



LENT & EASTER 2020

"In the midst of life we are in death" Book of Common Prayer p. 601

The above phrase is taken from the liturgy for the burial of the dead and I find it particularly fitting for the season of Lent. In a season when we contemplate the sacrificial love of Jesus, his death on the cross, and ultimately his resurrection, we are reminded over and over again that life and death go hand in hand. Call it biology; in order for something to be alive it must also have the capacity to die. Call it physics; according to the first law of thermodynamics, energy can neither be created nor destroyed. Call it chemistry; molecules are constantly being rearranged and changing forms. Much like scientists, being a person of faith requires asking questions. I am not one that ascribes to the idea of "blind faith." My faith is informed, researched and thoughtful. I continue to question aspects of the Christian faith and over time I have found my faith to be more resilient and honest.

What does it mean to live life knowing that we are in the midst of death? I think it means seeking out new creation and signs of new life on a regular basis. This doesn't mean just looking for new growth in the garden or waiting for buds to develop on trees. It means finding those things that add value, love, joy and hope to our lives and the lives of others. This again takes us back to the law of thermodynamics—we cannot continue to add value, love, joy etc, without subtracting something else from the equation. For example, if you want to love more you must let go of hate. If you want more joy you must let go of sorrows. As individuals we only have so much time and energy to spend, and for the most part, how we spend it is entirely up to us. Someone once told me that happiness is a mindset and I tend to strongly agree with that. Sometimes it is easier to maintain that mindset than others, but, for the most part it is something I strive towards.

If death is ever present around us, as part of the natural cycle of life and as a sacrificial choice we make in our day to day lives, then there is indeed the potential for it to overwhelm us. None of us are immune to grief or sorrow and they are emotions that are just as strong as love and happiness, sometimes seemingly even more so. However, we get to choose what we focus on, what we strive towards, and what we allow to guide us.

In an effort to aid you in your own journey our parish will be offering some wonderful opportunities for learning, prayer and worship. During the first two Sundays of Lent we will be talking about two different ways to pray. One style is more tactile, as we learn about the Anglican rosary. The other is more contemplative, as we approach worship in a more quiet and reflective way. I hope that you will find value and benefit in both. Our Lenten Studies program this year will once again take the form of a book club type study. ***Saying Yes To Life: The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2020*** by Ruth Valerio draws on the days of creation and helps to shift our focus from everyday concerns to issues that are impacting millions of people worldwide. Each session will include prayer, discussion and an aid to action, encouraging each of us to bring life and hope into places of death and despair. This book is available on Amazon, Indigo and I'm sure other places as well.

This year as we make the painful journey towards the cross, wrestling with feelings of sin, sadness and grief, I pray that we will be able to look beyond the cross to the resurrection, the joy of new life and the ecstasy of redemption. May your journey be blessed and may you find the strength to choose life even while in the midst of death.

In Christ's love and fellowship,

Brianna Andrews

The Rev. Brianna Andrews

LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULES

FEB. 25 — SHROVE TUESDAY

Pancake Supper • St. George's Hall 4:30-6:30 p.m.

FEB. 26 — ASH WEDNESDAY

Mid-Day Prayer/Imposition of Ashes • St. Margaret's 11:15 a.m.

BAS Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes • St. Margaret's 7:00 p.m.

MAR. 1 — FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. James' 11:00 a.m.

MAR. 2 — Lenten Study • St. Margaret's 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MAR. 4 — Mid-Day Prayer • St. Margaret's 11:15 a.m.

MAR. 6 — World Day of Prayer • St. Andrew's / St. Mark's United Church, Boutilier's Point, Time T.B.A.

MAR. 8 — SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT (DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS)

St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. George's 11:00 a.m.

MAR. 9 — Lenten Study • St. Margaret's 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MAR. 11 — Mid-Day Prayer • St. Margaret's 11:15 a.m.

MAR. 15 — THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. James' 11:00 a.m.

MAR. 16 — Lenten Study • St. Margaret's 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MAR. 18 — BCP Mid-Week Eucharist • St. Margaret's 11:15 a.m.

MAR. 22 — FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT / MOTHERING SUNDAY

St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. George's 11:00 a.m.

MAR. 23 — Lenten Study • St. Margaret's 6:30-8:00 p.m.

