



THE BEACON-The Church of St. Luke

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To know Christ and to make Him known in worship, fellowship and service.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Once again, the “Roll-Up-The-Rim-To-Win” contest held by a well known coffee chain has begun, though it has started much later this year than it did last year; nearly three weeks later, in fact.

Coincidentally, Lent is about to begin, though much later this year than last year; nearly three weeks later, in fact.

This year Ash Wednesday, the first day of the Season of Lent, is the ninth of March. In the span of years from 1901 through 2078 (so the internet indicates) this is the only year that Ash Wednesday falls on March 9th, and only once in that 177-year span will Ash Wednesday be later than March 9th. I just might be around twenty-seven years from now when we will experience Lent starting on March 10th, 2038, one day later that it is starting this year. I wonder if the “Roll-Up-The-Rim-To-Win” contest will still be going then.

In times long past Lent was a season (of varying lengths through the ages) of strict fasting in which only one meal a day, taken toward evening and excluding meat and fish (and in most places, eggs as well), was allowed. From the ninth century onwards this rigid practice began to be relaxed to the point that in modern times the Lenten fast has been radically diminished if not entirely forgotten. Remnants of fasting do remain, however, in the concept of giving something up as a Lenten discipline. My guess is that a lot of people must have given up coffee for Lent.

Though the severity of the practice of strict and disciplined fasting may no longer be all the rage, the purpose behind such fasting remains. Fasting for religious purposes is a penitential practice used

to strengthen the spiritual life by weakening, if not removing, our attraction of worldly pleasures. But it is only one of many practices that can be used to strengthen our spiritual lives.

In the Ash Wednesday liturgy found in the Book of Alternative Services (beginning on page 281) we are reminded that Lent is a time of preparation and renewal, that is, a time to strengthen our spiritual lives. In the words of that liturgy we are told of six ways in which we can strive to accomplish this end. We are invited to strengthen our spiritual lives by self-examination, penitence (that is, reformatory acts), prayer, fasting, almsgiving and reading and meditating on the word of God. During Lent we are called to use these practices, singly or in combination, to prepare for our celebration of the Resurrection, to renew our life in Christ and thereby strengthen our spiritual lives.

Lent is a profoundly sacred and holy time within our Church year. I encourage each of us to set apart sacred and holy time each and every day of Lent for the exercise of one or more of these disciplined practices so that we may indeed observe a holy and renewing Lent. The lure of the “Roll-Up-The-Rim-To-Win” may keep you from giving up coffee but there are five other options to choose from.

May God richly bless you as you journey from ashes to Easter.

In Christ,

Rev. Ric Miller

WELCOME JOANNE

Beginning March 1st. we welcome Joanne Wallace as our Parish Administrative Assistant. Joanne will be in the office Tuesday through Friday from 10 am until 2 pm. Do drop by and say welcome!

We also remind everyone when visiting the Church during the week we encourage you to enter by the **north** door. The buzzer is more easily heard in the office for quick access as well as providing the extra safety features of having windows in the door and carpets in the hallway.

Book Sale Results!!!!!!

Under the capable direction of Lois and Walter Marshall and Moe Vezina a group of parishioner priced, sorted and displayed approximately 3200 books into trays for easy selection. On the Saturday morning of the Book Sale we welcomed members of the parish, relatives and advantage of selection of neighbours, friends to take a great books at very reasonable prices. Thank you to all who worked on the sale, thank you to all who came and purchased books and thank you to all who donated books even though it was hard to let go of some of your treasured volumes.



*Now for the results - **\$520.00** which will go to outreach projects in our community.*

Mark your calendars, tie a string around your finger, put a reminder on your Blackberry (or whatever) to



remind you that Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 13th. when we turn our clocks forward one hour.

Congratulations To

Judy Vaughan who was elected to the office of Peoples' Warden

And To

Bob Gibbons who was appointed to the office of Deputy Warden at our recent Vestry Meeting.

Lorna Brooks continues in the office of Rector's Warden.

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OUTREACH REPORT – 2010

During the past year \$4,656 was raised for distribution to Outreach Projects in our community. Those receiving funds were Mississauga Life Centre, Heart House Hospice (formerly Hospice of Peel), the "Open Door" and the Church Army.

Donations were also forwarded to the Diocese for Faithworks, and the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund in the amount of \$4046.00.

As well as raising funds for these projects dinner was provided on two occasions for the "Open Door" and parishioners continue to donate non perishable food to our "Food Chest" on an ongoing basis.

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The ministry of healing will be offered at both the 8:30 am and 10:30 am services on Sunday, March 20th.

