

The Annual Reports and Financial Statements are available in the Entry.

The **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for next **Sunday, February 26th** after the 10am Holy Service. The **snow date** will be Monday, **February 27th**. If you would like to help with the lunch please speak to Marion, Bernice or Carolyn.

The next **meeting of the Altar Guild** is set to immediately follow the 10am Service on February 26th. We will **meet for 15 minutes** in the Main Church to discuss the assembly of the Chalice and Paten for the Holy Communion. Fr. Norm Dupuis will lead this session, and once finished, lunch will be served in the Church Hall.

St. George's Greeters are needed here! Please speak to one of our Wardens if you would be willing to volunteer in this way **at 8am or 10am**. The job includes handing our bulletins, giving directions to newcomers, and offering a friendly smile! We have "Greeter" lapel pins are available if you wish.

Ash Wednesday is fast approaching on **February 23rd**. The Holy Eucharist with the Penitential Rite and the Imposition of Ashes has been scheduled to be celebrated at **8:30am in the Chapel and at 7:00pm in the Main Church**.

A **take-home Bible Study** is available at the back of the Church. It focuses on the virtue of prudence through Holy Scripture and the life of Thomas a Kempis. This is the second in a series that will run through the Lenten Season – please help yourself.

Tyler McKenna is scheduled to be our **Preacher on the First Sunday in Lent** (February 26th) at both the 8am and 10am Services.

A **children's program** has been scheduled on **March 4th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm** in the Church Hall. There will be a Bible Story and craft, and Angie Phi will lead us in some music. Please come and bring a friend!



St. George's Church is a downtown spiritual center where traditional Anglican liturgy, parishioners and the needs of our community are valued.

St. George's Anglican Church

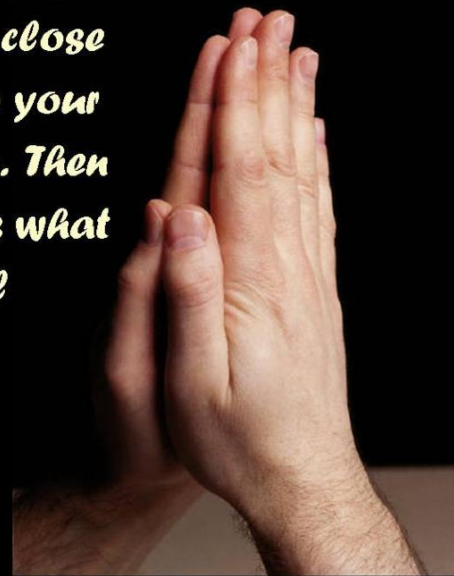
The Most Reverend David Edwards- Bishop
The Reverend Canon Chris VanBuskirk – Rector 389-3516
51 Church Street Moncton NB E1C 4Z3 855-5209
Email – office@stgeorgesmoncton.ca
Website: www.stgeorgesmoncton.ca

Jesus Christ the same, Yesterday, Today and Forever

Quinquagesima
February 19, 2023

But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6:6



Parish Prayer Chain: To pass a message on to the Parish Prayer Chain, from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. please the Office. After Office Hours, please contact Cathie @ 855-7969 or cdingwell@gmail.com.

Wardens:	Sheila Searle	856-9419
	Kelly VanBuskirk	233-0869
Honorary Assistant	Rev. Dr. Dan Goodwin	
Deacons	Rev. Norm Dupuis	386-1324
	Rev. Rick Cunningham	854-9455

Quinquagesima – February 19, 2023

8:00 A.M. - HOLY EUCHARIST

Introit Psalm: 31: 1-6	p. 364
Collect for Purity	p. 67
Kyrie	p. 70
Collect and The Epistle	p. 136
Gradual Psalm: 31: 22-26	p. 366
The Holy Gospel	p. 137

9:15 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER

Psalm: 84, 133	p. 437, 504
First Lesson: Genesis 12. 1-9	(Pew Bible page 13)
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12: 4-end	(Pew Bible page 928)

10:00 A.M. –HOLY EUCHARIST

Introit Psalm – sung *Be thou my God and defender, and a place of refuge that thou mayest save me: for thou art my upholder, my refuge, and my Saviour; and for thy holy Name's sake be thou my leader, and my sustainer. In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust; let me never be put to confusion: but rid me, and deliver me in thy righteousness. Glory be...*

Hymn: **724** (Jewels)