MAR. 25 — Mid-Day Prayer • St. Margaret's 11:15 a.m.

MAR. 28 — Lenten Quiet Day • St. James', Shubenacadie

MAR. 29 — FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Parish Service at St. James' 10:00 a.m.

MAR. 30 — Lenten Study • St. Margaret's 6:30-8:00 p.m.

APR. 1 — Mid-Day Prayer • St. Margaret's 11:15 a.m.

APR. 5 — PALM SUNDAY

St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. James' 11:00 a.m.

APR. 8 — WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK

Tenebrae • St. Paul's 8:00 p.m.

APR. 9 — MAUNDY THURSDAY

Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar • St. James' 7:00 p.m.

APR. 10 — GOOD FRIDAY

Celebration of the Lord's Passion • St. James' 10:00 a.m.

"Stations of the Cross" Walk • leaves Bike & Bean at 1 p.m.

APR. 11 — HOLY SATURDAY

Family Easter Vigil • St. George's 4:00 p.m.

Great Vigil of Easter (BAS) • St. Paul's 8:30 p.m.

APR. 12 — EASTER DAY

BCP Eucharist • St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m.

BAS Eucharist • St. James' 11:00 a.m.

EASTER FLOWER PROGRAM

Afer the spectacular success we had at Christmas with "Buy a Farm" we've replaced our Easter Flower Program with a similar endeavour.

Please see the article "Easter Chocolate" for details!

NEIGHBOURHOOD SOUP SERVANTS

This is a new initiative that operates out of St. George's Church. At 9:00 a.m. a dozen-plus people gather on the **second Friday of every month** to prepare a delicious batch of soup which is then bottled, labelled and delivered to approximately fifty households around our community. It is a joy-filled morning from beginning to end, fulfilling the intention of the project—to offer a sign of friendship, love and caring throughout our community. **If you would like to know more about this group please contact Janet Champniss 902-826-2251 or Mary Stone 902-826-2847.** We welcome the names of people who could benefit from this program.

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

We have reached the end of a successful year with the new bulletin covers, paid for by sponsorships in memory and in celebration. The calendar is now open for April to September 2020. Cost is \$20 per week. To reserve a Sunday you can contact Janet Champniss at: towers@eastlink.ca.

Mark Your Calendars UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

ACW Spring Supper

St. George's Hall 4:30-6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

Seafood Chowder or Chili Luncheon

St. Margaret's Hall 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

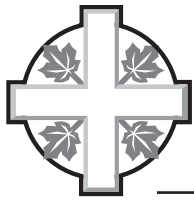
Parish Lobster Supper

St. Marg. Bay Legion, Seabright

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Parish Fayre

St. James' Churchyard, Boutilier's Pt.



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF FRENCH VILLAGE

Rector: **THE REVEREND BRIANNA ANDREWS**

Phone (902) 826-2154

Email: revbrie@gmail.com

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• "Find" us on Facebook

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71 St. Paul's Ln., French Village
Mail: 24 Moore's Rd.
Glen Margaret, NS B3Z 3G3

SAINT MARGARET'S

36 St. Margaret's Cres.
Tantallon, NS
B3Z 4E2

SAINT GEORGE'S

6310 St. Margaret's Bay Rd.
Head of St. Margaret's Bay, NS
B3Z 2B6

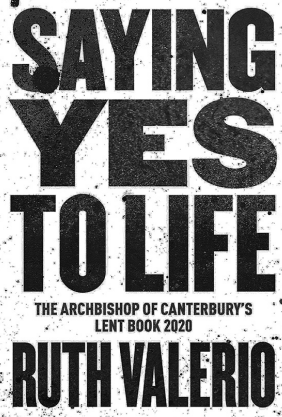
SAINT JAMES'

6991 St. Margaret's Bay Rd.
Boutilier's Point, NS
B3Z 1W4

PARISH NEWSLETTER • LENT 2020

Our Churches by the Sea ~ St. Margaret's Bay, Nova Scotia

PARISH LENTEN STUDY PROGRAM



This year's Lenten Study will be using the Archbishop of Canterbury's choice for 2020: *Saying Yes to Life* by Ruth Valerio

Five sessions will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. on Monday evenings at St. Margaret's Hall starting March 2. Everyone is invited to attend; the paperback is available at Amazon, or as an e-book through your favourite site. Contact Rev. Brianna if you need help.

