Afternoons – 2 to 3:45pm      March 12, 19 and 26, 2019

Facilitator: Mary Alice Glasgow      Location: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Rothesay

Pre-registration:      Donna at 847-3780      shroe@nb.sympatico.ca

Ellen at 847-5131      [ellenrobert@hotmail.com](mailto:ellenrobert@hotmail.com)

A 'Look' is 'not learning' a Book but can be the beginning of new awareness, both enjoyable and necessary. “This book opens a way to see God, the Planet of which we are a part, and the ways we relate to one another”. Book (both new and used) available at Amazon.ca.

## YEAR END REPORT

To each chair of all committees of Holy Spirit Parish, I am asking for a “Year End Report” from each ministry or committee. **THIS INCLUDES EVERYONE** from KOC, CWL, Prayer Shawl Ministry, Liturgy, Religious Education, Finance, ‘Avenue B,’ etc. This report should include the following:

1. Name of the Ministry?
2. What is the focus of this ministry? What do you do? And how do you do it?
3. What have you done since last Year?
4. What are your goals for the coming year?
5. Who is involved in your ministry?
6. How can others get involved?

These reports are to be submitted (emailed) to the Office and we will compile them into one large report for all parishioners to read. Why do we do this? First and foremost, Accountability, that parishioners can see how their contributions are building up the parish. As well, it gives everyone a chance to view the various ministries and to see which one they would like to participate in. As well, this report gives us ‘measure’ to how we are doing as a community of faith. I believe that ‘Year End Reports’ need to become the norm for any parish as it shows us where we have been, where we are and where are going.

~Fr. David

**Legion of Mary** – The ‘Acies’ for the Legion of Mary will be held on Sunday, March 24, 2019 @ 2pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 74 Almon Lane, Rothesay NB. **All welcome, bring a friend.** Refreshments to follow.

**K OF C Council 9176 - Wednesday Night Crib** at St. Matthew’s Worship Site Hall Wednesday Evening @ 7pm. All are welcome!

**CHASE THE ACE** – The jackpot of \$4,160.00 was won last Friday, Mar 1, 2019. Stay tuned for info on the next round of Chase the Ace.

**Holy Spirit Rectory Hall Prayer Shawl Ministry** every Wednesday from 10am – 1pm in the Rectory Hall on the Nerepis Road, Grand Bay-Westfield. Shawls, mitts, hats & scarves are crocheted or knit. Bring your own needles, yarn is supplied. If you can’t come all the time, pick up some yarn on Wednesdays and work at home. Feel free to come & bring a friend! Any questions, call Joanne at 486-1800.

**St. Rose Place Prayer Shawl Ministry** meets every Tuesday from 11am – 1pm – **weather permitting**. For more info contact Cecile DeChamps @ 696-8963 **all welcome!**

**St. Rose Place** – Monday, Mar 11, 2019 at 1pm – Preparing food for Avenue ‘B’

**Bible Study** – The bible study group meets at St. Rose Place every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday evening of the month from 7pm – 8:30pm. For more information contact Jim @ 651-1689 or Tilda @ 672-5046.

**2019 Confirmation Class** – Is having a **BAKE SALE** at St. Matthew’s Worship Site on March 10, 2019, before and after the Mass (10:30am – 11am and 12 – 12:30pm). Sorry we don’t do debit or charge cards so please remember to bring small bills and your sweet tooth!!

**World Day of Prayer** - Sunday, March 10, 2019, (storm date March 17, 2019) Westfield United Church, 133 Nerepis Rd, Grand Bay-Westfield, at 7pm. **All Welcome** – refreshments to follow.

**Eucharistic Adoration** - Sunday, Mar 10, 2019 from 1 – 2pm at St. Rose of Lima Worship Site

**MASSES**

Mar 11, 2019	Mon	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	12:10pm	Madeline Gogan
Mar 12, 2019	Tue	St. Matthew's Worship Site	7pm	Gary Mittelholtz Judy Lockhart
Mar 13, 2019	Wed	St. Matthew's Worship Site	9am	Joseph Creamer
Mar 14, 2019	Thur	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	12:10pm	Alice & Medore Arseneault Upton DFM
Mar 15 2019	Fri	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	12:10pm	Evee & Eva Daigle
Mar 16, 2019	Sat	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	4pm	Helen Allen
Mar 17, 2019	Sun	St. Rose of Lima Worship Site	9am	Daniel Craig Albert Palmer
Mar 17, 2019	Sun	St. Matthew's Worship Site	11am	Jayne Cormier