Children's Talk

The Collect for Purity	p. 67
The Ten Commandments	p. 68
Summary of the Law	p. 69
Collect and The Epistle	p. 136
Gradual Psalm: 31: 22-26	p. 366
The Holy Gospel	p. 137
The Nicene Creed	p. 71

Hymn before the Homily: **104** (St Agnes)

Homily

Offertory Hymn: **468** (Arnsberg)

Intercession	p. 75
Confession, Absolution	p. 77
Thanksgiving	p. 78
Consecration	p. 82

Hymns during Communion: **235** (St Osmond); **238** (St Flavian); **244** (Ewing - 627)

The Lord's Prayer	p. 85
Gloria in Excelsis	p. 86

Recessional Hymn: **470** (Hyfrydol)

Please join us coffee & tea in the Hall.

5:00- P.M. EVENING PRAYER

Psalm: 103	p. 460
First Lesson: Genesis 6: 5-end	(Pew Bible page 9)
Second Lesson: Luke 17. 20-end	(Pew Bible page 843)

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Liz Spinney, Omer Corney, Stephen Mann

*"Let us remember before God the faithful departed."
Audrey Lotherington, Robert Foster*

Amongst the faithful departed, we remember Private Lloyd Ernest Beers of this parish who died February 20, 1945. He is buried in Holland and awaits with us the Lord's return and the Resurrection at the Last Day.

This Week in the Parish

The Daily Offices of **Morning and Evening Prayer** will be prayed in the Chapel at **8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday – Saturday**, respectively.

Monday Office Closed for Family Day

Tuesday Pancake Supper (Brix Building)

Scouts 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday **Holy Communion** (Chapel) 8:30 a.m.

Holy Communion (Camden) 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study (Rectorry) 10:30 a.m.

Cubs & Beavers 6:30 p.m.

Holy Communion 7:00 p.m.

Thursday **Holy Communion** 10:00 a.m.

Friday Stations of the Cross 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Community Breakfast 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Holy Hour 6:00 p.m.

****A friendly reminder: please do not leave any valuables (coats, purses, etc.) in the main entry, or in your pew when going to Communion.****



Happy Birthday to Lawrence Goddard and Jessie Wilson!

"They said unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, *and they followed him.*" St. Matthew 20: 33, 34

The Rector's Corner

The decision last week of the Church of England to offer a blessing to same-sex couples is yet another downward step of the Body of Christ on her descent into utter humiliation. It is a step down because it is a step away from what God's Word teaches. For instance, over the past two weeks, at Morning and Evening Prayer, we have been reading from the Book of Genesis. In the opening chapter we read about the creation of Adam, the first man. God formed him "out of the dust of the earth and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life" (2.7). But it was not good for Adam to be alone, so the Lord made Eve, the first woman. And He said, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be one flesh." (2.24)

God's perfect design was the creation of male and female, and Adam's completeness was found in Eve spiritually, physically and biologically. Sadly, Adam and Eve rejected God's plan when they listened to the serpent and ate from the tree of life. Everything went quickly downhill -- the whole creation felt the effects of this original sin. Even the ground was changed by it.

And so was the first family when Adam and Eve's son, Abel, was murdered by his brother, Cain. The thing is, our humanity became fallen or 'less than' – in its deepest part. Even our desires became infected to the debased extent of the men of Sodom, as we read in Genesis 19.5.

St. Paul spoke of this in his letters to the Church in Rome: *"For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error."* (1.21, 26-27)

Over the past 25 years, under increasing pressure from the world, the Church has gradually stepped away from the Biblical understanding of sin and its effects on creation and on our human nature – including our sexual desires. In an attempt to pacify ourselves, without admitting our sinfulness, we began to determine what we believe (our doctrine)

by a democratic process at Synods. Instead of believing the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and the source of our Faith, we now 'make it up as we go along'.

Dr. Ephraim Radner reflects on this situation in his book The Fate of Communion (Eerdmans: 2006), asking: "What will happen if the gospel is, in fact, no longer recognized at the center of our church?" Then he puts forward this question: "What is God doing?" "Here," he says "we move into the realm of reflection upon God's providential ordering of the church's life, a form of theological and devotional discipline woefully under-practiced within modern Christian life".

