

From the Rector _____

If you've ever stood by while someone you love was suffering from a terrible illness you may know how much it hurt you; as well as how helpless you felt. And you may recall how you felt when someone you love was suffering from the meanness and cruelty of others. If you can relate to either one of those situations, imagine what it was like for the Christians in Smyrna as they watched their beloved and aged bishop, Polycarp, being put to death in public - just because he was a Christian.

As a young man Polycarp was a disciple of the Apostle John. As an old man, he was the bishop of the Church at Smyrna in Asia Minor (present-day Turkey). Persecution against the Christians broke out in that area and the crowd began to call for the Christians' leader Polycarp, so the authorities sent out a search party to bring him in. Polycarp was resting upstairs in a country home. The search party came in fully armed, as if they were arresting a dangerous criminal. Polycarp's friends wanted to sneak him out, but he refused, saying, "God's will be done;" and in one of the most touching instances of Christian grace imaginable, Polycarp welcomed his captors as if they were friends, talked with them and ordered that food and drink be served to them. Then he made one request: one hour to pray before they took him away. The officers overhearing his prayers began to have second thoughts: what were they doing arresting an old man like this?

Despite the cries of the crowd, the Roman authorities saw the senselessness of making this old man a martyr; so, when Polycarp was brought into the arena, the proconsul pleaded with him: "Curse Christ and I will release you." In response Polycarp offered this incredibly faithful response: "Eighty-six years I have served Christ. He had never done me wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King who has saved me?" The proconsul looked for another way out: "Then do this, old man. Just swear by the genius of the emperor and that will be sufficient." But even that was too much for Polycarp: "If you imagine for a moment that I would do that, then I think you pretend that you don't know who I am. Hear it plainly. I am a Christian." More entreaties followed but Polycarp stood firm. The proconsul threatened him with the wild beasts. But that did not frighten him: "Bring them forth. I would change my mind if it meant going from the worse to the better, but not to change from the right to the wrong." And with that Polycarp was sent to his death.

The Church remembers St. Polycarp each year on January 26th, as we did this past Thursday. We recall his graciousness to his tormentors and his courage and faith. And we pray that when we are called to witness to the trust that we have in Christ in a time when we're not likely to ever face the threats and challenges that Polycarp did, that we may be just as courageous and brave; that others may know that Christ gives us the power to face whatever comes to us.



Parish Notices and Updates _____

ST. MARY'S BIBLE STUDY is held each Friday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Church. We're looking at a series called "Matriarchs & Patriarchs; Prophets & Papyri: the great stories of the Old Testament and how they point us to Jesus." Feel free to come along whenever you can!

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH FAITH IN ACTION SERIES: BUILDING HOPE FOR TOMORROW IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE. Did you know that the government will give you money to make your home more energy efficient? It just makes sense – for the environment and your wallet! St. Mary's is hosting an information session on Monday February 13th from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Come learn from Andrew Mathis who will explain the funding options, eligibility, what can be covered, and how to access the grants and the \$40,000 interest-free loan. Questions about the event? Email andrewmathis36@gmail.com.

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. 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 challenges; and our efforts are deeply appreciated by more people than we could count. As we do from time to time, we will be starting with a fresh list *next Sunday, February 5th*. Deacon Nicholas is taking over responsibility for updating our prayer list, so please send your prayer requests to him at 588-3304 or nicholas.saulnier@anglican.nb.ca

ST. MARY'S BRANCH OF THE MOTHERS' UNION will be meeting on *Saturday, February 11th* from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Canon Keith Osborne will be speaking to them about the importance of ministry to seniors. They invite you to join with them. For more information please speak to Adele Knox or Shirley Hupman.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK, will be held on *Sunday, February 19th*, on **ZOOM** at approximately 11:45 a.m. All members of the Parish are encouraged to take part in the meeting as we review our work as a Parish in 2022 and make plans for 2023; and the Zoom link will be shared in the weekly email on February 11th & 18th. **In anticipation of the meeting, we are looking for your assistance in filling leadership roles within the Parish for the coming year.** The Parish Corporation serves a critical role in developing and supporting our mission as the Church; and we are always looking to add new voices to the conversation. Please give very prayerful consideration to how God may be calling you to share your gifts and talents. We will be preparing a Nomination Report for the meeting, so please speak to the Rector or one of the Parish Wardens if you are interested in being nominations, or if you have any questions about what this important ministry entails. **Copies of the audited financial report**, as well as the other reports, will be available next week and will be attached to next Saturday's email. As well, some copies will be available on the table in the narthex for those who prefer a paper copy.

THERE IS A LONG-STANDING CUSTOM of using the palm crosses and branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday celebration to prepare the ashes each year for the Ash Wednesday commemoration. If you wish to return your crosses and branches, please place them in the basket on the table in the Narthex by *Quinquagesima Sunday, February 19th*.

THE SEASON OF LENT, an important time in the Church's life, will begin on February 22nd with the commemoration of **Ash Wednesday**. For your convenience, you have the choice of attending either our morning celebration at *All Saints' Church in Marysville at 10:00 a.m.* or our evening celebration at *St. Mary's at 7:00 p.m.* Everyone is warmly encouraged to set aside time to attend one of these two Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist that together we might begin the journey to the Cross.



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.



The Anglican Church of Canada
The Diocese of Fredericton

THE PARISH OF
ST. MARY, YORK



Sunshine let it be, or frost,
Storm or calm, as Thou shalt choose;
Though Thine every gift were lost,
Thee Thyself we cannot lose.

Mary Elizabeth Coleridge (1861-1907)

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 28, 2023

*Arise! Shine! For your light
has come!
O come, let us worship!*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalms 134 & 135 | Jonah 3 & 4 | 1 Corinthians 16

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit Psalm 98:1-7:	<i>page 455</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 128</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	1 Samuel 10:17-24
Surge Illuminare:	<i>page 28</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 128</i>
Gradual Psalm 98:8-10:	<i>page 456</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 129</i>
The Nicene 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 Prayers:	<i>page 85</i>

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

JANUARY 30: CHARLES STUART, King, 1649

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

JANUARY 31: EPIPHANY FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

FEBRUARY 1: EPIPHANY FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

FEBRUARY 2: THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST & THE PURIFICATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: CANDLEMAS

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

FEBRUARY 3: ANSKAR, Missionary, 1st Bishop in Sweden, 864

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

FEBRUARY 4: THE SUNDAY CALLED SEPTUAGESIMA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer
5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

FEBRUARY 5: THE SUNDAY CALLED SEPTUAGESIMA

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer
10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer



PRIEST & RECTOR

The Ven. Kevin M. Stockall
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THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 29, 2023

*Arise! Shine! For your light has come!
O come, let us worship!*

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalm 119 parts 3 & 4 | Isaiah 48:12-end | Ephesians 3

10:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♫ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	92 (FOREST GREEN)
The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 128
The Old Testament Reading:	1 Samuel 10:17-24
♫ SURGE ILLUMINARE:	page 28
The Epistle:	page 128
♫ GRADUAL HYMN:	Hills of the North Rejoice <i>please see the bulletin insert</i>
The Holy Gospel:	page 129
♫ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (refrain only):	747 (Iris)
The Nicene Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
♫ OFFERTORY HYMN:	96 (ST. GEORGE)
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:	100 (ALLELUIA DULCE CARMEN)

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