

St. Mark's Anglican Church

*"I invite you in the
name of the Lord,
to keep a holy Lent"*



Lent 2020

This may sound like a bold statement, but hear me out: I think Lent is the most counter-cultural and timely gift the church has to offer the world right now.

Lent begins with an invitation and a reminder. The invitation is to keep a holy Lent. It's an invitation to self-examination, penitence, prayer and fasting; an invitation to focus on the needs of others; an invitation to reflect anew on the words of sacred scripture.

The reminder is that we are mortal: 'Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.' We are but specks of cosmic dust particles, animated by the sustaining breath of God. One day we will all return to our cosmic origins, return to God. Our time, then, is not unlimited. We must make the most of the days we have. Lent is a call to remember who we are, renew our lives as the church and refocus our lives on that which really matters. Lent calls us into the wilderness away from the distractions of life, where we come face to face with ourselves. It's an intimidating invitation - one that I suspect most of us would rather do without.

That's why I think Lent is such a gift, not just for the church, but for the wider world in which we live. Lord knows there are enough distractions. We rush breathlessly from one place to the next, ruled by our calendars and our desire to get everything done. Busyness is worn like a badge of honour, while relationships and self-care are ignored. We eat too much, buy too much, lust too much, waste too much and make the tragic mistake that all of this will make us happy (news flash: it won't!). All of this is literally killing us...physically, financially, environmentally and spiritually. Lent turns us toward the stark simplicity and selflessness of the cross, and life as it is meant to be lived in the Kingdom of God.

So I invite you to pick up your cross and follow Jesus into the wild simplicity of Lent. I invite you to simplify your life, to unplug, log off and slow down. I invite you to reimagine our place in the created order and to recommit to caring for this fragile earth, our island home. I invite you to keep a simple, holy and selfless Lent.

Rev. Robert

Lenten Lunches: Living the Fifth in the Climate Crisis

Climate change is the defining issue of our time. What exactly is climate change? What is causing it? How can we address it? Why aren't we addressing it? The speakers in this series of talks will open our eyes to various aspects of this truly existential crisis and the actions we need to undertake to address it. Bring your lunch and join us at 12:15 p.m. on Thursdays during Lent and learn how to start "Living the Fifth" (of the Five Marks of Mission). This is a time when our planet, the other species with whom we share it, and future generations so desperately need us to take creation care seriously.

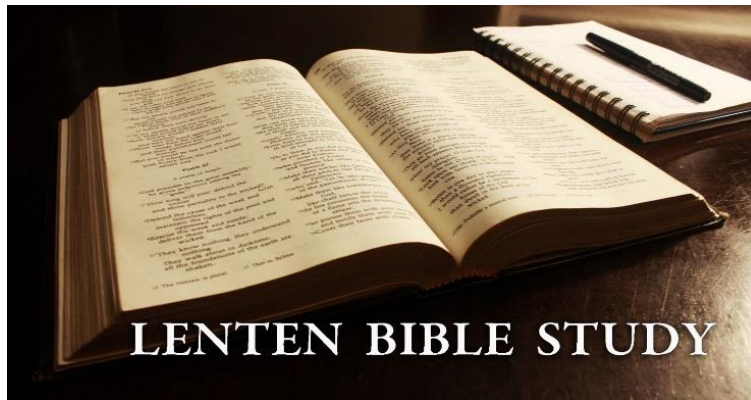


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| March 5: | Overview of the Climate Crisis
Speaker – Dr. Brett Favaro
Fisheries & Marine Institute of Memorial University |
| March 12: | Buildings & Urban Design
Speaker – Jess Puddister
Former Municipal Climate Change Advisor |
| March 19: | Transportation
Speaker - Kirsten Morry
St. John's Transportation Commission |
| March 26: | To Be Announced |
| April 2: | Advocacy & Activism
Speaker – Neria Aylward
Social Justice Cooperative NL |



Movies are a powerful way to tell stories - stories of love and triumph, stories of struggle and great loss. Movies can also be the bearers of theological truth and tell stories of faith and doubt. Movies can open us to exploring what it means to be human, to see beauty, meaning and purpose. Join us as we embark on a different kind of Lenten journey, but no less sacred and holy, on Thursday evenings at St. Mark's at 7:00 p.m. Stay tuned for more info on a movie at Cineplex Theatres at the Avalon Mall.

- March 5: Silence (2016), directed by Martin Scorsese, featuring Andrew Garfield and Adam Driver.
- March 12: Calvary (2014), directed by John Michael McDonagh, featuring Brendan Gleeson, Chris O'Dowd and Aiden Gillen.
- March 19: First Reformed (2017), directed by Paul Schrader, featuring Ethan Hawke and Amanda Seyfried
- March 26: The Two Popes (2019), directed by Fernando Meirelles, featuring Jonathan Pryce and Anthony Hopkins.
- April 5: Mary Magdalene (2018), directed by Garth Davis, featuring Rooney Mara and Joaquin Phoenix.



For Lent 2020, the Rev. Dr. Alex Faseruk will conduct a four-week Bible Study titled: **Heresy and Schism and Apostasy: Oh my! The Pursuit of Christian Orthodoxy from the Bible.** The sessions will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on four Mondays in Lent (March 2, March 9, March 30 and April 6). In this study we will examine numerous passages from both the Old and New Testaments to explore the various beliefs of Christianity. Discussion will center around three themes: **Heresies** (Why don't all Christians believe the same things?); **Schisms** (Why do Christians break away from other denominations?); **Apostasy** (Why do some Christians not go to church?). Underlying the discussion will be the **Three Pillars of Anglicanism** of Holy Scripture, Tradition, and Reason.



Beer & Hymns St. John's is a joint venture between St. Mark's, St. Mary's, Cochrane Street and Reunion Churches - a group of friends who love Jesus, love people and love raising a pint as we raise our voices in song. This year on Easter Monday we'll get together to share some time around the table, to drink some beer and sing some hymns.

Consider this your invitation to join us at 7:00 p.m. on April 13, at Bridie Malloy's on George Street.

Easter Memorials

Each year we provide an opportunity for you to give in memory of loved ones through our Easter memorials. This year we suggest two areas of need:

- Virginia Park Summer Snack Program
- Building Maintenance Fund

If you would like to make a donation, either in memory of someone or in thanksgiving, please contact the church office (726-3213 or st.marks@nf.aibn.com). You may also place your contributions and necessary information in an envelope and place it in the offering plate. Information must be submitted to the office no later than Monday, April 6.



Holy Week and Easter Bulletins

If you would like to donate one of our Holy Week/Easter bulletins in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, the following are available:

Palm Sunday - \$45.00

Good Friday - \$30.00

Easter Day – \$60.00

Maundy Thursday - \$30.00

Easter Vigil - \$30.00

If you would like to sponsor one of the bulletins, please contact the office (726-3213 or st.marks@nf.aibn.com).

The Journey Through Holy Week



The Passion with the Liturgy of the Palms

Saturday, April 4, at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 5, at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday (April 9)

7:30 p.m. Foot Washing, Holy Eucharist and the
Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday (April 10)

12:00 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday (April 11)

7:30 p.m. The Great Easter Vigil

Easter Day (April 12)

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist