

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 30, 2025



THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PARISH OF LANCASTER

Diocese of Fredericton

Anglican Church of Canada

Bishop

Interim Priest-in-charge

Church Wardens

Parish Administrator

Organist & Choir Director

Sexton

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We acknowledge that the land on which
we gather is the traditional unceded
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

Reflecting Lent liturgically

During Lent we will have the Confession and Absolution at the beginning of the service. That's why the order of the liturgy is changed this morning. This highlights, at the start of our Sunday worship, the mercy and compassion of God.

As usual, the “*Glory (be) to God*” (*Gloria in excelsis*) will be omitted during Lent, and in the BAS service, it will be replaced by the *Lord, have mercy* (Kyrie).

Finally, replacing the usual Blessing there will be a *Solemn Prayer over the People* as a Lenten alternative; though not commonly practiced, it does have ancient precedent in the life of the Church.

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP**Scripture Sentence and Welcome**

Opening Hymn “*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*” CP 381
Collect for Purity

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Summary of the Law

OUR Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

People. **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Then may be sung or said:
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Invitation to Confession

Now let us make our humble confession to Almighty God.

The Confession and Absolution

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

“Comfortable Words”

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

COME unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *St Matthew 11. 28.*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,

to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *St John 3. 16.*

Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from Joshua.

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.' And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were encamped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. *[NRSV-A]*

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 32

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
 and whose sin is put away!
- 2 **Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, *
 and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
 because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; ***

my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.

6 **I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.”
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in
time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach
them.

8 **You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble; *
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

9 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you
should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.

10 **Do not be like horse or mule, which have no
understanding; *
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you.”**

11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

12 **Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; *
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from Second Corinthians.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. [NRSV-A]

Hear God’s word for God’s people.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn *“The Lord’s my Shepherd”*

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

Refrain *And I will trust in You alone,
and I will trust in You alone,
for Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

2 He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights. *Refrain*

3 And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for You are with me, and Your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know. *Refrain*

*“The Lord’s my Shepherd”
Words (adapted) and Music Stuart Townsend
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Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God,
O that today you would listen to his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

Glorify to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were

grumbling and saying, ‘This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.’

³ So he told them this parable:

^{11b} ‘There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father.

But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’” ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’” And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ ‘Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’”

²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’”

31 Then the father said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.” [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Nicene Creed

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-be-gotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Fr Keith Joyce

Brief quiet time held for reflection

THE EUCHARIST IS CELEBRATED

Offertory Sentence *for Lent*

I beseech you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. *Romans 12. 1.*

Offertory Hymn Solo “*O Come to the Water*”

soloist David Mitchell

Prayer over the Gifts

BLESSED be thou, LORD God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine.

All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. *1 Chronicles 29. 10, 11, 14.*

Prayers of the People – Mothering Sunday

Everlasting God, as your son Jesus Christ showed his love on the cross, in his compassion for his mother and his sacrifice for us all, may we know what it is to love and be loved, in words and in actions.

Heavenly Father, we pray today for the Mother Church of our diocese, Christ Church Cathedral. We pray for the chief shepherd of the diocese, our bishop, Archbishop David Edwards, and for the life and ministry of the diocese. We give you thanks for this church family of the Good Shepherd, and pray that all may find in her their true home; that the lonely, the marginalized, the rejected may be welcomed and loved in the name of Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

God of Compassion, as we see the brokenness of our world we pray for healing amongst the nations; for food where there is hunger; for freedom where there is oppression; for joy where there is pain; that your love may bring peace to all your children. We especially pray for all mothers who have to raise their children in places where there is war, famine, terrorism, and great uncertainty. For mothers who have had to flee conflict to a different country or are far from their homes and their relatives.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

Gracious God, you have given us the right to be called children of God. You love us as a mother loves her children; help us to show your love in our homes that they may be places of love, security

and truth. Your Son was born into the family of Mary and Joseph; bless all parents and all who care for children; strengthen those families living under stress and may your love be known where no human love is found.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

God our Father, we remember that as we mark Mothering Sunday today there are those who do not know a great amount of happiness, those who are sick, sad, or lonely, those who are separated from their families and those who live in families where there is little joy. We raise before you now those who need healing in their lives, and those who give you thanks where healing has taken place. We remember especially and others we would mention aloud or silently in our hearts.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

Merciful God, you commanded us to honour our parents. Have mercy on the souls of our Mothers and Fathers who have departed this life and hear us as we now also remember, silently or aloud, the recently departed.....

