

Lent and Easter 2019

THE BRIDGE

Bringing together the Parish of St. Joseph and St. George

St. John's
Hilton Beach

Holy Trinity
Jocelyn

St. George's
Echo Bay

Chapel of the Intercession
Llewellyn Beach

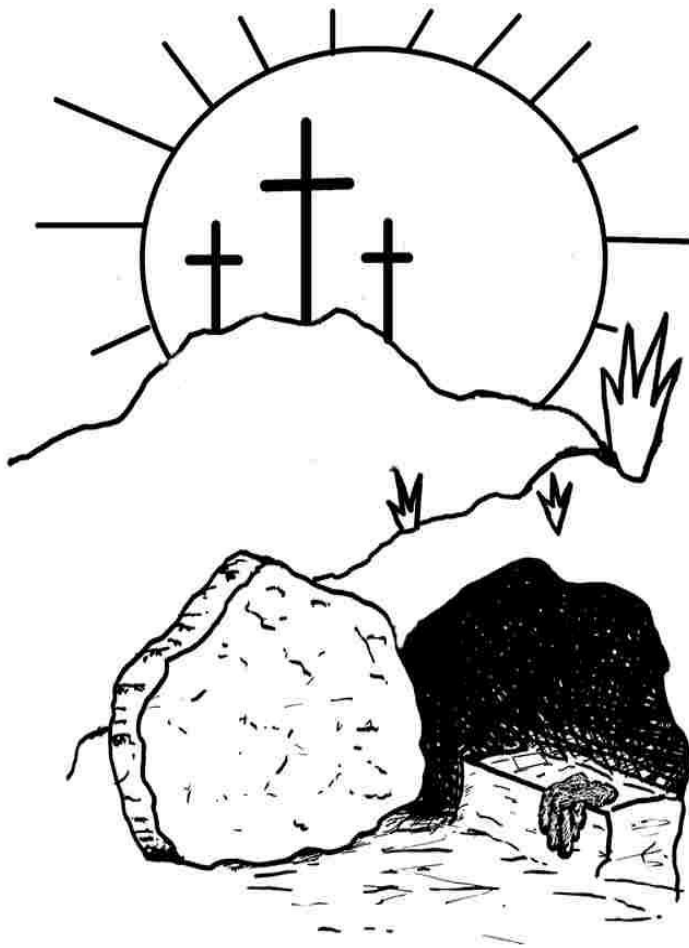
From the Incumbent's Desk

What is "Lent" anyway? The word *Lent* is a Teutonic (Germanic) word that actually means nothing more than the *spring season*. But, this simple little word was used from Anglo-Saxon times to translate the Latin word *quadragesima* which means "fortieth day." (I don't blame them...Lent *is* much easier to spell). So, why 40 days? Well, the distinguished liturgical scholar, Paul Bradshaw, tells us that the church in Egypt – from the beginning of the fourth century and possibly even earlier – kept an annual 40 day fast in imitation of Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness following his baptism. Since the Egyptian church commemorated Jesus' baptism on January 6th, the 40 day fast took place from January 6th until mid-February. This was the time



of final, intense preparation for those going to be baptized into the church when the 40 days of fasting ended. It was also the final period of penitential fasting of serious sinners before they were allowed to once again participate in the Eucharist with the other church members.

Okay...if this 40 day fast was originally in January and February, how did it end up as the 40 days before Easter? Well, we all know that not everybody does things the same way, right? The churches in other major Christian centres – especially in Rome and North Africa – had decided



that Easter was the perfect time for baptisms. So, when the idea of a 40 day fast leading up to baptism began to spread out of Egypt, the churches in Rome and North Africa (and others) put those 40 days in front of Easter because that's when they had their baptisms. One more question...If we are *already* baptized, why do we still fast (or give up one of our favourite foods) during Lent? As the people prepared for baptism by fasting and learning all they could about the good news of Jesus Christ, the rest of the congregation joined them in renewing their repentance and faith. Fasting, or abstaining from a favourite food or activity, helped to refocus their hunger from worldly desires back to desiring – hungering for – God. Fasting (or giving something up) also served the Lenten discipline of almsgiving because the food and the money saved during this time was given to those in need (and still is). Christians would “live simply so others could simply live.” On

Ash Wednesday you will hear Jesus say, in the Gospel, that “where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” The 40 days of Lent, for us, is the time when we can re-engage with practices that open us to God's transforming love, a time when we can reorient ourselves to life in God's kingdom, a time to renew our knowledge and commitment to the treasures found in God's kingdom...treasures like love, compassion, relationships, justice...Above all, we turn our hearts to our greatest treasure – Jesus Christ, who died for us on the cross.

