

In February of 2017 I wrote to you all, in my Lenten letter for that year, about my recent experience of attending a program called "Mission School" that travelled around the diocese for a few years. At these one day gatherings, people from across our region came together to learn and discuss how we may best share God's mission with the world around us. I closed that letter by asking readers to send along their ideas for what missional activities we, as a parish, could initiate or take part in. Seven years have passed since I wrote that letter to you all, and I am happy to say that we have seen more missional activities taking place in our parish. The Neighbourhood Soup Servants is a particular ministry that I can point to as one born out of the Mission School Program. In a similar way, missional projects are receiving more attention at a diocesan level as the new Missional Allotment System has been introduced and implemented. This means that any money we spend on missional activities, as a parish, will be exempt from allotment (allotment being the percentage of our income that we send to the diocese to fund diocesan ministries and programs).

There is a difference between mission and outreach and it can sometimes be difficult to notice. The definition of mission that was provided at Mission School is "Missional activity is intentional engagement with the wider community where the primary aim, focus and priority is building relationships so as to be able to share with them faith in Jesus Christ and walk with them into discipleship with Jesus." Alternatively, outreach is defined as "a program, for extending assistance, services, etc., to the community, especially as an act of charity or goodwill." Mission is not just about doing good works, it's about engaging with people in a way that leads them to know and follow the teachings of Jesus. Mission is exactly what the early church was about. We do outreach as a part of our mission, and it is indeed an important part of the mission. However, mission is what caused the early church to grow and spread throughout the world and it is relationship that is at the foundation of that growth.

Since you are reading this letter, it is likely that you already have some ties and connections to our parish. You have hopefully heard the teachings of Jesus Christ and do your best to follow those teachings in your daily life. But, what about those around you? Many of us have wonderful friends and family, good and kind people who want the world to be a better place. People who want to make a difference but don't know where to start. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on our social interactions are still being widely felt. Loss of social interaction, and the rise of social isolation, have led to increased loneliness and a loss of sense of community. By being a part of a church community we have opportunity to be in relationship with people, build relationships, and make a difference in the world.

During this Lenten season I am hoping that through our own self-examination and prayer we will be strengthened to take part in God's mission, and that our lives may be an example of faithful witness that draws others into relationship with God. Focusing on our personal relationship with God is important, but it's equally important to consider how we are inviting others into a similar relationship. May your Lenten journey reflect God's mission in the world, and may you, and those around you, be strengthened in service to that mission.

In service to God's mission I remain,

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Archdeacon Brieanna Andrews



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF FRENCH VILLAGE

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SAINT MARGARET'S 36 St. Margaret's Crescent Tantallon, NS **B3Z 4E2**

SAINT GEORGE'S 6310 St. Margaret's Bay Road Head of St. Margaret's Bay, NS B3Z 2B6

SAINT JAMES' 6991 St. Margaret's Bay Road **Boutilier's Point, NS** B37 1W4



LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

FEB. 11 — BURNING OF OLD PALMS • St. George's following 11 a.m. service FEB. 13 — SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake Supper • St. George's Hall 4:30-6:30 p.m. FEB. 14 — ASH WEDNESDAY *Morning Prayer/Imposition of Ashes* • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m. BAS Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes • St. George's 7:00 p.m. FEB. 17 – Lenten Study begins • St. George's Hall 10:00 a.m. FEB. 18 - FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. James' 11:00 a.m. FEB. 21 – Mid-Week Eucharist • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m. FEB. 24 — MESSY CHURCH • St. James' 4:00 p.m. FEB. 25 — SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT St. George's 10:00 a.m. followed by Special Parish Meeting FEB. 28 – Morning Prayer • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m. MAR. 3 - THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. James' 11:00 a.m. MAR. 6 – Morning Prayer • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m. MAR. 9 – Men's Breakfast • St. George's Hall 8:00 a.m. MAR. 10 - FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT / MOTHERING SUNDAY (DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS) St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. George's 11:00 a.m. MAR. 13 – Morning Prayer • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m. MAR. 17 - FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. James' 11:00 a.m. MAR. 20 – Mid-Week Eucharist • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m. MAR. 24 — PALM SUNDAY St. Margaret's 9:00 a.m. & St. George's 11:00 a.m. MAR. 27 — WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK Tenebrae • St. Paul's 7:30 p.m. MAR. 28 — MAUNDY THURSDAY Soup Supper, Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar • St. George's 6 p.m. MAR. 29 – GOOD FRIDAY Celebration of the Lord's Passion • St. George's 10:00 a.m. "Stations of the Cross" Walk • Time and place will be announced on our website and in the "Notes From the Rector" emails. MAR. 30 - HOLY SATURDAY Family Easter Vigil • St. James' 4:00 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter (BAS) • St. Paul's 8:00 p.m. MAR. 31 - EASTER DAY Parish Eucharist • St. Margaret's 10:00 a.m.

EASTER MEMORIAL PROGRAM – Parish Outreach and Mission –

The funds from this year's Easter Memorials will be retained in the parish in support of our Outreach and Mission programs.

OUTREACH includes such programs as financial aid for people in need through our Helping Hands Fund, keeping in touch with community members through the Neighbourhood Soup Servants, providing an annual scholarship from the Fred Mason Memorial Scholarship and other activities as they arise.

MISSION is reaching out into the wider community to spread the word of God and increase the visibility of the church. Examples of this include visits to local seniors' homes, the annual carol sing at the Tantallon Superstore, the Summer Fayre, etc.