Lord in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

Gracious God, as we go out into the coming week may we reflect your love for us love in our families, our church, and our community; so that the world can see that we are followers of your son Jesus Christ and draw others into his loving care.

Merciful Father: **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**

THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

THE Lord be with you;
And with thy spirit.

Lift up your hearts;
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;
It is meet and right so to do.

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy

Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was in every way tempted as we are, yet did not sin; by whose grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer unto ourselves, but unto him who died for us and rose again.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

**HOLY, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.**

**BLESSED is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord:
Hosanna in the highest.**

BLESSING and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

*A short **silence** is held.*

The Peace

THE peace of the Lord be always with you;
And with thy spirit.

Prayer of Humble Access

Let us pray.

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

The Communion

While the church receives communion, in silence take the time to reflect or pray or sit quietly and to enable others to do so, and/or at any time to join in the singing of the following music:

“O Lamb of God”

page 84, CP 685

O LAMB of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

- 1 Have Thine own way, Lord
Have Thine own way:
Thou art the potter, I am the clay;
Mould me and make me after Thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still .

- 2 Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way;
Search me and try me, Master, today.
Whiter than snow, Lord,
Wash me just now,
As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

- 3 Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way,
Wounded and weary , help me I pray.
Power, all power, surely is Thine;
Touch me and heal me, Saviour divine.

- 4 Have Thine own way, Lord,
Have Thine own way;
Hold o'er my being absolute sway;
Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me.

Adelaide Addison Pollard (1862-1934)

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“Come, You Sinners, Poor and Needy” CP 608

- 1 Come, you sinners, poor and needy,

weak and wounded, sick and sore.
Jesus, Son of God, will save you,
full of pity, love, and power.

Refrain *I will arise and go to Jesus,
he will embrace me in his arms;
in the arms of my dear Saviour,
oh there are ten thousand charms.*

2 Come, you thirsty, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh. *Refrain*

3 Come, you weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all. *Refrain*

Text Joseph Hart (1712-1768)
Tune RESTORATION

AFTER COMMUNION

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray.

OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that

we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People for Lent 4

Let us pray.

Look down in mercy, Lord,
on your people who kneel before you;
and grant that those whom you have nourished
by your Word and Sacraments
may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CHURCH DEPARTS TO WITNESS AND TO SERVE

Dismissal

Go to keep a holy Lent.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn “10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my Soul, O my soul;
Worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship your holy name.

- 2 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

(Congregation)

Bless the Lord, O my Soul, O my soul;
Worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship your holy name.

- 3 You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten Thousand reasons for my heart to find.

(Congregation)

Bless the Lord, O my Soul, O my soul;
Worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship your holy name.

- 4 And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come,
Still my soul will sing your praise unending;
Ten Thousand years and then forevermore!

(Congregation)

Bless the Lord, O my Soul, O my soul;
Worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul;
I'll worship your holy name. I'll worship your holy name.

"10,000 Reason (Bless the Lord)"

Music and Words Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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Postlude

Those serving today's worship and learning:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Bev Doiron & Sharon Titus
<i>Sunday School</i>	Laura Janes
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Margaret Penchoff & Susan Dole
<i>Layreader & First Reader</i>	Brenda Clayton
<i>Second Reader</i>	Ann Stone

<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider & preacher</i>	Keith Joyce
<i>Guitarist</i>	Shayne Galbraith
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Susan Jack

Those serving in our outreach this week:

Sun, Mar 30, 11:45 am	Susan Jack
HVHS Lunch Programme preparation (Large Hall kitchen)	Deanna Morrison Lina Toole Judy Mae Gallant
Mon, Mar 31, 11:30 am	Janet Brown
HVHS Lunch Programme delivery (from Large Hall)	David Brown

Who's serving next week is on the Narthex bulletin board.

