

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - September 10, 2017

Saturday September 9 th	4:00 p.m.	Jennifer Lawton
Sunday, September 10 th	9:00 a.m.	William, Eileen & Lawrence McGrath
Sunday September 10 th	11:00 a.m.	Patricia Calvin

Praying for our Dead

Please pray for our dearly departed: **Kevin McCormick, Eldon "Al" Martin, Kenneth Spencer, Chantalle Callaghan, Dorilla Glennie, Susan Bates, Lacey Rector, Frank Gallant**
"Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord."

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Living Our Liturgy

Number 155

"Here we go again!"

Not too long ago, I was visiting some friends who have 2 young children, both under the age of 6. Not long after my arrival, the eldest of the two was causing a commotion and the 'time out chair' was in his 'near future'. Finally, his mom had had enough. As she made her way to confront him, his little sister looked at me and said, "here we go again...!"

I think of those same words but in the most positive way as our summer draws to an end to allow a new school year to begin. September brings us back to our routines, schedules are set, committees, social groups and sporting events come to life again. It is no different in our parishes. Many parishioners will return, committees will start, and all of us should be thinking: "What can we do collectively in our faith community to promote the gospel message of God's love?" "What social outreach could be handled as a faith community?" "What committee could I enhance with the offer my gifts?" These are some of the questions that we should be asking ourselves as we begin again... or ... "here we go again...!"

At the end of August, I was asked by Bishop Harris to become Pastor of St. Rose. I am very honoured to be your parish priest. Your wonderful communal spirit precedes you! I know this first hand! In the fall of 2012, I experienced a severe flood at the rectory in Grand Bay-Westfield. With nowhere to go, Fr. White and you the people of St. Rose, gave me home for four months. I will always be grateful to you for that! Then, three years ago, someone gave me a beautiful print of St. Rose Church...it hangs proudly in my home. Was all of this God's way of preparing me for this moment? A new beginning? New opportunities? A "here we go again moment?" For sure!

During those months living at St. Rose, I continued serving St. Augustine's and St. Matthews. At St. Rose, there were three priests: Fr. White, the pastor, Fr. Mooney and Fr. Keating offering support and help whenever they could. One parish and 3 priests. Five years later three parishes are now served by ONE priest. Does this frighten me? No, in fact, I am very excited, because this is the NEW REALITY. Like all of you, I have a role to play in these parishes God has called me to. But as well, so do you. Because of our baptism, we are all called to share our gifts and talents to build up the Kingdom of God in the here and now. Once again, the question on our lips should be, "What can we do as a community to reflect the beauty of our great beacon (St. Rose) that sits atop a rock, lighting the way for many?" Do you have any ideas that could enrich our parish, reveal the Light of Christ in our community? Please let me know!

Once again, I look forward to getting to know you and working with all of you as we begin a new year filled with many opportunities to serve God and one another. We need you, we need your gifts, your input and welcome your ideas. September is here...a time of new beginning for all of us. In the most positive way, I echo those words of my little friend, with gratitude in my heart, "...here we go again!"

Blessings,

Fr. David Martin

**Sanctuary Lamp
In Memory of Angus and Elda Melanson
and their sons Edward, Robert, and Roger**

HOW CAN WE HELP?

This past week, I presided over 4 funerals. One of them being the funeral of Kevin McCormick who suffered from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). It is an illness that we all have in some varying degree but has come to the forefront, especially for our First Responders. Recently someone sent me a poem by someone who was suffering from PTSD... it's entitled,

"Yes I am Broken, But I am whole!"

You do not heal 'from' trauma.
You simply come to know yourself
as Life Itself.

And you turn towards the wounded place.
And you flush it with attention,
which is love.

And maybe the wound will always be with you.
Maybe you will always walk with the hurt.
But now, you hold it. It doesn't hold you.
You are the container, not the contained.
It doesn't control you any longer, the wound.
Because it is drenched in awareness now.

Drenched in You.
Loved by You.
Even celebrated by You.

You do not heal 'from' trauma.
You find healing 'in' the trauma.
You find yourself at trauma's sacred core.
The One who is always present.
The One who can bear
even the most intense feeling states.
And survive.

The Indestructible One.
The Infinite One.
The Powerful One.
You.

The trauma itself becomes a portal to God.
To the Absolute.
To the Safety of Yourself.
and you will cry out in relief,
and you will cry out in revelation,

"Yes I am broken,
but I am whole!"
- Jeff Foster

- 1. "What can I do to help?"
- 2. "What can we do as A PARISH to help?"

If you have any ideas of what we can do as a community...please let me know! Fr. David

Nourish

When we are gathered together for worship, our Lord feeds us, in various ways. Meditating on these things can help us to recognize the ways in which we are fed; and the ways in which we come to know Jesus.

-Br. David Allen

Priestly Convocation

Every September, the priests of the diocese get together for a three day workshop geared toward 'Priestly Wellness.' Therefore, other than funerals, there will be NO DAILY MASS next week. . Please keep our priests in your prayers during these three days.

Stewardship for the week ending September 3, 2017

Envelopes	2572.00
Loose	246.25
Pre-Authorized Debit	448.65
Food Bank	120.00
Total	3386.90

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Coffee Hour this week after the 11:00 AM Mass.
Come and meet our new pastor, Father David Martin!

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With the **changes in the weekday Mass schedule**, we will need to reschedule some of your anniversary Masses. Please call the Rectory at **653-6850** to arrange new dates. After next week, Father Martin will be celebrating weekday Mass on Thursday at noon.

Congratulations to all CWL members who received their long-service pins on Tuesday. Thank you for your dedication! The **first meeting** will be held on **Monday September 11 at 10:00 AM at Denis Morris Community Centre.** All welcome!

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Beginner Taoist Tai Chi Classes start Tuesday Sept.12 at 10am or Thurs evening Sept.14, 7pm. at the Assumption Centre. This is relaxing and accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Improves circulation and balance! For more information call 658-9854.