

Our Sacred Stories

We are Church: Spirit and Gifts

For more than a year now, our world has faced the challenge of a global pandemic. Covid-19 and its variants has brought a host of threats to human health and life. It has marked us with fear and anxiety. It has brought uncertainty into the whole global community and has led to disruptions in our lives and livelihoods along with our family and community life. The threat to our physical health has also affected our spiritual, social psychological health. We have been wounded in body and spirit of these months.

The rapid development and delivery of vaccines has been a welcome turn of events for us. Not only have they offered a response to the virus, they have also proved to be a light at the end of tunnel. They offer us hope in the midst of darkness. There are many challenges still before our world. At this time the virus continues to be among us. Restrictions remain so that its spread can be slowed or limited. There are limitations in availability of the vaccines. Delivery and vaccinations seem slow. There are some who are reluctant to receive vaccination, either from fear or because of denial. But we cannot lose hope. What we need is “spirit”, “heart”, the drive to use our human gifts and talents given us by God for the good of one another – the common good.

Those disciples who gathered after the crucifixion faced this reality. They had walked and talked with Jesus. They had heard his message. They had seen his actions. They had been his friends and followers. Now they lost heart. They were dogged by a “defeated spirit.” But the appearances of the risen Jesus, like the one we see in John’s Gospel (John 20:19-23) on this Pentecost Sunday draws them back to the power and hope of the Spirit that gives them heart and brings them to a place of peace.

This Spirit, that was to remain with the disciples is the one that Paul refers to in his letter to the Christians in Corinth (1Cor.12:3-7) – *Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit.* Filled with this Spirit, the disciples went forth and began to change the world with the message of peace and the mission that they had received.

The Spirit poured out upon the disciples on that first Pentecost gave them new gifts which brought new life, new heart to the variety of their own personal talents and abilities. They became a community filled with energy and drive for the message and the mission. The outpouring of the Spirit inspires believers and missionaries of the message of Jesus. We are a community focused on hearing the message anew and taking it out to the ends of the earth.

This is what it means to be CHURCH. We are a Spirit-filled community of disciples of Jesus. On this Feast of Pentecost, we celebrate the Spirit that we have been given. With this Spirit the variety of gifts that we possess can bring new heart to a world seeking hope and promise and a sense of new life.

John Jennings



St. Gertrude

Sts. Simon & Jude

Mission Churches

St. John the Baptist Parish



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(506) 328-3306 † E-Mail: sjbnb@rogers.com † Website: www.stjohnthebaptistnb.com

Facebook page : <http://www.facebook.com/st.g.church.1>

Pastor: Fr. Martin Arputham	Mass Times: St. Gertrude	Saturday 4:00 pm
Office Manager: Diane Dube		Sunday 11:00 am
Pastoral Council Chair: Stuart Kinney	<i>Reconciliation</i>	Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm
Property & Finance Chair: Marg McCallum	St. Simon & Jude	Sunday 9:00 am
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 10:00 am- 1:30 pm	<i>Reconciliation</i>	Sunday 8:15-8:45 am

May 23, 2021

Pentecost Sunday

Saturday	May 22	4:00 pm St. Gertrude	Lewis Stone
Sunday	May 23	9:00 am Sts. Simon & Jude.....	Theo & Germaine Francoeur
Sunday	May 23	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Parishioners
Monday	May 24	No Mass
Tuesday	May 25	12:15 pm St. Gertrude	Rosary Led by the CWL
Wednesday	May 26	11:15 am Adoration St. Gertrude 12:15 Mass.....	Joe Markey
Thursday	May 27	12:15 pm St. Gertrude	Helen Boucher
Friday	May 28	9:00 am St. Gertrude	Bill & Vivian Dionne
Saturday	May 29	4:00 pm St. Gertrude	Parishioners
Sunday	May 30	9:00 am Sts. Simon & Jude.....	Tim Creaghan
Sunday	May 30	11:00 am St. Gertrude	Helen Ross

Please contact Fr. Martin at 328-3306 if someone requires a hospital visit.

