

A warm welcome to Bishop David and Debbie Edwards this morning. Please join us for a **Parish Shared meal** after the 10am Confirmation Service

I publish the Banns of marriage between Caleb Knowles of St. Stephen and Bailey Meredith of Lakeville. If any of you know cause or just impediment, why these two persons should not be joined together in holy Matrimony, ye are to declare it. This is the first time of asking.

Vestry will meet **Monday** at **7pm** in the Ladies' Parlour.

Name the New Parish Contest One of our next tasks is to begin to think and pray about a **name for the new Parish** (Each church will keep its name.) To that end, you are invited to submit your ideas! Names for the new parish may be submitted on the **offering plate or sent to the Church Office by email**. The deadline for submissions is **September 17th**. Then, a vote on the names has been planned for September 24th – and there will be a prize for whoever submits the winning name. So, please **include your name with your submission**. Let's get creative!

Tyler McKenna is back to Wycliffe this fall – if you would like to **donate** to his school expenses mark your envelope “**Tyler**”. **Money will be sent at the end of each month.**

If you or a loved one are **admitted to hospital** and would like a pastoral visit, **please call the Church Office**. Thank you!

A **Kitchen Party** is happening at **St. John the Baptist** on Saturday, **September 30th at 7pm**. Featuring Ivan & Vivian Hicks, Maple Sugar, Riversong, Gallant Family Band and Sussex Avenue Fiddlers. \$10 at the door.

Congratulations to Reg & Barb Stockall who celebrated 71 years of marriage this past week. An amazing milestone!!



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
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

Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity Confirmation Sunday September 10, 2023



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: | Kelly VanBuskirk | (506) 233-0869 |
| | Tyler McKenna | (506) 295-0772 |
| Honorary Assistant: | Rev. Dr. Dan Goodwin | |
| Deacon: | Rev. Norm Dupuis | (506) 386-1324 |

Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity – September 10, 2023

PROPERS FOR THE DAY

Introit Psalm (sung): *Behold, O God, our defender, and look upon the face of think Anointed: for one day in thy courts is better than a thousand. O how amiable are thy dwelling, thou Lord of hosts: my soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord. Glory be....*

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|------------------------|--------|
| Collect for Purity: | p. 67 |
| Collect & Epistle | p. 239 |
| Gradual Psalm: 95. 1-3 | p. 452 |
| The Holy Gospel | p. 240 |
| Homily | |
| Creed | |
| Confirmation | |

HYMNS FOR THE DAY

372 (Laudate Dominum)

783 (Invocation)

235 (St. Osmond)

381 (St. Stephen)

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

382 (St. Botolph-493); 236 (Dolomite Chant); 221 (Undes et Memores)

ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| The Apostles' Creed | p. 22 |
| The Homily | |
| The Hymn Before the Confirmation | |
| The Presentation of the Candidates | p. 556 |
| The Preface and Lessons | pp. 556-558 |
| The Renewal of Baptismal Vows | p. 559 |
| The Laying on of Hands with Prayer | pp. 560-561 |
| The Hymn of Thanksgiving and Praise | |
| The Closing Prayers and the Grace | |

Please keep Alaya, Alice, James and Leanna in your prayers as they are confirmed this morning.

9:15 A.M. MORNING PRAYER

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| Psalms 78 Part 1 | p. 426 |
| First Lesson: Joel 2. 1-14 | (Pew Bible page 736) |
| Second Lesson: Romans 14. 1 – 15. 3 | (Pew Bible page 918) |

5:00 P.M. EVENING PRAYER

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|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Psalm 78. Part 2 | p. 429 |
| First Lesson: Daniel 3 | (Pew Bible page 717) |
| Second Lesson: Matthew 6. 19 – end | (Pew Bible page 775) |

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Paul MacLeod, Edward Spinney, Blair MacDonald, Harold & Isabelle Beattie, Jean Estabrooks

*“Let us remember before God the faithful departed.”
Robert Tait, Mark Babin*

Amongst the faithful departed, Gunner Lynds Armstrong Piers who died September 12, 1943. He is buried in Italy and await 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 at **8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday – Saturday**, respectively. In addition:

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|-----------------|---|------------|
| Today | Parish Shared Meal | |
| | Community Dinner | 4:00 p.m. |
| Monday | ReConnect Church Meeting | 2:00 p.m. |
| | Vestry | 7:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday | Holy Communion (<i>Spencers</i>) | 11:00 a.m. |
| Thursday | Holy Communion | 10:00 a.m. |
| Saturday | Community Breakfast | 9:00 a.m. |

Daily Bible Readings

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

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|-----------|--------------------|---------------|
| Sunday | I Samuel 21:1-22:5 | John 6:41-end |
| Monday | I Samuel 22:6-end | John 7:1-24 |
| Tuesday | I Samuel 23 | John 7:25-end |
| Wednesday | I Samuel 24 | John 8:1-30 |
| Thursday | I Samuel 25:2-42 | John 8:31-end |
| Friday | I Samuel 26 | John 9 |
| Saturday | I Samuel 28:3-end | John 10:1-21 |

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God. Hebrews 6. 1

Rector's Corner

Dirt is dirt, right?