**AASEA, Lenten 1-Day Silent-Guided Retreat  
The Mystery of God's Love and Mercy**

*On Thursday March 14, 2019 from 9:30am – 4:30pm a Lenten Silent-Guided Retreat will be held at the Villa Madonna Retreat Centre. This Lenten silent retreat will include 2 guided prayer exercises and an opportunity for spiritual conversation. Also ample time for relaxation and walks in nature are built into the day's schedule. The day will conclude with Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Bill Brennan.*

**For more information:** Contact Peter Chouinard at [jpeterchouinard@gmail.com](mailto:jpeterchouinard@gmail.com) or call 696-7065

**YOUTH GROUP & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES WILL RESUME MAR 17, 2019**

**Collection Holy Spirit Parish**

**Mar 02 & 03, 2019**

**Regular - \$3,864.00 Loose - \$476.00 Building Fund - \$1,650.30 PAD - \$3,332.00  
PAD Building Fund – \$421.00**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**PHOTO SESSIONS FOR OUR PHOTO ALBUM WILL BE BOOKED WITH PARISHIONERS AS FOLLOWS:  
THE WEEK BEFORE HOLY WEEK (APR 8<sup>TH</sup>) FOR ST. MATTHEW'S WORSHIP SITE  
THE WEEK AFTER HOLY WEEK (APR 22) FOR ST. ROSE OF LIMA WORSHIP SITE**

**\*\*ANY MINISTRIES OR OTHER GROUPS (IE: YOUTH GROUP, K OF C) WHO WANT A GROUP PHOTO INCLUDED IN THE PHOTO ALBUM WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO HAVE ONE TAKEN AND SUBMIT WITH THE NAMES\*\***

**For more information contact Patti Blake @ 738-8264**

***Holy Spirit Parish***

***St. Matthew & St. Rose of Lima Worship Sites***

***“1st Sunday of Lent” Mar 10, 2019***

***“When we have the Holy Spirit we have all that is needed to be all that God desires us to be”***

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Mon & Tue: St. Matthew Worship Site: 9 am to 4 pm  
Wed & Thurs: St. Rose of Lima Worship Site: 9 am to 4 pm  
Office Number - 738-2320 Office Number - 653-6850  
Friday: both offices closed**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Email: [holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com](mailto:holyspiritparish@nb.aibn.com)**

**Mailing Address: 279 Nerepis Rd, Grand Bay-Westfield, NB E5K 2Z9  
St. Matthew Worship Site – (506)738-2320 Fax: (506)757-2948 Website [www.gbwecc.ca](http://www.gbwecc.ca)  
Civic Address: 45 Dollard Drive  
St. Rose of Lima Worship Site – (506)653-6850 Fax: (506)653-6865 Website [www.saintroseoflima.ca](http://www.saintroseoflima.ca)  
Civic Address: 541 Milford Road**

**Confessions - The Sacrament of Reconciliation 3:15pm Saturday's at  
St. Rose of Lima Worship Site**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION**

**St. Matthew Worship Site – Please contact Linda Spinney at 486-2144 or email her at [linspin@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:linspin@nbnet.nb.ca)  
St. Rose of Lima Worship Site – Please contact Andrea McGrath @ 672-4733 or text 651-6074, or email her at [stroselima.religioused@gmail.com](mailto:stroselima.religioused@gmail.com)**

***Sanctuary Light for the week of Mar 10, 2019 at St Rose of Lima Worship Site is in memory of Daniel Craig donated by his wife Gladys***

***Month of March at St. Matthew's Worship Site  
Bulletin, Altar Wine, Bread and Sanctuary Light are in memory of Jayne Cormier donated by her family***

**Free Tax Clinic – Once again the Church of the Resurrection will be offering free tax preparation for modest income and simple tax situation. **When:** March 4<sup>th</sup> – April 29<sup>th</sup> every Monday and Wednesday 10am – 3pm. Basic Income \$47,500. Call 647-6532 for more information.**