Please have items for Bulletin by Wednesday

Please pray for the sick: Nora Gagnon , Gordon Reinhart, Martha Cummings Sincennes, Bridget Keenan Wort, John Gallagher, Pat & Ed McGuire, Lori Young, Emmanuel Basque, Karen Keoughan ,Dorothy Hemsley, Margaret Bridgeo & Vicki Guerrera.
Those who have died: John Kidney, Brenda Nason & Peter Keirstead (brother of Lynn Kilfoil)

CWL- PRAYER LINE: Prayers will be said daily for two weeks by the CWL women, on request. All requests are confidential; no information is required. To have prayers said, call Jocelyn Keirstead (328-9485) jkeirstead52@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS: Mondays *Bingo. Door opens at 6:00 pm.*
50/50 – May 17, 2021- Winner Joline Green **\$268.00.** Tickets are \$2/week available at Martin's Corner Store on Broadway or bulk food store on Connell St. Tickets must be purchased by 6 pm Sunday.



Urgent Appeal for India

Development and Peace-Caritas Canada has pledged \$50,000 to the Caritas network to help the Indian people at this critical time. The need, however, will far exceed that sum. **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

You can help by making a donation through Development and Peace-Caritas Canada. Go to the Development and Peace website at

www.devp.org

and click on the **GIVE NOW** and you can make an online donation. The need is great. Thank you for your generosity.

The Joy of the Gospel

As people of faith we have encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus. It's this personal intimate relationship with Christ that inspires us to reach out to others, to share what has helped us to live and given us hope.

As Catholics we are blessed with many opportunities and resources to explore our faith. It is through these experiences we grow in relationship with Jesus, and our neighbor. Our faith has grown, deepening a connection within our daily lives and the world.

As parishioners of St. John the Baptist three groups began such an experience by using Pope Francis' "The Joy of the Gospel". Each group journeyed with the text then gathered on a regular basis to discuss points of interest. We have come to a better understanding of evangelization and how we as individuals, as a parish/ community may respond to our call. We have journeyed with God's word and recognize moments where God touches us, "God-incidences".

As our groups wrap up this endeavor we can say: "We are blessed to have come together, to share faith, to know one another better, to grow in love and understanding of how to live and spread God's love."

~ Joyful Seekers, The Magnificats & Our Gospel Journey

Ministries

For St. Gertrude's, please arrive 15 minutes before scheduled Mass if you are a lector. Please arrive ½ hour before Mass if you are a Door Greeter or Screener. Please let Myrna or Ann know you are present to serve. If unable to serve, please let Myrna 328-9640 or Anne382-8398 know in advance or find a replacement. Thank you so much for your generous offer to serve during these unique pandemic times.

Date	Time	Lector	Hospitality/Door Greeter	Screener
22-May	4:00 PM	Loraine Stone	Mike McCallum	Marg McCallum
23-May	11:00 AM	John Lenehan	Claude Dube	Patricia Paul
29-May	4:00 PM	Ron MacDonald	Gerry Crawford	Ninfa Blacquiere
30-May	11:00 AM	Ellen Culbert-Johnston	Debi Rae	Sharon Tenhave
30-May	9:00 AM	1st Reading Pat	Prayers Faithful +	2nd Reading Paulette
06-Jun	9:00 AM	1st Reading + Karen	Prayers Faithful	2nd Reading Jacqueline

Offertory May 15/16

	<u>St. Gertrude</u>	<u>Sts. Simon & Jude</u>	<u>St. Thomas</u>
Loose	17	5	
Envelopes	573	351	100
PAD	1,572	249	77
E-Transfer	—	<u>200</u>	—
	2162	805	177
Papal Charities	55	St.Lawrence/Benton	10
Dev & Peace	5	St. Bonaventure	30
Poor & Needy	20	Global South	30.75