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A book table with books from the parish library suitable for Lenten Reading will be available in the parish hall during the season of Lent.

SENIORS' LUNCHEON

Our next Seniors' Luncheon is Wednesday March 23rd at Gordon Graydon Secondary School Skylight Café, 11:45 am – 1:15 pm. Cost is \$8 per person, which includes salad, hot entrée, dessert, tea and coffee. If you are interested please contact Ellen Shilton at 905-296-7443 to reserve a spot, or sign the list on the back table behind the last pew. Rides are available upon request. Perhaps invite a neighbour! See you there.



Where in the World is God?

*Today we are overwhelmed by the challenges and demands of the world. Our lives become frantic, confused and empty making Spiritual reflection difficult if not possible. **The Proclamation Group** is once again providing a booklet with daily readings for Lent. The booklet is called "**Where in the World is God?**" – 40 Days of Devotions for Today's World. They will be available on Sunday, March 6th for your timely spiritual enjoyment and uplifting.*

Walter Marshall

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 8th.

5 pm – 7 pm

Plan now to attend the Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper to be held in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, March 8th. Tickets are available at a cost of \$7.00 for adults and \$2.00 for pre-teens.



WHAT ANGLICANS BELIEVE

A Lenten Study called "What Anglicans Believe" will be offered by Canon Don Beatty on **Tuesdays** from 1:30 to 3:00 pm each week starting **Tuesday, March 15th to Tuesday, May 3, 2011** (omitting Tuesday April 19th.)

This program, based on the Apostles' Creed, will look at the development of Church doctrine and beliefs and how these developed from Scripture through early church history. What do we mean by the Holy Trinity? Who is the Holy Spirit? What is Christology? These and many other questions will be discussed during this seven-week course. You are invited to attend as many weeks as possible. The final session will look especially at the development of Anglican worship from the early house church in Jerusalem of the first century to the modern church in this 21st century. Please bring your questions and concerns as we share with one another and grow together in our faith and worship.

ASH WEDNESDAY AT ST. LUKE'S

Ash Wednesday – March 9, 2011

9:15 am Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes.

7:30 pm – Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes.



**MARCH AT ST. LUKE'S
EVERY WEEK**

Sunday,	8:30 am 10:30 am	Holy Eucharist – Coffee Hour Holy Eucharist – Coffee Hour, Nursery, Church School
Wednesday	9:15 am 10:00 am	Mid-week Eucharist Bible Study – studying the 12 Minor Prophets
Thursday	9:30 am 7:30 pm	Joy in the Morning Bible Study Joy Music Team
Tues-Friday	10 am – 2 pm	Parish Office Hours - Joanne Wallace- Administrative Assistant.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mon. March 7	1:30 pm 7:15 pm	Pastoral Care Group – Vine Room Advisory Board
Tues. March 8	5 - 7 pm	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Wed. March 9	9:15 am 7:30 pm	Holy Eucharist – Imposition of Ashes Holy Eucharist – Imposition of Ashes
Thurs. March 10	1:30 pm	Threads of Love
Tues. March 15	1:30 pm 1:30 pm	Lenten Study – “What Anglicans Believe” continuing each Tues. Mar. 15 - May 3 rd . Dorcas Meeting
Wed. March 23	11:45 am	Seniors’ Luncheon – Gordon Graydon Secondary School
Sat. April 2	9:00 am	Worship Group Meeting – Parish Hall

PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK, GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER

Sun. April 17		Palm Sunday Services – Liturgy of the Palms. Special Coffee Hours – Hot Cross Buns – proceeds to Outreach
Mon. April 18	7:30 pm	– Evening Prayer
Tues. April 19	7:30 pm	– Service of Compline
Wed. April 20	9:15 am	– Mid Week Eucharist
	7:30 pm	– Tenebrae Service
Thurs. April 21	7:30 pm	- Celebration of the Institution of the Lord’s Supper
Fri. April 22	10:30 am	– Good Friday Worship and Good Friday Children’s Programme.
Sun. April 24	8:30 am	– Easter Day Eucharist – Book of Common Prayer
	10:30 am	- Easter Day Eucharist – Book of Alternative Services Special Easter Music performed by the Falgarwood Brass.

LOOKING AHEAD - Mark these dates in your calendar

Sat. May 28 th		ST. LUKE’S ANNUAL YARD SALE– Start collecting your articles! We will also be collecting used electronics for recycling.
Sun. June 5 th	10:30 am	Outdoor Service – Annual Picnic
Sat. June 11		Multicultural Dinner– Parish Hall – details to follow.
Sun. June 12	8:30–10:30 am	Feast of Pentecost.