

From the Assistant Curate _____

*“Fasting days and Emberings be
Lent, Whitsun, Holyrood, and Lucie”
(Old English rhyme)*

Later this week, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday are designated in the Church calendar as “ember days”. What are Ember days? Simply put, the Book of Common Prayer lists them (on page xiii) as “Days of Solemn Prayer”, and they happen four times a year: the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday after Ash Wednesday, after Pentecost, after Holy Cross Day (Sept 14), and after the 3rd Sunday in Advent (which is always after the feast of St. Lucia, Dec. 13). One Mnemonic to remember this is “Lenty, Penty, Crucy [from the Latin *crux* for cross], and Lucy”. The name “ember” doesn’t actually have anything to do with fire, as may be suggested, but is likely a descent of the Latin phrase “*quatuor tempora*” (meaning “four times”).

Regardless of the etymology, the Ember Days initially were founded as days of solemn prayer for three major periods of the agricultural year: sewing, harvest, and vinting. One more was eventually added so that a set of ember days corresponded with each of the seasons, so now the ember days occur within a couple weeks of the turn of each season.

Why mark the seasons with prayer? Well, of course, before Christianity spread in the Roman Empire, there were already pagan festivals to mark the passing of the seasons. It was only appropriate for the Church to adopt these already-established routines into its life. In a more rural culture than we are used to today, the passage of the seasons and its affiliated harvest often meant the difference between life and death. A bad harvest would mean a bad year, and there were no grocery stores that stocked produce out-of-season. It was (and remains) important to ask for God’s blessing upon agriculture for our survival. Additionally, days of solemn prayers marking the change of seasons also reminds us that God sanctifies all time. He himself is eternal and is outside of time, but all of time is God’s. **This is what the Church calendar does:** it is a reminder that all time is blessed by God and is God’s, which is why we celebrate the cycle of the life of Jesus through the year, each year. When we flip-flop the colours of the vestments and hangings from green to purple to white, and red, we are reminded both with what we see, what we hear, and what we recall that the triune God sits at the fore of all time.

Over the centuries, the Ember days took on a specific character which eventually moved away from agriculture. While agriculture remains an

important focus of prayer, it became commemorated by other feasts and festivals such as the Rogation days in the spring, or Harvest Thanksgiving in the fall. Now, the Ember days are chiefly solemn days of prayer for different things: first for the ministry of the Church and an increase of vocations. The collect, epistle, and Gospel for the Pentecost Ember Days (BCP p. 210) is explicit about this, and they are the first focus of all four sets of Ember days. Given this strong association with ministry, it is traditional that ordinations occur on or near Ember days. In addition to prayers for the ministry of the Church, each season has an additional specific focus: Pentecost is Christian Unity, Autumn is Labour and Industry (p. 245), Advent is Peace in the World (p. 100), and Lent is for Missionary Work in our Own Country (p. 142).

Let us, therefore, keep our voices united in praying for the Church with the Communion of all the Saints these Ember days.



Parish Notices and Updates _____

ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON Deacon Nicholas is inviting the parish to his house for a house blessing and open house. The house blessing will start at 1:00 p.m., and the open house will be open until 3:00 p.m. Please note that incense will be used for the blessing, and there are many stairs in and around the house. We hope to see you there!

THE RECTOR WILL BE ON VACATION this week and plans to return on Monday, September 26th. Please contact Deacon Nicholas if you are in need of pastoral ministry during this time. ***Please note: while the services next weekend will be scheduled at the usual times, there will be no scheduled Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist.*** The service at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday will be Evening Prayer with Homily; and the service at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday morning will be Morning Prayer with hymns and Homily. Additionally, Holy Communion will be administered from the Reserved Sacrament this coming Wednesday. Please join Deacon Nicholas next weekend as you worship together as the Family of God.

ANNUAL SERVICE AT KINGS LANDING: The Rector and Curate are scheduled to conduct Evening Prayer at St. Mark’s Chapel at Kings Landing on ***Sunday, October 9th***, at **2:00 p.m.** Members of St. Mary’s are invited to join us at St. Mark’s that day as we gather to worship God and engage the visitor community. There is no cost to enter Kings Landing for Evening Prayer as long as you use one of the Visitor Passes which will be made available to the Parish. The number of passes is

limited so be sure to speak to the Rector if you'd like to attend or if you have any questions: transportation can be arranged. *And a small reminder:* give yourself a little extra time to walk or ride in the wagon, from the Service entrance to the Chapel!