Dirt is dirt, especially if you're trying to get those persistent mud stains out of your very best jeans; or ground-in footprints out of your carpet. One clod of dirt is pretty much like every other clod of dirt. But if you're in the business of growing things, then dirt is a lot more than just dirt. If you've ever tried to grow plants, then you have some idea of how incredibly important good soil can be. Whether you're growing flowers to make a dark world just a little bit brighter; or you're trying to grow some of your food, you know that good plants need good soil; and among other things, good soil needs organic matter; all of those nutrients that are released when plant and animal matter decomposes and decays; when bacteria and worms and tiny microbes, creatures too small for the eye to see, break down organic matter into inorganic minerals; into the kinds of good things that the roots of plants can absorb.

We usually call that compost but in the field of soil science it's called humus, from the Latin word for earth or ground. So what may seem to you to be little more than just a handful of smelly dirt is really the 'ground' of life. As one author has said, "from that mud, from its carbon, nitrogen, hydrogen, oxygen, and assorted metals, a child can be woven." So, it is no coincidence that the word human comes from the Latin word for earth: humus. Just as, in the Book of Genesis, the name Adam, the name for the very first human, comes from adamah, the Hebrew word for soil. We are made from the earth itself: *dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return*, as God says to Adam and Eve in the Garden; and as the priest says to each of us on Ash Wednesday. The atoms that make up that fistful of soil that you can grasp in your hand are the very same atoms that God has fashioned, by his Grace, into you. We are unavoidably and indelibly the soil that God has crafted, by Grace and Love, into creatures made in his own image. We are humans; clods of mud lovingly made into the image of God.

But, as you may also know, there's another word that comes from this Latin word humus; a word which doesn't just tell us where we all come from; that doesn't just tell us that we're humans made from the soil of the earth but, rather, tells us how best to be human; how best to live in relation to each other and to the God who has fashioned us. And that's the word humility.

Humus. Human. Humility. All intricately held together,

because being really human, really living as we were made to be, authentically living the life which God has fashioned for us, starts with the recognition that we all start out as dust. Every one of us, no matter where we come from; no matter what we do, we are all drawn from the organic matter from which all life is formed.

But humility is never just a matter of knowing that we're dust so that others can treat us like dust. It's the incredible knowledge that from the basic soil of creation, from the adamah, the humus, God has raised us to be his image-bearers; to be the outward and visible sign to the whole created order of the God whose power and love calls all things into being. So, humility literally 'grounds' us; it reminds us of where we all come from; of who we are and whose we are; and it challenges us see each other as integral parts of this common humanity. No matter who we are we share one common origin: that we have all been formed and shaped by God from the dust of the earth.

And humility reminds us that we are not self-made, nor are we made from the chance collision of the stars in their courses; but that we are made by a God whose love has spoken us into existence; a God who continues to shelter and nurture us; a God who even now speaks our name. That's why St. Paul warns us in this week's Epistle against the dangers of what he calls vain glory. The Greek word is *κενόδοξος*, which means, literally, 'empty glory'; the vanity that imagines that we are creatures of our own making and redeeming. And that's why the Samaritan is the one in this week's Gospel who returns to give thanks; the only one who comes back. Because, unlike the others, he is the foreigner; the outsider; the stranger; the one who cannot take the grace of healing for granted. There is for him no sense of entitlement; no sense that he is only getting what is rightly his. He knew who he was. And because he was an outsider, he knew that this healing was a gift. And he returns to give thanks.

So for us gratitude is the first step towards becoming who we were made to be; the first step on the path to wholeness and health. Gratitude is the place where the things that divide us are broken down; where pride and resentment are turned into the good soil of humility and patience; where vengeance is turned into forgiveness; where fear is turned into trust. Gratitude reminds us that whatever happiness we may ever have is never just a matter of our own making. We are the beneficiaries of more undeserved moments of grace and compassion and generosity than we can even begin to count; as long as we remember every day that we are all clods of dirt fashioned by love into the image and likeness of God.