Basically, Radner is asking 'why?' – 'Why would the Lord permit His Church – His own Body – the people He redeemed by His own Blood – to follow this wayward way?' In answering, he suggests that this is "the strange work of God...whose call to servanthood includes...the 'plucking up and breaking down' even as it does 'planting and building'". (Jeremiah 1.10) Radner continues by thinking about God's Word through the Prophet Jeremiah: "O house of Israel, can I not do with you such breaking down and plucking up that all might turn from and amend their ways and their doings? That I might again build up and plant? (Jeremiah 18. 6-11) – that is, might tear down for the sake of exaltation."

As we struggle; as we bear the humiliation of the church's state; as we bear the effects of the church's steps away from God's Word and His Way, we must, says Radner "frame our vision from the act of God". And, he says, that absolutely involves "the giving over of our witness to God's shaping judgement and mercy".

With you, I yearn for the day when the Church, the very Bride of Christ, will come to her senses and return her Lord with weeping and repentance. In the mean-time, may He help us to bear the humiliation of this cross and bear faithful witness to His power to heal, to revive and to raise us up.

Daily Bible Readings

A modified schedule from the Prayer Book's Table of Lessons

Sunday	Joel 1	John 6:41-end
Monday	Joel 2:1-14	John 7:1-24
Tuesday	Joel 2:15-end	John 7:25-end
Wednesday	Joel 3	John 8:1-30
Thursday	Jonah 1 & 2	John 8:31-end
Friday	Jonah 3 & 4	John 9
Saturday	Jeremiah 1:11-end	John 10:1-21



St James Jesters walking for 'Coldest Night of the Year' supporting Youth Impact initiatives fighting youth Homelessness in Moncton. Please consider a small donation. **Saturday Feb 25 – 4:00 pm at St James for a short walk.** Refreshments afterwards! All are welcome to join!

You can make a donation whether you walk or not

either online Coldest Night of the Year – Moncton by cheque to St James marked 'Coldest Night'. In the past Vestry donated \$100 and \$10 per person who walks.

Turkey and Syria Relief: The Primates World Relief and Development Fund

PWRDF will immediately allocate \$35,000 to the ACT Alliance to support its members working in the area. PWRDF is also accepting funds to support this appeal.

(ACT Alliance is a global alliance of more than 145 churches and related organisations from over 120 countries created to provide humanitarian aid for poor and marginalized people.) For example, ACT member the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and All the East-Department of Ecumenical Relations and Development (GOPA-DERD) is providing food, blankets, mattresses and medical aid in affected communities in Aleppo, Hama and Latakia. Plans are underway from other ACT members to supply winterization materials, ambulances, and other needed supplies as the extent of the need is known.

Please keep the people affected by this devastating earthquake in your prayers. Donations can be made to support PWRDF's response through your Sunday offering envelope (please mark the amount for Turkey/Syria), online, or over the phone by calling 416-822-9083 (or leave a message toll-free at 1-866-308-7973 and your call will be returned).

The sign on the parking lot directly across from the elevator door has changed and now indicates 24/7 towing. We are trying to find out more details on this change and will keep you posted.

The Lenten Schedule

Sundays	6:00 PM	The Holy Hour (Chapel)
Wednesdays	10:30 AM	A Lenten Bible Study (Main Church)
	6:30 PM	A Lenten Bible Study (St. James Church)
Fridays	6:0 PM	Stations of the Cross (Main Church)

Theology Glossary

What does Agape mean? Agape is the primary Greek word for love in the New Testament. It is used in the New Testament to describe the unmerited love that God has for all humankind by sending His Son into the world as our redeemer. Agape can also be used in human terms where it would describe a love that is selfless and self-giving in nature. Both definitions accurately reflect the dual loving nature of our Lord Jesus Christ in His divine and human forms, which are manifested by his self sacrifice for us upon the cross for our redemption. Referenced from HarperCollins "Bible Dictionary" (1996)

An essay on the **discipline of fasting** is available at the **back of the Church**. Written by Elizabeth Demmon, a mother and clergy spouse, it is entitled, 'The Kitchen Table as a Platform for Change'.



Pancake Supper Volunteers, please! The Pancake Supper is fast approaching on Tuesday, February 21st with three 'sittings' at 4:00 pm – 4:45 pm – 5:30 pm (full). It will be a **combined effort of the Anglican Churches in Moncton** and everything will be held at the Brix Building (245 St. Georges Street). If you would like to come, please sign up for one of the sittings. **Free will donations** will be gladly accepted

and volunteers are needed to be greeters, pancake flippers and to assist with the clean up. A 'Volunteer Sign-up Sheet' is at the back of the Church. Thank you!