PARISH PRAYER LIST: One of the most important ministries which we are blessed to share here at St. Mary's is the ministry of prayer. As you know, at every Celebration of the Holy Eucharist we reserve a significant part of our time to pray for those, both within and beyond our Parish Family, who are facing challenging obstacles; and I know that our efforts are deeply appreciated by more people than we could count. With the introduction of pandemic restrictions in March 2020 we suspended the practice people writing names on our weekly list; and since then the Rector has been attempting to keep the list current with your help. On the assumption that there may be some names that should be removed, we will be starting with a fresh list this weekend; and everyone is warmly encouraged to update the list by adding new requests as they arise. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to support others, so please send your prayer requests to the Rector.

ST. MARY'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY will resume on *Friday, October 7th*, at 10:00 a.m. We'll be continuing with our series called "Matriarchs & Patriarchs; Prophets & Papyri: the great stories of the Old Testament and how they point us to Jesus." If you'd like to join us, even occasionally, please let the Rector know so that he can send the Zoom link to you.



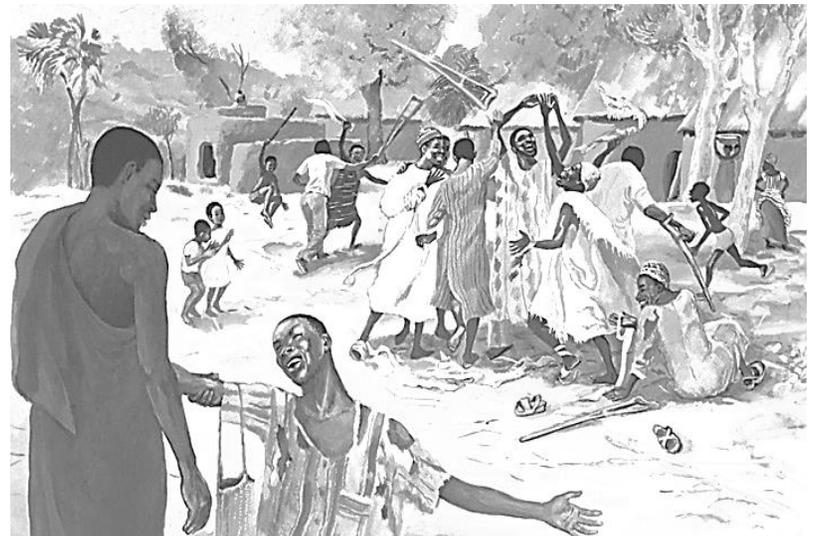
We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.



Cover art: "The Grateful Leper: by Jesus Mafa, which is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings were selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings. (From: Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu>)

The Anglican Church of Canada
The Diocese of Fredericton

THE PARISH OF
ST. MARY, YORK



And if there is anything to be learned from love it is humility - to see ourselves for who and what we are and commit ourselves to wholeness.

Rachel Mann, *Fierce Imaginings*

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY

September 17, 2022

*Arise! Go thy way; thy faith
hath made thee whole!
O come, let us worship!*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalm 88 | 2 Kings 2:1-22 | Luke 23:1-25

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit Psalm 84:1-7:	<i>page 437</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 239</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	2 Kings 5:9-16
Psalm 84:8-13:	<i>page 438</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 239</i>
Gradual 95:1-3:	<i>page 452</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 240</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>

Gentleness and patience, humility and thankfulness, compassion and kindness, love — these are totally irrelevant in the culture that surrounds us. But they are the language of grace, the culture of faith, the characteristics of the kingdom. We are formed with such virtues when... the Word of Christ dwells in us richly.

Marva J. Dawn, *A Royal "Waste" of Time:
The Splendor of Worshiping God and Being Church for The World*



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 21: ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Communion, *from the Reserved Sacrament*

SEPTEMBER 22: TRINITY FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

SEPTEMBER 23: EMBER DAY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

SEPTEMBER 24: THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

5:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer

SEPTEMBER 25: THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10:00 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer



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THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY after TRINITY

September 18, 2022

*Arise! Go thy way; thy faith
hath made thee whole!
O come, let us worship!*

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalm 119 parts 7 & 8 | Jeremiah 26:1-16 | Luke 4:16-30

10:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♫ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	378 (DIX 184)
The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 239
The Old Testament Reading:	2 Kings 5:9-16
Psalm 84:8-13:	page 438
The Epistle:	page 239
Gradual 95:1-3:	page 452
The Holy Gospel:	page 240
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia
The Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
♫ OFFERTORY HYMN:	297 (HERMAS)
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	page 82
Post Communion Prayer:	page 85
♫ RECESSIONAL HYMN:	432 (HERMON)

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