

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
September 24, 2017

Mass Intentions

Thursday, September 28th	12:10 Noon	Eldon Palmer
Saturday September 30th	4:00 p.m.	Bill Murphy
Sunday, October 1st	9:00 a.m.	Ron Stevens
Sunday October 1st	11:00 a.m.	Marta MacGillivray

“Welcoming: Hospitality, Music and Preaching”

“I’ve never felt so welcomed...” These were the exact words of “Emma’s” father whose baby I baptized two weekends ago. The feeling of this young man was echoed by his family, relatives and friends who gathered with our community to welcome Baby Emma into our faith through the waters of baptism.

One of the greatest things that I have learned (at Summer School - Berkeley, Cal.) was that to have a successful parish, we need to have three (3) important things: Hospitality, good Music, and good Preaching.

1. Hospitality: how do we make others feel comfortable when they come to church? What about the people we do not know? Do we sit in our pews and ask others, “I wonder who that is?” Or do I have the courage to go up to someone and say, “Welcome to our parish... I am Joe Smith...?” Do I get frustrated when someone else sits in my seat? Or do I sit somewhere else, perhaps an empty space where no one ever sits? Could we have someone handing out our bulletins at the door(s) of our Church? Do we promote our bulletin or our website? Do I have an idea that I could propose to Parish Council that would help build community or strengthen our hospitality?

2. Good Music: Good Music (and food) bring people together faster than anything. We are so gifted here at St. Rose to have the talent and gifted people who provide excellent music ministries. As a music ministry, do we welcome people with song PRIOR TO MASS? Do we go over the Psalm or “New” parts of the Mass with the community before the Mass begins? Would this not be more nurturing and prayerful for the community than to have them (and the priest) talking, reading, etc.? As parishioners: “Do I appreciate the gifted people who provides weekly music for us? Do I tell them? Do I pray for them? Do I participate with them...singing along with hymn books provided? Do I have something to offer to the music ministry? Do I play an instrument? I am blessed to lead three parishes with EXCELLENT MUSIC AND SONG...they pick hymns that go with the theme of our weekend liturgy and my homily. How does this ministry enhance my participation during Mass? How does it draw me deeper into right-relationship with Jesus?

3. Good Preaching: When I was ordained a Deacon, I was ordained to Preach the Word of God. I take this responsibility very seriously. This takes a lot of my time preparing: reading, praying, writing, re-writing and re-writing again. On Sunday Evening or Monday Morning, I read the readings for the coming weekend. Each day, I re-read the readings, while at the same time, taking them to prayer asking myself questions: What, in these readings, pertains to us, our parish...a word, a phrase, or a theme? What is the message of Hope? What is “doable” for us... personally, and as a community? What kind of feedback do I get? Is it positive or negative? What comes to me through prayer and reflection...as a result, can I see “Spiritual Growth” in the community?

These are the three (3) legs of a 'stool' or 'tripod' that supports the life of the parish. These 'legs' must be strong. If one of them weakens, then we are in trouble. Many people will say to me, "Father, we need more people to join our parish..." I agree! We should be asking ourselves, "Where are the opportunities?" Or in other words, "How am I contributing to this support to enrich our parish?" Am I willing to share my ministry with others? For example, the role of Ushers is very important. Do I help people find an empty seat? When I take up the collection, do I ask a child or young person to help or perhaps get them and their family bring up the gifts? Going back to that baptism we had last Saturday Night, just imagine, how would that young father (and mother and their families) feel if we made the effort to come and say "Hello...Congratulations! "Welcome to our parish!" instead of rushing to our cars?" This is the challenge that I give you as parishioners. If we really want our parishes to grow, making people feel welcome and comfortable, will we make the effort to try this? We will have another opportunity to try again, this Sunday, at the 11:00 Mass. The possibilities are endless for our communities of faith. We start with the most basic and build on that. The future is here! How can we show others that we are truly living our Baptism? What is it that we could do as a community to give more light to our beacon...our church of St. Rose? Think about it...PRAY about it and let our parish council know! Will it work? Will it not? I'm not sure. Perhaps it didn't work in the past but perhaps the time is now? What I am sure of is this: God will be so pleased with our efforts that truly, we will be blessed!!!!

In prayer,
Fr. David

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday: 7: 00 PM St. Matthew's

Wednesday: 9:00 AM St. Augustine's

Thursday: 12:10 PM St. Rose

A Word to Ponder...

Revelation

As important as it is to use our God-given minds, to study hard, to pray, to think deeply, and to gather the wisdom of age, God's revelation is always going to happen, with us, in ways of knowing that may defy explanation and examination and yet which we know, absolutely, to be true in our heart.

A Reflection From Our Pope:

Not an Enemy

My wish is that the dialogue between us should help us to build bridges connecting all people, in such a way that everyone can see in the other not an enemy, not a rival, but a brother or sister to be welcomed and embraced!

Reflection: Whom do you see as an enemy or rival? How can you change your attitude? What action can you take this week to help you view this individual as a brother or sister?

Pope Francis

Taken from, "Through the Year With Pope Francis"

SAVE THE DATE!

Plans are underway for St. Augustine's, St. Matthew's, & St. Rose to jointly celebrate the **175th anniversary of our diocese** on Sunday October 15, 2017 from 1200 to 130pm. It will be a family event with BBQ, games, and entertainment. We are in need of volunteers to help out on the day. If you are interested, please contact Jill Robillard at 757-8158 or jmr@bellaliant.net.

R.C.I.A.

The R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will have a "Come and See" on Sun, October 1st, 2017 at 7:00pm at St Matthew's Church. If you or someone you know would like to know more about the Catholic faith we invite you to come and join us. For more information please call Amanda Muise at 738-3108.

Remembering Our Dead

In the charity of your prayers, please remember: **Mary Clarke, Joyce Loosli, Bill Sullivan, Phyllis Gautreau, Donald Lyons and Margaret Perry**. Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord.

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of Peter and Teresa Riordon

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

Stewardship for the week ending September 17, 2017

Envelopes	2445.00
Loose	364.25
Pre-Authorized Debit	448.65
Food Bank	80.00
Total	3337.90

Religious Education

Religious education classes will resume Monday, October 16. The class time will be 6:30-7:30 at St. Rose School for grades 1-8. If anyone is interested in volunteering as a teacher or an assistant, please contact Andrea McGrath at 672-4733, mcgrathm@nbnet.nb.ca or call the Rectory and leave your name, phone number and what grade you would be willing to help with. If you are new to the program or have contact information that has changed from last year, please contact Andrea to register.

Office Hours

These will continue as usual, this week – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Thursday the Office will open at 9:00 and close at 12:00 PM. The location of the Office MAY change because of ongoing repairs. If you have questions, please call Marijke at 654-8212.

Alzheimer's Café

This Sunday (24th) at St. Mark's United Church. Guest speaker Rev. Jim Golding. Entertainment by *The Urban Line Dancers*

*Welcome to the Church
Charlotte Grace Thibodeau
Daughter of Nicole Gaudet and Travis Thibodeau
Granddaughter of Bob and Kim Gaudet*

