

From the Curate

In the past couple of weeks, I have been talking about the Sacraments in our weekly Confirmation classes. Given the events in my personal life and in our shared parish life over the next few months, I thought exploring the Sacraments at a basic level would be an apt subject to discuss this week.

Firstly, *what is a Sacrament?* The word “sacrament” is found nowhere in the Bible. According to Leonard Vander Zee, the Latin word *sacramentum* “was originally a military term describing the oath of allegiance and obedience” that a soldier made to his commander, which the 2nd century Christian writer, Tertullian, then used to describe the pledge of faith made by candidates for Baptism. The Vulgate (Latin translation of the Bible) used *sacramentum* to describe the Greek word *mysterion* – or mystery. St. Augustine of Hippo, in the 4th century, described a sacrament as “a visible form of an invisible grace.” The 12th century theologian Hugh of Saint Victor expanded on this definition by calling it “a sign of a sacred thing” because “by a visible reality seen externally, another invisible, interior reality is signified”. A sacrament, though, differs from any simple “sign” because it is an *effective* sign – a sacrament simultaneously signifies and efficaciously confers.

All this boils down to the definition we have in the Prayer Book catechism (BCP p. 550), which many of us learned when we were preparing for confirmation: “*an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace... as a means whereby we receive this grace, and a pledge to assure us thereof*”. A sacrament is a visible, tangible thing, that both shows us that we are in receipt of grace, and also is the means whereby we receive the grace. Every sacrament has two parts: the outward and visible sign, and the inward and spiritual grace. I.e., something you can see, and something that happens inside you which you cannot see.

All Christians believe in two Sacraments commanded by Our Lord: Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, sometimes called the “Dominical Sacraments”. There are five other commonly-called “Sacraments of the Church” which are not directly instituted by Christ, which the Articles of Religion (p. 708) list as Confirmation, Penance, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and Extreme Unction (anointing of the sick). Each of these seven sacraments has an associated “outward and visible sign” which corresponds to an inward and spiritual grace:

Holy Baptism: Water (and being baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity);

Holy Communion: Bread and Wine;

Confirmation: The Laying on of Hands;

Penance (confession and absolution): The sign of the cross made over the penitent absolving sins;

Holy Orders (ordination): The Laying on of Hands, anointing of hands, and investing with symbols of office;

Holy Matrimony: the ring(s);

Unction (anointing of the sick): Holy Oil.

By June, we will (God willing) have seen every one of these seven within the parishes. It is a great joy and blessing that through the sacraments we can be assured of the grace of the Spirit. I ask you to keep the 9 candidates from St. Mary’s who are preparing for Confirmation on May 17th in your prayers, and I continue to ask for your prayers for my upcoming ordination to the priesthood next Sunday.

O God, who through the teaching of thy Son Jesus Christ didst prepare the disciples for the coming of the Comforter: Make ready, we beseech thee, the hearts and minds of thy servants who at this time are seeking the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands, that, drawing near with penitent and faithful hearts, they may be filled with his power; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



REMINDER: The schedule of Celebrations of the Holy Eucharist each weekend is as follows:

Saturday @ 5:00 p.m. @ St. Mary’s

Sunday @ 9:30 a.m. @ All Saints

Sunday @ 11:00 a.m. @ St. Mary’s



Parish Notices and Updates

ST. MARY’S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY will be held this coming Friday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Zoom. 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.”

ORDINATION OF DEACON NICHOLAS: Deacon Nicholas will be ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop David Edwards next **Sunday, April 30th**, at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral. Please keep Deacon Nicholas in your prayers as he prepares for his ordination; and be sure to make plans to attend the Service to support him in his ministry.

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US for Deacon Nicholas' first Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, which will be at St. Mary's on **Wednesday, May 3rd, at 7:00 p.m.**, commemorating the Apostles St. Philip & St. James. Please join with us as we celebrate the ministry to which God is calling him. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall following the service.

CAMP MEDLEY WILL BE HAVING TWO CAMP WORKDAYS this Spring: Saturday, April 29th and Saturday, June 3rd, in both cases from, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and they would love to have your help. There will be lots of cleaning and other projects we are going to do with different skill levels required, so all are welcomed and needed. To help with their planning, you are asked to let the Director, the Revd. John Galbraith, know if you are thinking of going as it will help me prepare. Lunch will be provided. Feel free to bring friends along and spread the word. Contact: director@campmedley.ca; O: 506-488-2874; C: 506-471-2429

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. Deacon Nicholas is now responsible for updating our prayer list; please send your prayer requests to him at nicholas.saulnier@anglican.nb.ca or 588-3304

✧

Please join us in the Parish Hall following the 11:00 a.m. Celebration for Coffee and Conversation.

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We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Wəlastəkwiyik (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 Wəlastəkwiyik (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



If the Lord is indeed our shepherd, then everything goes topsy-turvy. Losing becomes finding and crying becomes laughing. The last become first and the weak become strong. Instead of life being done in by death in the end as we always supposed, death is done in finally by life in the end. If the Lord is our host at the great feast, then the sky is the limit.

Frederick Buechner, *Secrets in the Dark: A Life in Sermons*

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

April 22, 2023

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalms 146 & 150 | Micah 7:7-end | St. John 11:17-44

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Introit Psalm 33:1-9:	<i>page 367</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 191</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Ezekiel 34:11-16a
Easter Anthems	<i>page 182</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 192</i>
Gradual Psalm 63:1-4:	<i>page 405</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 192</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>

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

APRIL 24: EASTER FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

APRIL 25: ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

2:00 p.m. – Holy Communion, Neill Hall

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer, All Saints, Marysville

APRIL 26: EASTER FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

APRIL 27: EASTER FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer, All Saints, Marysville

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

APRIL 28: EASTER FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

APRIL 29: THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

APRIL 30: THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

11:00 a.m.* – Holy Eucharist

*Followed by Coffee & Conversation in the
Parish Hall (*Please note Change of Time)*

4:00 p.m. – Ordination of the Revd. Nicholas
Saulnier, Christ Church Cathedral



PRIEST & RECTOR

Canon Kevin M. Stockall

B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

454.0245 (rectory) | 461.7685 (cell)

kevin.stockall@bellaliant.net

Rectory: 770 McEvoy Street, Fredericton NB E3A 3B7

www.stmarysfredericton.ca

DEACON & CURATE

The Revd. Nicholas Saulnier

B.Sc. (Hons), M.Div.

588.3304 (cell)

nicholas.saulnier@anglican.nb.ca

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April 23, 2023

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

11:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

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People: **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	160 (ST. GEORGE)
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 191</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Ezekiel 34:11-16a
♪ EASTER ANTHEMS	<i>page 182</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 192</i>
Gradual Psalm 63:1-4:	<i>page 405</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 192</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia (LASST UNS ERFREUEN 352)
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
♪ OFFERTORY HYMN:	539 (ST. COLUMBA)
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>
♪ RECESSIONAL HYMN:	167 (HYFRYDOL 397)

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