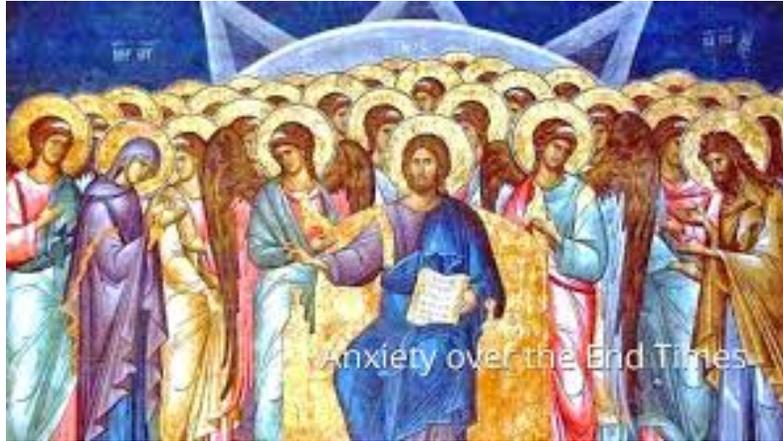


St. Rose of Lima Church

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
November 19th, 2017**



**Pastor:
Father David Martin**

**Office Hours Week of November 20-24:
Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
*Closed on Tuesday, November 21st**

**Masses:
Thursday: 12:10 PM Saturday 4:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM**

**Confession:
Saturday at 3:00 PM**

**Baptisms:
Please call the Office 653-6850 for arrangements.**

Catholic Leadership Institute Process... Continued...

New Life in Our Diocese: How Do We Get There? (added December 8, 2016)

The Disciple Maker Index Survey that we filled out in late January and early February is just the beginning of our process of revitalization for our diocese.

Over the coming months, we'll all get the chance to hear and reflect on the survey results. More importantly, we'll be asked to share our own thoughts on how to develop parishes which are active communities of disciples. That means communities marked by lively and growing faith, as well as a commitment to share the Good News with others.

This column is just one of the ways the survey results will be shared with parishioners in every community. We want everybody to think about and discuss the results, including individuals, pastoral councils, finance and administration councils, religious formation and other services or ministry groups.

The results show the strengths and needs of each community. Putting this in the context of the whole diocese, we can see where we fit in the bigger picture and how we're called to develop as better disciples, growing in faith and sharing the Gospel with others.

Over the next 7 to 8 months, we'll follow the process that began with the Disciple Maker Index Survey. It helps to know what that process is and to know that every single person in the diocese can be involved. We all, laity and clergy, have a part to play in this process of revitalization.

The Process

The first stage began with the setting up of three workgroups, one for each region of our diocese: Miramichi, Fredericton and Saint John. Each workgroup included about 8 people, both laity and clergy. They met monthly for the past four months.

Each of the regional workgroups was asked to develop 2 to 4 models of parish life for their region. To do this, they used the results of the Disciple Maker Survey as well as a survey taken by the priests of our diocese. They also considered other data such as demographic and financial information, the activity levels and needs of parishes and the spiritual and faith vibrancy of their regions.

The process of revitalization will continue into the new year with a number of efforts to engage people and get their feedback. In February, 2017, the priests of the diocese will meet to study and reflect on the models that have been offered for each of the regions and to offer their input.

In April, 2017, a series of consultations (two in each region) will take place, inviting the people of our parish communities to give their input and suggestions on the models of parish life that have been proposed.

**Revitalizing Our Diocesan Church:
Identifying the challenges (added January 27, 2017)**

Our Diocese of Saint John faces many challenges. This is not the first time we have done so. Since its beginning 175 years ago, we have lived through many eras of change, responding to the needs of the time. These periods, though challenging, proved to be opportunities, inspiring new ways of doing things - chances for growth and new life. As new peoples arrived on our shores and the population of our province grew there were new communities, new parishes and new chances to live and share our faith.

We in our diocese are now in a world that has changed significantly, even in the last 10 to 20 years. We notice our changing picture as we look around and see that our parishes are graying, with many older persons and fewer young people. Parents lament that their children no longer seem to practice our faith. In addition, we are seeing fewer youth in churches, as well as a declining number of children and youth in our religious formation programs.

It's evident that we cannot continue in the way in which we have been accustomed. Living faith is more than just attending Mass on Sundays. To live as a disciple of Jesus requires that we learn continually and that we enter into mission, sharing the Good News with others. Change is needed if we are to have thriving and active faith and life in our parishes and in the diocese as a whole. A revitalization of parish life and our own Christian life is essential. Our communities deserve more than a simple one hour on Sunday morning.

In each parish, the results of the Disciple Maker Survey taken in that community in early 2016 are being shared with the parishioners. This is intended to lead to reflection and discussion by the community at large, as well as in various groups in the parish, including pastoral councils, finance and administration councils, religious formation and other services and ministry groups in the parish.

Looking at the results of the Disciple Maker Index Survey and other diocesan resources, the challenges are obvious. The picture for each parish is reflected in the whole diocesan picture. Over the last five years, Mass attendance in the diocese has dropped by about 24%. The diocese of Saint John serves 84 churches (parishes & missions). Across the diocese the average Sunday Mass attendance at each site is 127 people.

We know that our province also has a declining demographic and an aging population. The result is that we now bury more people than we baptize. In some of our parishes this is more pronounced than in others, but the reality affects the whole diocese.

The process of revitalization and realignment on which we have embarked is aimed at bringing new life to our local Church. We will be called upon to see things differently and to respond in new ways, taking up the mission that Jesus gave to all of his disciples: share the Good News. We are challenged to become a local Church of mission, not maintenance.

Over the next months we will be given many opportunities to learn more about our mission and to become aware and involved in revitalizing our diocese. Please watch your parish bulletin, website and Facebook page for ways to be part of this journey. In addition, be sure to watch the website and Facebook page of the Diocese of Saint John for more information and opportunities for involvement.

Remembering Our Dead

In the charity of your prayers, please remember: **Joyce Vautour, Barbara Daigle, Len Martin, Joseph Robichaud, Carol Ann Myles**

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord.

Sanctuary Lamp in Memory of Yvette Stringer

If you wish to place a sanctuary lamp in memory of a loved one, please call the Office at 653-6850.

Mass Intentions

Thursday, November 23	12:10 PM	Evee Daigle
Saturday, November 25	4:00 p.m.	Francesca Scichilone
Sunday, November 26	9:00 a.m.	Mary C. Palmer

Stewardship for the week ending November 12th, 2017

Envelopes	2292.00
Loose	249.85
Food Bank	200.00
Pre-Authorized Debit	438.65
Total	3180.50

Announcements

Book of Remembrance – As always, for the month of November, we remember our dead. The Book of Remembrance is placed in the Baptismal area. Please add names of your deceased loved ones to the prayer list.

Seniors' Blessing and Luncheon - November 25th after the 4:00 PM Mass. Tickets available this weekend at the back of the Church.

Until 28 November 2017 the Government of Canada will match all donations made to Development and Peace or any other eligible Canadian charity, for **relief in Myanmar:**

<https://www.devp.org/en/emergencies/bangladesh>

Alzheimer Café: Nov 26th at St Marks United Church, Dexter Dr. Speaker Sherry Gionet, NGNC on Alzheimer's and Dementia. Entertainment: KV Ball Room Dancers

Sunday Exposition/Adoration: November 19 at Villa Madonna from 2:00 - 4:00.

Mass for Life: Wednesday December 6 at 7:00 PM at Divine Mercy Catholic School.