Saying Yes to Life lifts our focus from every day (and perfectly natural) concerns to issues that are impacting millions of lives around the world. As people made in

the image of God, we are entrusted to look after what God has made – to share in the joy and creativity of God in making a difference for good. Ruth Valerio imaginatively draws on the Days of Creation (Genesis 1-2:2) in relating themes of light, water, land, the seasons, other creatures, humankind, Sabbath rest and resurrection hope to matters of environmental, ethical and social concern. Foundational to the book are what it means to be human and, in particular, to be a follower of Jesus during Lent. Voices from other continents are heard throughout, and each chapter ends with discussion questions, a prayer, and specially commissioned art to aid action and contemplation.



GOOD FRIDAY • APRIL 10

Walk the Stations of the Cross

Join us for our annual Good Friday pilgrimage on the St. Margaret's Bay Rails to Trails!

This year we will leave the Bike & Bean, Upper Tantallon at 1:00 p.m. (rain or shine) and travel the trail while marking the Stations of Creation, finishing at St. James' in Boutilier's Point about 3:00 p.m. (a distance of approximately 10 kilometres). All are invited and will be warmly welcomed.

For more information please contact Rev. Brianna: revbrie@gmail.com 902-826-2154.

9th ANNUAL SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

February 25, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. St. George's Church Hall

Tickets are available at the door. Adults \$5; Children 12 and under \$4; Preschoolers free; Family Rate \$15 (2 adults & 2 children). You're encouraged to dress for Mardi Gras (i.e. masks, beads, etc.)

"LET'S GROW" UPDATE • It's a great time to start thinking about Summer

• Our **Seventh Annual Summer Fayre will be on Saturday June 27**, so save the date! This is slightly later than usual, in the hope that we will have a better chance of a sunny day. All our usual features will be there: great music, fun games, and lots to eat. But we would welcome any suggestions on new ideas or ways to make things even better.

• The Pub Quiz Nite was held in November and was enjoyed by all.

• **Some New Ideas being considered by the Let's Grow Team include:**

- A 'Kite Day', possibly linked to a kite making workshop, for all ages;
- An Annual Photography Contest

Input on these or other suggestions would be most welcome — and we are always looking for possible leaders for these and other activities to help grow our parish. Just send an email to: raymattholie@gmail.com

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church is our really popular monthly program featuring crafts, music, lessons, praise, prayers, and a light meal to finish; all in a child-friendly atmosphere!

UPCOMING DATES ARE:

- **April 11:** We will celebrate Easter together at the 4 p.m. Family Vigil at St. George's.
- **May 9:** 4-6 p.m. at St. James'
- **June & July:** summer break
- **September:** Messy Church resumes (date T.B.A.)

A.C.W. LENTEN QUIET DAY — MARCH 28 (10:30 a.m. start)

Mission Impossible: Empowered by God

Everyone is invited to join our Atlantic School of Theology students for a day of meditation and quiet reflection, sponsored by The ACW Board of the Diocese of NS & PEI, at St. James' Anglican Church Hall, 2856 Hwy. 2, Shubenacadie. Pre-register by Friday, March 20 by email: davisnow@eastlink.ca (\$10 registration includes lunch, payable at the door).

Call Louise Christie at 902-826-2004 or 902-225-0832 to arrange carpooling from our parish.



Receive the latest parish news — join the Parish Email List! Just email margaretdcarvalho@gmail.com and ask to be added.

EASTER CHOCOLATE: Help us start a Cacao Farm!

Many of you are familiar with our parish's relationship with Father Vanderhoff and the community of Buenavista in Mexico, where he serves. The coffee farmers in the Oaxaca region, who we used to support through our Fair Trade coffee program, are slowly recovering from the recent earthquakes and drought. This year some of their new coffee plants will bear fruit for the first time! Now, partly because of changes in climate in the area, the local co-operative has begun an initiative to diversify and to start growing cacao (which produces cocoa), which is better suited to conditions in the lower-altitude areas. The Mexican Fair Trade co-op has quotes for seeds, grafting materials, special bags for growing the seedlings, and rolls of plastic for roof shields, totalling approximately \$1,600 Cdn. Fifteen local farmers will give their time and labour to prepare a one hectare field.

