

## *Parish Notices and Updates* \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration of **MOTHERING SUNDAY**, members of the **Mothers' Union** have baked Simnel Cake for us all to enjoy following both our Saturday and Sunday services. We thank them for their service and mission of Christian witness in family life.

**THE FREDERICTON NORTH HERITAGE ASSOCIATION** invites you to their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the Parish Hall. David Underhill and Phil Robichaud will be presenting local history treasures in a show-and-tell format. All welcome. Refreshments served.

**THE HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE** is now available. There are some paper copies in the Narthex, and it will be included in the weekly email for the next several weeks.

**FLOWERS AT EASTER:** Those who wish to place memorial flowers may do so by including a donation through the collection plate. Please ensure the outside of the envelope is clearly marked "*Easter Flowers*" and includes the name(s) of those in whose memory the flowers are being placed, as well as complete information regarding the donor(s). To ensure this information is included in the Easter bulletin, please submit by **Palm Sunday (March 24<sup>th</sup>)**.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** continue each Friday night at 7pm, alternating between the two churches. This week (Mar. 15) at St. Mary's. This service will be followed by the brief office of Compline to finish the night, for those who want to stay.

**FARRALINE PLACE**, a retirement home in downtown Fredericton (run as a ministry of the Anglican Church Women), currently has **multiple vacancies**. Each vacancy costs the home a significant portion of their limited income. If you know anybody who might be a fit, please be in touch with Judy at (506) 455-6443.

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING?** Come and join us for Choir Practice following Coffee & Conversation on Sunday mornings. All are welcome!



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

*The Anglican Church of Canada  
The Diocese of Fredericton*

## THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK



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All this day, O Lord,  
let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;  
and every life I touch,  
do thou by thy spirit quicken,  
whether through the word I speak,  
the prayer I breathe,  
or the life I live.

*Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union*

## From the Priest in Charge

This Sunday is one that is known by many names. Some call it *mid-Lent Sunday*, because this is officially the halfway point on our journey to Easter: Three Sundays have passed, and now Easter is in three more Sundays. Some call it *Refreshment Sunday*, because on Mid-Lent Sunday, you got to breathe a bit from the strictness of Lent, and relax from the rules a bit. It is also called *Laetare Sunday*, so named because of the opening words of the Medieval introit, "*Laetare Hierusalem*" or "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem" – from Isaiah 66. All of these names have a common theme: rejoicing in the middle of this season of penitence. From all this rejoicing, some traditions came to exist: the wearing of Rose coloured vestments instead of violet, for example, or the eating of desserts, which was otherwise frowned upon during Lent. There was another tradition which existed on this Sunday, as well, one that became known in the British Isles as "Mothering Sunday".



This British observance is rooted in the scripture for the day: The introit, to which I already referred, is in its fullness the following: "*Rejoice ye with Jerusalem; and be ye glad for her, all ye that delight in her: exult and sing for joy with her, all ye that in sadness mourn for her; that ye may suck, and be satisfied with the breasts of her consolations.*" *Psalm: I was glad when they said unto me, We will go into the house of the Lord.*" Though this passage from the prophet Isaiah refers directly to the personified Jerusalem, Christian tradition has identified this with the New Jerusalem in Revelation, and as the Bride of Christ – the Church – the mother of us all.

The British custom on Mothering Sunday for centuries was to go to your "Mother Church" on this Sunday. Your "mother church" was a different place depending on your circumstances. It would normally mean the church in which you were baptized. But if you already go to the church where you were baptized, or if that church was too far away or in another country, you might go to the Cathedral – the mother church of your diocese – or if you didn't really go to church regularly, it might be that you visited your local parish church. The idea was that on Mothering Sunday, everyone had a church to go to. By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, most aristocratic households in England would give their staff that weekend off so they could return to their home communities and go to their mother churches with their own mothers. Mother Church, Mothering Sunday.

Of course, as a response to the American "Mother's Day" movement that began in 1913, "Mothering Sunday" in Britain, and in the lands influenced by her, became the British equivalent of what we know as Mother's Day here in North America. So, today is effectively Mother's Day in the U.K., though the Church of England still encourages people to visit the church where they received the sacrament of Baptism.

Here in Fredericton, we celebrate *both* Mothering Sunday now and Mother's Day in May. While May is the commercial holiday, we keep Mothering Sunday for the Church observance of all the maternal figures in our lives and celebrate with the traditional Simnel Cake and hand out flowers.

The Mothers' Union, an organization founded in England in 1876 to support mothers through the often-tumultuous duties of motherhood, and has a special connection to this day, since this is the day customarily used to enroll new members into the Mothers' Union. Though the organization has grown to include many different missions today, their first responsibility is prayer for families: since prayer is the best tool we have to deal with life's problems.



Our local branch has asked to have the following prayer published and read in church this weekend, and I commend it to your use:

**"Creator God, I thank you for the privilege of bringing children into this world and for the gift of new life. Give me your guidance, your love, your strength, on each new day I share with you the nurturing and care of my family, may they grow in stature and in knowledge of you, filled with your wisdom and your joy of living. Amen."**

*("A Mother's Prayer" from Mothers' Union New Zealand)*

May God bless our families this day and every day.



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.



EVE OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
**MOTHERING SUNDAY**

*Saturday, March 9, 2024*

*Jerusalem which is above is free;  
which is the mother of us all. (Galatians 4.26)*

**4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:**

✠ Psalm 45 | Exodus 23.18-end | Ephesians 6.10-end

**5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

Introit Psalm 122:	<i>page 498</i>
Collect for Purity, Summary of the Law: <i>The Gloria is omitted during Lent</i>	<i>page 67</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 147</i>
The Collect for Ash Wednesday:	<i>page 138</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Exodus 16.2-7a
The Epistle:	<i>page 147</i>
Gradual Psalm 125:	<i>page 499</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 147</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Biddings & Intercession:	<i>page 75</i>
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>
Admission of New Mothers' Union Member	

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**MARCH 12: GREGORY THE GREAT, DOCTOR & BISHOP**

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

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

**MARCH 13: LENTEN FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

**MARCH 14: LENTEN FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

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

**MARCH 15: LENTEN FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Stations of the Cross, *St. Mary's*

7:30 p.m. – Compline

**MARCH 16: EVE OF LENT V (PASSION SUNDAY)**

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

**MARCH 17: THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
(PASSION SUNDAY)**

8:45 a.m. – Morning Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, *All Saints, Marysville*

11:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

*Followed by Coffee & Conversation in the Hall*

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**PRIEST IN CHARGE**

The Rev'd. Nicholas Saulnier  
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# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

# MOTHERING SUNDAY

*March 10, 2024*

*Jerusalem which is above is free;  
which is the mother of us all. (Galatians 4.26)*

## ***11:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist***

♫ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	<b>627</b> (EWING)
Collect for Purity, Summary of the Law:	<i>page 67</i>
<i>The Gloria is omitted during Lent</i>	
The Collect:	<i>page 147</i>
The Collect for Ash Wednesday:	<i>page 138</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Exodus 16.2-7a
♫ PSALM 122	<i>page 498</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 147</i>
♫ GRADUAL HYMN:	<b>219</b> (BREAD OF HEAVEN)
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 147</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
♫ OFFERTORY HYMN:	<b>807</b> (HERMON)
The Biddings & Intercession:	<i>page 75</i>
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
♫ HYMN AFTER COMMUNION:	<b>221</b> (UNDE ET MEMORES)
Post Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>
A Mother's Prayer:	<i>see bulletin column</i>
♫ RECESSIONAL HYMN:	<b>432</b> (ST. THOMAS)

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