THIS WEEK

- ◆ **TODAY, Sun, Mar 30** Sunday Luncheon
(Small Hall) – **right after our worship!**
- ◆ **Wed, April 2, 7:00 pm** Choir practice (Small Hall) For more info contact David Mitchell at 506 738-2798
- ◆ **Fri, April 4, 7:00 pm** **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** here at Good Shepherd (last time this Lent!)

LOOKING AHEAD

- ◆ **Thurs, April 10, 2:00 pm** L.I.F.T. [*Ladies in Fellowship Together*] (Small Hall) more info: Janet Brown at 506 657-7707
- ◆ **Sat, April 19, 9:00 am** Vestry (Small Hall) More info: Terry Ricketts at 506 672-4696 or Susan Jack at 506 333-9931

FOR OUR WORSHIP AND LEARNING

Why the Stations of the Cross

The *Stations of the Cross* or the *Way of the Cross*, also known as the *Way of Sorrows* or the *Via Crucis*, are a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion with accompanying prayers. The stations grew out of imitations of the *Via Dolorosa* in Jerusalem, which is a traditional processional route symbolising the path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary. The objective of the stations is to help the Christian faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ. It has become one of the most popular devotions, and the stations can be found in many Western Christian churches, including those in the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Anglican, and Methodist traditions.

Next and last time this Lent – **Friday, April 4, 7:00 pm.**

Notes on Today's Scripture Readings

Joshua 5:9-12 The Israelites have entered the Promised Land. They are now camped between the Jordan and Jericho. In thanks to God for the gift of the Land, they restore two religious practices not followed during the Exodus: circumcision and Passover.

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Some have criticized Paul for being ineffective in persuading others to follow Christ. Motivated by love of Christ, his approach is not to promote himself in outward appearance but rather to challenge the conscience. By his dying for all, Christ sets a new standard of living.

Luke 15:1-3,11b-32 The dregs of society coming to Jesus causes the religious authorities to ask: are there any limits to God's mercy? Jesus responds by telling three parables about those who are lost. The Parable of the Lost Son raises a question: at the end of the era, will godly people be ready to be joyous in sharing the Kingdom with reformed sinners and a God who loves them?

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Next Sunday – April 6 Lent5 Scripture readings Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

NOTICES

Happy Birthday this Week to:

April 1 – Lina Toole

April 3 – Virginia Higgins & Patti Skidmore

April 5– Lisa Miller-Snow



PRAYER

Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes

Ginny Abbott, Diane Cormier, Frances Finley, Ruth Northeast, Elizabeth Parks, Elsie Rusling.

Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home

Andrew Aalund, Paula Baldwin, Diane Basque, Margaret Boyer, Edith Chilton, Shelly Clark Collins, Bea Conley, Linda Cunningham, Jo-Ann Diamond, Bonnie Dean, Wendy DeWitt, Ernest Ellingwood, Barb Ellis, Debbie Green, Ann Hoben, Kaye Mallory, Pam Melanson, Gordon Morrell, Michael Penchoff, Susan Penchoff, Carol Price, Margaret Ann Reid, Lois Shaw, Bob Sherwood, Mykayla Spinney, Norm Toole, Joe Totton, Robbie Wong.

Parish Cycle of Prayer for Week of March 30-April 5

Mon: Rick, Linda and Amanda Cunningham

Tue: Bonnie and Nathan Dean

Wed: Paul and Sherry Desjardins and Family

Thur: Wendy DeWitt and Kaitlyn

Fri: Our Altar Guild and its ministry

Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.

Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle:

In March, we pray for the families of seafarers who are facing the adventures and perils of life alone.

OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point and will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows best what we need! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

To initiate the prayer-tree ministry please call your request to our “Captain”, Ngaire Nelson 672-8666



Friday, April 4, 7:00 – 7:35 pm

+ Stations of the Cross



MAUNDY THURSDAY, Apr 17, 7:00 pm

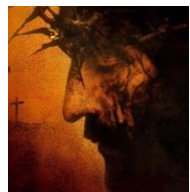
+ Holy Communion & Stripping the Altar



+ Prayer Watch – time to pray – to ‘*keep watch with Jesus*’ – starts right after the service to 9:30 pm (come and go as you’d like – whenever and for however long)

GOOD FRIDAY, Apr 18, 12:00 noon

+ The Celebration of the Lord’s Passion



God bless each one as we continue in