I pray that you all experience a holy Lent and a joyous Easter,

Susan Montague Koyle

Jennifer Falkins is doing some clean up after the joint service December 30th, 2018 at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn. Thanks Jen and thank you also to the others who cleaned up but didn't get in the picture!



Our next joint service will be Sunday, March 31st at St. George's in Echo Bay. Please join us at 10:30am for a service of Holy Communion celebrated by The Rev. Dr. Jay Koyle. This will be followed by a potluck lunch. Yum!

Ash Wednesday...what's that all about?

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent. We receive ashes on our foreheads as a symbol of our human frailty and mortality. We hear, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." These are the words that God said to Adam. Words that cut to Adam's heart. He had disobeyed God. He had sinned and he was paying the price. God was sending Adam out of the Garden of Eden, never to return. And God had made Adam mortal. Death would come to him. Adam must now toil in a world broken by sin and face his own eventual death. We are born into that broken world knowing that death is inevitable. But, for us, that is not the end of the story. The ashes are formed in the shape of a cross on our foreheads. The cross reminds us that, through faith in Jesus' death and resurrection, we will have everlasting life with him.

Ash Wednesday Service...March 6th, 7pm, St. George's Echo Bay

Rock-A-Thon Success!



(Pictured Above) St. George's knitters are (Left to Right): Liz Christie, Janet Arnold, and Cindy Huffels. Stephen Wells is in the back, relaxing with a cup of tea.

(Pictured Below) Holy Trinity knitters are (Left to Right): Kathy Clark, Arthema Hecker, and Val Brown. Mary Williams is looking on while enjoying a hot beverage.



During our Rock-A-Thon, we knitted and collected a heaping load of warm clothing items (pictured below) to give to St. Vincent Place! We also raised over \$300 that we split between St. Vincent Place, the food bank in Echo Bay, and the food bank in Richards Landing. Thank you VERY much to everyone who contributed to this event!



Your 2019 Parish Officials are...

Incumbent's Wardens: Arthena Hecker (Holy Trinity) and Jennifer Falkins (St. George)

People's Wardens: Ron Kent (Holy Trinity) and Janet Arnold (St. George)

Treasurer: Gloria Riddell

In addition, on Parish Council we also have...

Kathy Clark Marie Eggesfield Lynn Goulding Anita Neissen Carol Trainor Kent

Thank you for your ministry in the Church!

These people, and many others not listed here, are the members of Christ's body - the Church - who enable us to be God's mission to the world.



Norma Niessen is about to enjoy a birthday cupcake...

Happy Birthday,
Normal!

And
Happy Birthday
to all of **you** who
have celebrated a
birthday or will
soon be celebrating
in 2019!

May you feel
God's love on your
birthday and
everyday!

We're getting new hymnbooks!

The parish is purchasing the blue Common Praise hymnbook for use in our churches. This hymnbook contains old favourites and wonderful new hymns. Parishioners are able to purchase hymnbooks (\$30 each) to place in our pews in memory of loved ones. If you're interested, please phone me (Susan: 705-253-6456) and I'll take care of your order.

YOUR CHURCH CLOSET

Opening: Saturday, June 15 until Saturday, September 14

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Place: St. George's Church Hall in Echo Bay

Featuring: Gently used clothing all sizes and genders, small household appliances, bedding and linens

You can Help: by donating any of the above. If you re gift, new items, they are saved and used in the Silent Auction for the Pastie Luncheon on Saturday, December 7. During 2018, we donated \$582.05 to the General Operating Fund for our Parish.

There were no expenses, last year

On September 14 we close with a bag sale. Large bags \$10. and small ones \$5.00

When the Closet closed for the season, last year, items were donated to Pauline's Place, Women in Crisis, Seafarer's, Ken Brown Recovery Home. Household items went to St. Vincent's Place, the left over costume jewellery to a palliative care facility for Dogs in Kingston. Ont. This year items of any kind will be donated to The Dragonfly, a new volunteer run facility with profits going to ARCH.

Any questions or to volunteer for a worthwhile Saturday, please call Marie Eggesfield at 782-6813 and you cannot leave the Island without going past her driveway, so drop off your donations. Thanks Much for your caring support.

Marie, Coordinator

ACCOLADES to the perpetrators of our Annual Pancake Supper. When talking with a lady from Emmaus, last week, she commented "such a spread you always have at your Pancake Supper - like no other I have ever been to!" ME

Lenten Lunches Starting Soon!

