

PARISH PATTTER – LENT 2024

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE February 14 at 1:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist (BAS). There will be imposition of ashes for those who would like to receive them.

LENT is a solemn religious observance in the liturgical calendar of many Christian denominations that begins on Ash Wednesday and covers a period of approximately six weeks before Easter Sunday. The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer through prayer, penance, repentance of sins, almsgiving, atonement and self-denial. This event along with its pious customs, is observed by Christians in the Anglican, Calvinist, Lutheran, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox traditions. During Lent many Christians commit to fasting and giving up luxuries as a form of penitence. Many Christians also add a Lenten spiritual discipline such as reading a daily devotional to draw themselves nearer to God.

Lent is traditionally described as lasting for forty days, in commemoration of the forty days which, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Jesus spent, before beginning his public ministry, fasting in the desert, where he endured temptation by the Devil. It begins on Ash Wednesday, During Lent the Gloria which is usually sung or said on Sundays is omitted. We also do not put flowers on the Altar during this period.

The fourth Sunday in Lent is known as Mothering Sunday as an occasion to honour mothers. The sixth Sunday is commonly called Palm Sunday and marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent immediately preceding Easter. Thursday is known as Maundy Thursday and commemorates the Last Supper and the next day is Good Friday on which Christians remember Jesus' crucifixion and burial.

HATCHES, MATCHES AND DISPATCHES

Baptisms—Kalum Kobe Maclsaac, son of Laurie Maclsaac and Viola EssanamSodjehoun

Funerals—Shirley Shrum, Margo Anne Nickerson, Mary MacFarlane, Jean Fairn, Howard Roberts, Duncan Baxter, Lesa Woods, Jean Swinemar, and Shane O'Leary.

St. Mary of Bethany Altar Guild We are a small group of ladies taking care of the altar area and Communion vessels. Shirley Walsh is doing a wonderful job making sure the flowers are fresh each week. During Lent there are no flowers on the altar, but if you are considering a memorial donation toward flowers for Easter you may place your contribution on the offering plate or mail it to the church at 1 Regency Drive, B2Y 1Z7. Please indicate on the envelope your name and the name of the person/s that you wish to remember. If you wish to join our group, please contact Margaret Sketchley, 902-829-3001.

BOOK STUDY *Christ in Crisis? Reclaiming Jesus* by Jim Wallis. This program will be offered in person beginning Tuesday, February 20 at 2 p.m. To join please email the Rector at holyspirithrm@gmail.com or call 902-463-6544. If there is a desire to do this on Zoom we can add another time.

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BUDGET FOR 2024

Following are the expenses expected in 2024.

Salaries	\$48,211
Rector, Vacation Supply, Organist, Sexton, pension fund, E.I. C.P.P, etc.	
Diocesan Allotment	14,025
Physical Church Costs	24,960
fuel, repairs and maintenance, utilities, insurance	
Operating costs	4,300
Altar supplies, church envelopes, music ministry, telephone, office supplies, bank charges, Lay Ministers' dues, zoom subscription	
Parish Outreach 625	
Religious Education, Special Events, Canadian Mental Health, Anglican Foundation, Margaret's House	
Total	\$92,121

These expenses must be covered by our anticipated revenues.

Envelope Offerings	\$55,000
Open Offerings	150
Initial Offerings	150
Easter	2,000
Lenten	750
Thanksgiving	2,000
Christmas	2,700
Memorial	1,250
From Organizations	
A.C.W.	3,000
Projects	2,000
Other income	
Trust fund income	2,400
H.S.T. revenue	1,500
Hall Rental	---
Total	\$72,900

Building Fund

Receipts – Env. Offering	1,200
Disbursements R&M	2,000
Surplus (Deficit) Bldg Fund	(800)
Total Budget Deficit	(\$20,021)

Deficit Funding

Bank Balance Dec. 31, 2023	40,531
Budgeted Deficit	(20,021)
Budgeted Bank Balance	
Dec. 31, 2024	\$20,510

