

From the Rector _____

Happy New Year! Well, not quite; but kind of. Let me explain.

There was a time when the civil and legal year in England began on March 25th: on Lady Day, or the Feast of the Annunciation; exactly nine months before the celebration of Christmas Day. Knowing that goes a long way to explaining why our governmental fiscal year starts on April 1st rather than January 1st. Christian scholars were moved to date the start of the New Year on March 25th because that marked the start of Christ's earthly life: the moment when he was conceived in his mother's womb; the moment when his life of sacrificial love began. It marked a whole new era in the human story; a whole new era in the relationship between God and his people; a moment of grace.

We are reminded by the Feast of the Annunciation, which the Church will celebrate this coming Friday, of the great lengths that God went to that we might be saved; and of the willingness of the Second Person of the Trinity, the Son, to set aside the glory of heaven for the dusty day-to-day reality of human life; that moment when the 'Word' was made flesh. But the Feast of the Annunciation also reminds us of the great faith of a young woman named Mary. Her 'yes' to the message of the Archangel Gabriel was an act of immense courage, without which God's plan for our salvation might have come to a crashing halt. She willingly set aside whatever plans that may have been growing in her heart to follow God's Call; with all of the uncertainty and unpredictability that would entail. That she had to stand at the foot of the Cross on the day that her innocent Son was put to death reminds us that God has power over our darkest days. Resurrection followed the horror of Good Friday; and Resurrection is the sure and certain promise for us as well.

We have a happy convergence this coming week with the commemoration of the Annunciation on Friday with next Sunday's commemoration of the Fourth Sunday in Lent, which for at least 1300 years has been called Mothering Sunday. The image of Mary, the Mother of our Lord, and the Church as our spiritual mother, come together this week to offer us hope in the face of the world's sorrow and light in the midst of the darkness of human disorder. This week we will celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation at our Friday afternoon Evening Prayer on Zoom at 4:00 p.m. I invite you to join with us as we celebrate her great love and faith; and I invite you to pray that God might open your hearts and eyes to see the acts of faith and love he is calling you to accomplish in Christ's Name. May we in our daily struggles always answer God's call as Mary did: 'be it unto me according to your word.'

Parish Notices and Updates _____

LENT AT ST. MARY'S: Everyone is encouraged to spend time during the Season of Lent in the traditional Lenten exercises: **prayer, fasting, self-examination, and reading** and meditating on God's Word. Please speak to the Rector if you are looking for some good spiritual reading, some of which can be found on the table at the entrance to the Church. You may wish to join, via Zoom, our **Sunday morning discussion group** or our **Friday morning Bible Study** for some interesting reflection and study. And some take the time during Lent to attend our **Wednesday evening Celebration of the Holy Eucharist** or our **Friday evening Stations of the Cross**; or perhaps you might think about arriving a little earlier than usual when you attend on Saturday, Sunday or Wednesday and attend **Morning or Evening Prayer** prior to the start of the Holy Eucharist.

SAFE FOOD HANDLING COURSE: We've finally been able to schedule the Safe Food Handling course that we spoke about in the Fall. Chef Yves Dechaine, Learning Kitchen Manager at Greener Village, will be offering the course on the morning and afternoon of **Wednesday, April 27th**, here at St. Mary's. Those who previously expressed a wish to receive the training are asked to confirm with the Rector in the next couple of weeks if they are available in that date. If any of them are unable to we'll have to proceed with that date, but others may be able to join the class if spaces become available. Please speak to the Rector as soon as possible.

OUR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY is held each Friday **from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Zoom**. We've started a new 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.

PLEASE JOIN US EACH FRIDAY IN LENT at 7:00 p.m. for the *Stations of the Cross*, which is a quiet reflective service in which we journey through Christ's steps on the road to the Cross. This brief service is an excellent and hopeful mediation on what Christ was accomplishing on our behalf by His sacrificial death and glorious resurrection.

FLOWERS AT EASTER: Those who wish to place memorial flowers may do so by including a donation through the collection plate or by arranging to have a donation dropped off at the Rectory. Please ensure that your donation includes the names of those in whose memory the flowers are being placed; and to help us to include that information in the Easter bulletin, we'll need to know by Palm Sunday, April 10th. For more information, please speak to the Rector.

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.



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MARCH 22: LENTEN FERIA

2:30 p.m. – Holy Communion, *Neill Hall*

MARCH 23: ST. BENEDICT, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c. 540

THOMAS CRANMER, Archbishop & Martyr, 1556

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

MARCH 24: LENTEN FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

2:00 p.m. – Holy Communion, *Paradise Villa*

MARCH 25: ANNUNCIATION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross

MARCH 26: FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MOTHERING SUNDAY

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

MARCH 27: FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MOTHERING SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

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The Anglican Church of Canada *The Diocese of Fredericton* THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK



Enemy-occupied territory—that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage. When you go to church you are really listening-in to the secret wireless from our friends: that is why the enemy is so anxious to prevent us from going. He does it by playing on our conceit and laziness and intellectual snobbery.

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

PRIEST AND RECTOR

The Venerable Kevin M. Stockall, B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

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THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2022

*Walk in Love; as Christ
also hath loved us!
O come, let us worship!*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalm 97 | Exodus 12:21-36 | Ephesians 2

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit Psalm 102:11-22: *page 459*

The Gloria is omitted during Lent

The Collect: *page 145*

The Collect for Ash Wednesday: *page 138*

The Old Testament Reading: Genesis 33:1-11

Psalm 25:8-15: *page 358*

The Epistle: *page 145*

Gradual Psalm 25:16-22: *page 359*

The Holy Gospel: *page 146*

The Creed: *page 71*

The Homily

The Prayers of the People: L: Lord, in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

The Consecration: *page 82*

Post Communion Prayer: *page 85*

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THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 20, 2022

*Walk in Love; as Christ
also hath loved us!
O come, let us worship!*

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalms 52 & 54 | Genesis 33:1-17 | Hebrews 12:18-end

Introit Psalm 102:11-22: *page 459*

The Gloria is omitted during Lent

The Collect: *page 145*

The Collect for Ash Wednesday: *page 138*

The Old Testament Reading: Number 22:21-31

Psalm 25:8-15: *page 358*

The Epistle: *page 145*

Gradual Psalm 25:16-22: *page 359*

The Holy Gospel: *page 146*

The Creed: *page 71*

The Homily

♪♪ **OFFERTORY HYMN:** **545** (HORSLEY)

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Post Communion Prayer: *page 85*

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