

From the Rector _____

As so often is the case with countless women throughout history, what we know of St. Monnica, whom the Church commemorates each year on May 4th, comes from the writings of a man who was much better known than she was; in Monnica's case, the writings of her much more famous son, St. Augustine, one of the greatest teachers and preachers of the early Christian period. In his spiritual autobiography, his *Confessions*, Augustine tells us that his mother was born in North Africa, near Carthage, in what is now Tunisia, around the year 331. Her parents were Christians; and she remained a Christian throughout her life. She married a man named Patricius, a man known for his temper, who was not a Christian; who was often unfaithful to her. But, in spite of the struggles that marriage brought, she experienced later in life the joy of seeing both Patricius and his mother received into the Church.

But as great as her courage and faith were in those matters, the Church remembers and celebrates Monnica largely because of the influence that she had on her son. She recognised early on that he was blessed with significant intellectual gifts. She saw that he was a brilliant thinker and a natural leader. She had great hope for his career; and her ambitions for him led her to direct him towards a socially advantageous marriage, which proved to be a disaster in every way. But the errors of her younger years led in time, with prayer, to greater spiritual maturity. And even as her son advanced as an orator and a teacher of the art of rhetoric, she prayed that he might find peace and hope in Christ. He had rejected her religion as a youth, with scorn; but obviously something was missing in his life. He wandered through a great variety of philosophical and spiritual experiments, all the time looking for some meaning. But a move to Milan, and an association with St. Ambrose, the Bishop of Milan, showed him that Christianity could be intellectually respectable. And with the help of Ambrose's preaching and teaching, Augustine was converted to faith and was baptised on Easter Eve in the year 387. After his baptism Augustine and Monnica planned to return to North Africa but Monnica fell ill as they prepared to depart. Her last conversation with her much-loved son was a reminder that he need not fear because of the fact she would be buried away from her North African home. As she told him:

“Nothing is far from God, and I have no fear that he will know where to find me when he comes to raise me to life at the end of the world.”

For more than 1600 years Monnica's faith has served as a reminder of the power of perseverance. All those years she prayed for her son; never giving up hope; never surrendering to despair. Even when she could see little evidence that her prayers were coming true, she carried on. She persisted. And, in the end, her prayers were answered.

You know better than I that there is much that we need to be praying about these days. For more than two years, the pandemic has been a great threat to our personal, economic, social, and mental health, such as we have not seen in nearly a century. And the violence of the war in Ukraine continues to be a deep political and humanitarian concern. And, never to be forgotten, the climate change crisis has not magically gone away just because the news cycles have focussed on other matters of late.

There is a lot of fear out there and a lot of anxiety about where our world is going. And perhaps much of the fear comes from the fact that we can't really know what the future is going to look like. And in the face of all that fear and uncertainty, with problems that are larger than anyone one of us, or even a collection of us, can ever hope to resolve; in the face of such immense issues, there is a temptation to just give up; to assume that there's nothing that we can do other than to just look after ourselves and forget all the rest. But Monnica would tell us otherwise. If we're willing to listen to her voice, we will hear her telling us to start with prayer; and to keep on praying; and to never give up. Because God can see further than we can; and only by praying can we hope to be given a glimpse, a small vision, of that new world which he is making ready for us. Monnica would tell us to persevere even when the evidence says otherwise.

This week we plan on celebrating Monnica's great courage and faith at our Wednesday evening Celebration of the Holy Eucharist. We invite you to join us.

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Parish Notices and Updates _____

ASCENSION DAY is the Church's annual commemoration of Christ's triumphal return to Heaven, following His sacrificial death and glorious resurrection. It falls each year on the 40th day of Easter. A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Ascension will be held on **Thursday, May 26th at 10:00 a.m.** at All Saints' Church in the Parish of Marysville; and everyone is encouraged to make the effort to attend as their schedule permits. Please join us on the 26th as we celebrate the completion of Christ's earthly ministry and His promise to send us the Holy Spirit.

CAPTAIN NICHOLAS SAULNIER will be ordained as deacon in the Church of God on the **Feast of St. Barnabas, June 11th**, at 2:00 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church in Moncton. Captain Saulnier is expected to start his work in the Parishes of St. Mary, York, Marysville, and Stanley shortly after his ordination. Please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for this foundational day in his ministry as he responds to God's call to servanthood.

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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

MAY 4: ST. MONNICA

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

MAY 5: EASTER FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

MAY 6: EASTER FERIA

4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

MAY 7: THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

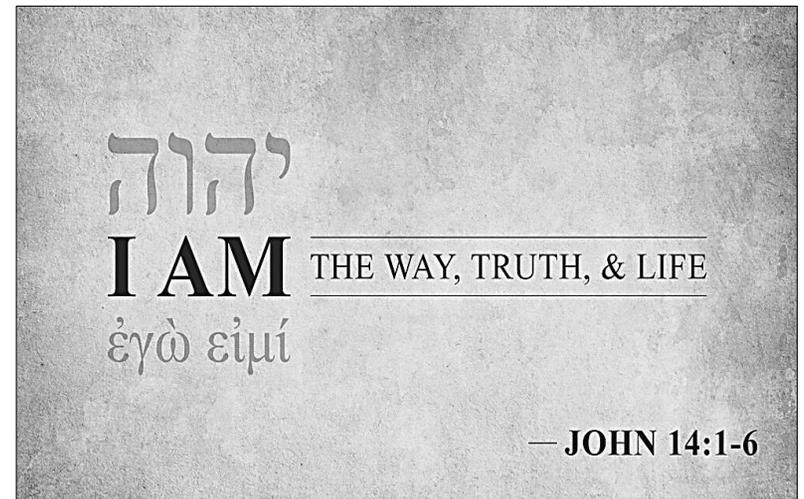
5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

MAY 1: THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

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



Any lights shining on the wrong subject will mislead you. I focus on my Lord Jesus, the true light that enlightens every man. He does not blind me, dazzle me, or confuse me. He shines on my path to show me the way, shines on my thoughts to show me the truth, and shines on my life to lead me to Life, because He is the way, the truth, and the life. His light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot resist it.

Luis Fernando Aragón, Pilgrim: One Thousand Days on the Road

PRIEST AND RECTOR

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

Rectory: 770 McEvoy Street, Fredericton NB E3A 3B7

454.0245 (rectory) | 461.7685 (cell) | kevin.stockall@bellaliant.net

www.stmarysfredericton.ca

THE COMMEMORATION OF ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES

THE APOSTLES

April 30, 2022

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

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalm 119 parts 4 & 5 | Isaiah 30:15-21 | St. John 1:43-end

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

Introit: Easter Anthems	<i>page 182</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 274</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Proverbs 4 10-18
Psalm 33:1-6:	<i>page 367</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 275</i>
Gradual Psalm 89:5-8:	<i>page 443</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 276</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>

THE COMMEMORATION OF ST. PHILIP & ST. JAMES

THE APOSTLES

May 1, 2022

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

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalm 139 | Job 23:1-12 | St. John 6:1-14

10:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	155 with <i>Alleluias</i> (EASTER HYMN)
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 274</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Proverbs 4:10-18
Psalm 33:1-6:	<i>page 367</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 275</i>
Gradual Psalm 89:5-8:	<i>page 443</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 276</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
♪ OFFERTORY HYMN:	591 (ST. MAGNUS)
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)