Dates: Wednesdays during Lent (March 13 - April 17)

Where: Zion Lutheran Church, Sault Ste Marie (189 Upton Rd)

Time: 12 - 1pm

Enjoy soup and sandwiches followed by a time of reflection and probably some singing too!



Maundy Thursday

A lot sure happened on this evening in Jerusalem about 2000 years ago. This was the night that Jesus had the **Last Supper** with his disciples in which he said the words we use each time we celebrate Holy Communion together. This is my

body, given for you...This is my blood, shed for you... At the Last Supper, **Jesus washed his disciples' feet** in order to show them what he had been teaching them - we must love and serve each other as equals. The power structures of this world - wealth, social status, military might - are not the power structures of the kingdom of God. Love, compassion, humility...that's true power. This was also the night that Jesus went to the **Garden of Gethsemane**, with his disciples, to pray before his arrest. Jesus knew he was going to die a horrible death and yet he gave himself willingly to the soldiers who showed up in the garden. **Maundy Thursday** is an ancient English name for Holy Thursday. It comes from the Latin, *Mandatum novum da nobis* and means "I give you a new commandment," (John 13:34). That commandment? **Love one another as I have loved you.**

Our Maundy Thursday Services:

Holy Trinity, Jocelyn: 5pm, April 18. We will share a meal, much like the one the disciples shared with Jesus; we will celebrate Holy Communion together, wash the feet of those who so desire, and strip the altar of its furnishings as we hear the story of Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane.

St. George, Echo Bay: 7:30pm, April 18. Archbishop Anne Germond will preside at a Service of Holy Communion. There will be footwashing for those who so desire and we will strip the altar of its furnishings as we hear the story of Jesus' arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Our **Good Friday** walk begins at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn at 10am.

We will walk to Harmony St. Mark's United Church in Richards Landing where there will be a service at about 2:30pm remembering that this is the day Jesus hung on a cross, dying to defeat sin and death itself, to give us life everlasting.



Our Easter Services:

Holy Trinity, Jocelyn: 6:30am Service of Holy Communion; Presider – The Ven. Hugh Hamilton
11am Service of Holy Communion; Presider – The Rev. Rosalie Goos

St. George, Echo Bay: 9am Service of Holy Communion; Presider – The Rev. Rosalie Goos

If you would like to have flowers placed on the altar in memory of loved ones, please phone me (Susan) at 705-253-6456

Coming Events...More Details Will Be Advertised as the Dates Approach:

Echo Bay For Sale – Saturday, May 4th, 8am – 1pm.

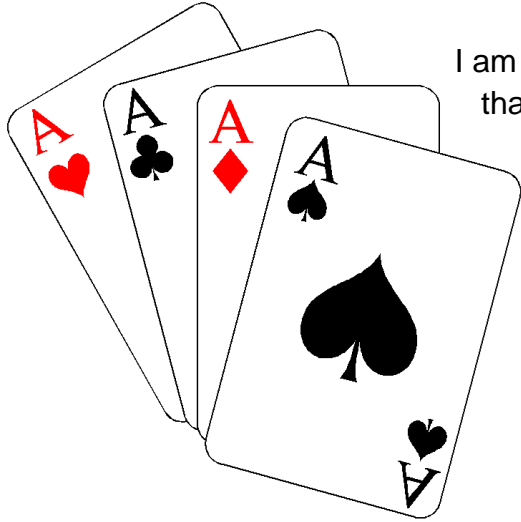
Tea at St. George, Echo Bay – Saturday, June 8th.

Joint Service at W.I Park in Richards Landing – Sunday, June 30th at 10:30 a.m.

Followed by a potluck lunch.

Your Lay Delegates to the Diocesan Synod this May are Gloria Riddell and Janet Arnold.

Thank you, ladies, for giving your time to represent our parish.



I am very excited to announce, on behalf of the parish, that we will be starting something new...

Games Afternoon for those 50+

Where: The Legion (Lounge)

Time: 1pm - 3pm

Dates: 1st Wednesday of each month beginning April 3rd

There will be a variety of card games and board games. If you have a favourite, bring it along! We'll provide coffee, tea, and goodies. ☺

We Did It!

Our parish team for the "Coldest Night of the Year 2019 Walk" to raise awareness and money for the homeless, the hungry, and the hurting in our community raised almost \$2500!! Thank you to the generous people of our parish, communities, and out-of-town friends and family members!



The Trinity Trotters are (left to right): Lynn Goulding, Janet Arnold, Pat Brown, Carol Trainor Kent, Anita Niessen, Susan Montague Koyle, and Jennifer Falkins.