In an effort to help our friends in Buenavista reach their goal, our parish decided to replace the Easter flower program with an *Easter Memorial and Celebration Plan*. As with the very successful Christmas program, for a tax-deductible donation of \$10 or more, your dedications will be printed in the Easter bulletin (deadline is April 5).

For more info or to submit your donation/memorial, please contact:

St. George's • Jessie 902-826-2531 St. Margaret's • Brian 902-826-7159

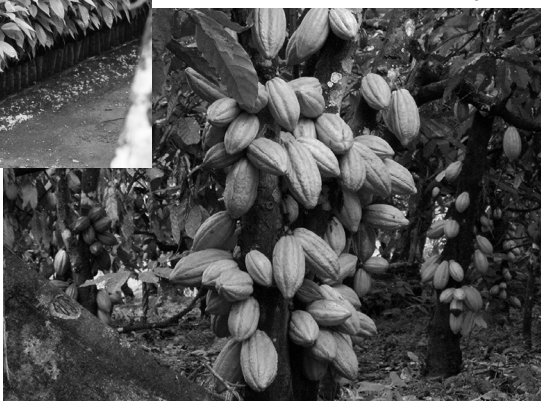
St. James' • Janice 902-826-7165 St. Paul's • Caroline 902-823-2466

CHEQUES SHOULD BE PAYABLE TO "ANGLICAN PARISH OF FRENCH VILLAGE".

If you still wish to purchase flowers for the church independently, in memory of a loved one, please notify one of the co-ordinators prior to the deadline for your dedication to be included in the Easter bulletin.



Cacao seedlings



Mature cacao pods

"HELPING OTHERS" UPDATE

Our parish's Christmas Memorial program was a dazzling success, raising \$3420—enough to stock **SEVEN FARMS** in Africa, plus an additional goat and six piglets, all through the PWRDF!

In 2019 the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund received a total of \$5735 in donations from our parishioners.

Other donations by parishioners in 2019 include \$115 to the Diocesan Times, and \$66.91 in loose change for "Sleeping Children Around the World".



TANTALLON BREAKAWAY ADULT DAY PROGRAM

A program for seniors, people living with dementias or socially isolated, or who require extra support outside the home. Designed to support a person's health and well-being by offering individuals recreational and social programming such as: art, music, mild exercise programs, sensory stimulation games, cooking, baking and a full lunch.

A welcome respite for caregivers and an opportunity for clients to socialize and meet new friends. Provided by VON Greater Halifax (Victorian Order of Nurses).

Thursdays 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at St. Nicholas Anglican Church, Westwood Hills.

To Register, and for General Inquiries: call 902-455-6393.

Email: halifaxreception@von.ca

Website: www.von.ca/en/site/halifax



MOTHERING SUNDAY dates back to the 16th century and is celebrated on the Fourth Sunday in Lent in Anglican churches in the United Kingdom and Ireland, and many other Anglophone countries, especially in Canada and Australia. On this day services were held in the parish church, or at the nearest cathedral which is the diocesan Mother Church. Children and young people working as apprentices or "in service" (think downstairs at Downton Abbey) were given the day off so they could visit their families or return to their Mother church, the church in which they were baptised. The children were allowed to bake a cake to take home. They would often pick wild flowers to either place in the church or give to their mother. Usually they attended church with their mother or whole family. This was the only day off that they were allowed as other days would conflict with working hours. Mothering Sunday is not to be confused with Mother's Day which is a secular holiday celebrated in North America and other countries in May. It is quite distinct from the original Mothering Sunday. The Anglican churches in Canada, especially those with a Mother's Union branch, recognise Mothering Sunday in various ways such as with a simnel cake or decorated cookies to be enjoyed by all who attend church on that day. A simnel cake is a light fruit cake with 2 layers of marzipan (almond paste), one in the centre and the other on the top. 11 or 12 marzipan balls, depending on whether or not Judas is included, represent the Apostles, and are paced in a ring around the edge of the cake.

In our Parish of French Village a mother (or someone who has shown mothering traits) is selected from amongst our parishioners; an acknowledgement of that person is read in church and a bouquet is presented.