By allocating this Easter's funds in this way it will enable the parish to expand on these ministries at a time when the parish budget is stretched thin.

With a tax-deductible donation of \$10 or more, your dedication will be printed in the Easter bulletins. Deadline is noon on March 24. For more information, or to submit your donation/memorial, please contact the Parish Treasurer, Dorothy, at:

d.dauphinee2009@gmail.com

or 902-826-2305

CHEQUES SHOULD BE PAYABLE TO **"ANGLICAN** PARISH OF FRENCH VILLAGE - EASTER MEMORIAL".

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER EER 13 4:30-6:30 p.m. • St. Goorgo's Ha

FEB. 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m. • St. George's Hall Tickets at the door. You're encouraged to dress for Mardi Gras (i.e. masks, beads, etc.)

LENTEN STUDY

Our Saturday Morning Lenten Studies are back — Saturdays at 10 a.m. in St. George's Hall, beginning on FEBRUARY 17.

This year's selection is based on the film **The Greatest Showman**. This Lenten study is intended to be a thoughtful—yet fun—gathering where we will view specific parts of the film and discuss them, while following a study guide written by Rachel Mann, titled **From Now On: A Lent Course on Hope and Redemption in The Greatest Showman**.

This is the kind of study we want you to invite your friends and neighbours to, because... who doesn't love a good musical?

The study guide is recommended but not required to participate in the group study. The book is currently available on Amazon.ca in both paperback and Kindle format (search "From Now On: A Lent Course").



FRED MASON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This parish scholarship is awarded annually and is available to those planning to attend a postsecondary program this fall.

Deadline for applications is April 15, 2024. It is a minimum of \$1,000 and requires the candidate to successfully complete their first semester prior to receiving the award. More information and the application form are available on the parish website.

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO AN IMPORTANT SPECIAL MEETING!

As our parish faces challenges with attendance and finances, a special meeting is being held to discuss what our future may hold, and ways in which we can become an even more vibrant parish.

Your help is needed as we look at a variety of options. This is your opportunity to have input on the direction we take.

The meeting will be held on SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 following the 10 a.m. parish service at St. George's. Reverend Lisa Vaughn will facilitate the discussion. Please bring a brown bag lunch.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SOUP



This parish-led community initiative operates out of St. George's Church kitchen.

On the morning of the **second Friday of every month** a delicious batch of soup is prepared, then bottled, labelled and delivered to approximately fiftyplus households around our community. It is a joyfilled 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 also welcome the names of people who could benefit from this program.

If you, or a member of your family, have recently moved please contact Dorothy Dauphinee at 902-826-2305 or d.dauphinee2009@gmail.com to provide your current mailing address. You can also contact Dorothy if you no longer wish to receive parish mailings.

TO RECEIVE THE LATEST PARISH NEWS:

Join our Parish Email List...

just email *p.frenchvillage@ns.sympatico.ca* and ask to be added. You'll receive Archdeacon Brieanna's weekly Notes from the Rectory, the Sunday bulletin, as well as news of other parish events. You can also find the info on our website: www.parishoffrenchvillage.ca

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 9, in Saint George's Church Hall beginning with Holy Communion at 7 p.m.

QUIZ NITE IS BACK! Friday, MARCH 1 • 6:45 pm St. Margaret's Bay Legion, Seabright

Our ever popular 'Pub-style' Quiz Nite returns. There will be a good mix of trivia subjects, word games, etc. — something for all. You can form your own team of up to six people, or just come along and we will make up teams. **No cost, free snacks, and a cash bar.**

2024 PARISH SUMMER FAYRE Saturday, JUNE 22 • 12 noon St. James' Church grounds

The Parish Summer Fayre returned last year after the Covid hiatus, and was a great success... and this year will see the same combination of fun for all. Our live stage will have the best of local musical talent. There'll be plenty of good eats from our BBQ and the ever popular Strawberry Teas. And, of course, games for all ages!

BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

There are a few available openings for Sunday church bulletin sponsorship in the upcoming months; cost is \$20 per week. This is a great way to celebrate an event or remember someone special.

To reserve a Sunday, contact Janet Champniss at: champnissjanet1@gmail.com / 902-826-2251.

ST. JAMES' AFTERNOON CONCERT Saturday, FEBRUARY 10 • 2:00 p.m.

St. James' Church

A free afternoon of music featuring Gloria Butler and Friends — donations for the Food Bank will be thankfully received.

LITTLE WAYS TO HELP

Sherry Richardson, a member of St. George's has a couple of projects you can help with:

PILL BOTTLES FOR MISSIONS

In many developing countries pills are dispensed either in your hand or wrapped in a scrap of paper can you imagine how you'd feel if that happened on your next trip to the pharmacy?

Sherry has a contact who is collecting pill bottles for Doctors Without Borders. So, rather than feeling guilty when you throw your empty pill bottles in the recycling, just remove all the labels, give them a wash (to remove any residue from your medication), and drop them off at any of our churches, and they'll be forwarded on, so they get a second life.

POP CAN TABS

What can you do with a Pop Can Tab (or similar tabs from other containers)? You can help purchase a Wheel Chair for a Veteran! Save them up and bring to any of our churches and we'll see they get to Sherry, too.

E-TRANSFERS TO THE PARISH

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Donations to the Parish can now be sent via E-transfer to:

treasurer@parishoffrenchvillage.ca

In the memo line, please include what the donation/E-transfer is for, and the name to be included on the tax receipt.

For any other enquiries, you can still contact Dorothy at 902-826-2305 or

d.dauphinee2009@gmail.com