

Rejoice!

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. Matthew 4:1

What shall we then say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? Romans 8:31-21

Dear Friends,

Father Andrew, SDC, an Anglican monk whose writings I greatly admire, wrote this poem, titled *The Flood Tide*:

I saw a ship that lay upon its side,
Touched by the tender rose of the setting sun:
Helpless it lay, as though it might have died,
As though indeed its travelling days were done.
But in the morning, lifted by the tide,
With all sail set it went forth like a bride!
Lord, may Thy grace uplift my stranded soul,
And on its flood-tide bear me to my goal!

The image used by Father Andrew is one that we who live on the shores of Passamaquoddy Bay can certainly identify with; our tides are said to be the highest in the world. He would have us think of the ebb and flow of the tide as a parable illustrating the ups and downs of our spiritual lives. "The perpetual miracle, certain as the rising of the tide, is the wonder of the love of God. When the grace of the Gospel comes to a soul, life rises to its true level. The soul is set free. Faith's sail is shaken out to the wind of the Spirit, and the great adventure of vocation sets the course and gives direction to the voyage."

The season of Lent is an annual excursion within the greater voyage of our spiritual lives. It is a time to check our moral compasses, to ensure the seaworthiness of our crafts, to

renew our provisions and to trim our sails to ensure that, our souls lifted by the Spirit to their true level, we are ready to meet the storms of life that come to us all.

In the eighth chapter of his Epistle to the Romans, Saint Paul identifies the source of all our spiritual struggles as the rivalry between the law of sin, which leads to death, and the life of the Spirit, which gives life. Jesus entered into that conflict, on our behalf, when he was tempted in the wilderness. It was a conflict he engaged in throughout his three years of public ministry, culminating in his victory over sin and death when he rose from the dead.

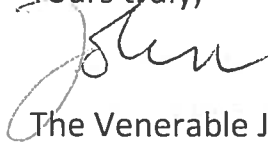
Jesus' victory is our victory; no matter how impossible a situation may seem, the power of the Resurrection can lift the 'stranded soul.' The Lenten disciplines we undertake—gathered under the three headings of prayer, almsgiving and fasting—are an entering into the spirit of Jesus' struggle, an emptying of self for the sake of others. Suffering is meaningless only if we allow it to be. The answer to Jesus' pleading question from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" is, 'That the souls captivated by sin and death might be freed.' Jesus died for you and for me, and on the flood tide of the grace his death and resurrection released we are borne to our goal, eternal life.

That is the joyful message of Easter, the Good News of salvation. That message should give us renewed hope, fresh courage, to face the challenges of life. May the words of another poem, one we often sing as hymn, be your theme now and ever:

I feel the winds of God today;
Today my sail I lift,
Though heavy oft with drenching spray,
And torn with many a rift;
If hope but light the water's crest,
And Christ my bark will use,
I'll seek the seas at his behest,
And brave another cruise.

With Ellen and the entire rectory family, I wish you a blessed Lent and Easter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Matheson".

The Venerable John Matheson,
Rector.

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST. ANDREWS

All Saints Church, St. Andrews; St. John the Baptist Chapel of Ease, Chamcook

LENT & EASTER 2018

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on **Tuesday, February 13**, with continuous service from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Besides pancakes, the menu will include baked beans, sausages, ginger bread with whipped cream, coffee, tea and juice. Admission is by donation, so be sure to attend and bring your friends. Many thanks to Cathy Smith who is organizing this year's supper.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the date depending on the date of Easter. This year it is **Wednesday, February 14**, (which means we will have an early Easter). A Service of Holy Communion, with Imposition of Ashes, will be held at 10:00 am in All Saints Church.

THE PARISH CORPORATION FOR 2018

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on **Sunday, January 21**. In addition to the reception of reports from various committee and groups, financial reports and the approval of the 2018 budget, a new Parish Corporation (Vestry) was elected. The following are our parish officers for this year: Both Wardens: Jean Stinson & Tony Bastow. Chapel Warden: Jack Bertke. Members of Vestry: Linda Walsh, Lionel Hayter, Piper Scalabrin, Theresa Smith, Esmá Taylor, Don Oxner, Steve Braithwaite, Elena Thompson and Bob Wallace. Those elected as Synod Delegates: Jeannie Stinson, Tony Bastow and Lionel Hayter. Alternates: Julie Haynes, Mac Haynes and Don Oxner. The Parish Corporation is not complete until a Vestry Clerk and Treasurer are elected. This will be done at the next Vestry meeting, to be held on **Tuesday, February 20**, beginning at 7:00 pm. Peter Mitchell has agreed to let his name stand for reelection as Treasurer and Norma Stewart as Vestry Clerk.

Many thanks, on behalf of all parishioners, to David Crowther and Rod Sanders whose three-year terms on Vestry have ended. I am sure they will continue to serve the Parish in other ways. Committees of Vestry will soon be renewed, so if you would like to serve on one, please let me know. A full list of committees will soon be published in the Sunday bulletin.

STUDY GROUP ON SAINT AUGUSTINE'S *ENCHIRIDION*

Byron Munro, a lay minister from St. George, has been leading a study on one of the writings of fourth century bishop and theologian Augustine of Hippo. The group meets on Fridays at 12:00 noon in the Parish Hall and has been reading and discussing one of Augustine's shorter and more accessible works, *Enchiridion: On Faith and Charity*. New members are always welcome; copies of the text are available in the parish office.

BIBLE STUDY

A second study group has been meeting on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm in the Parish Hall. The Rev'd Jim Crighton has been leading a discussion of St. John's Gospel. This past Tuesday twelve people from d three different local churches gathered to continue the consideration of chapter 1 of the Gospel. New members are always welcome to this study as well. Please note that the study will be held in the church on **Tuesday, February 13**, as the hall will be busy with preparations for the pancake supper.

PARISH CRAFT GUILD

The All Saints Craft Guild continues to meet on Thursday evenings at 7pm at All Saints Parish Hall. The participants enjoy sharing ideas and crafting skills, meeting new people and working on personal or community projects. Many thanks to those who continue to knit squares and sew them together for the ongoing blanket project. Passamaquoddy Lodge residents and others in need will be the recipients of blankets later in the spring. The Craft Guild will be hosting mini craft classes (optional) on occasional Thursday evenings. The next class, demonstrating the basics of traditional rug hooking, will be on **Thursday, February 15**. Pre-registration is needed for these courses to ensure enough supplies. For more information contact Nancy at 467-5257 or carsonnlee@gmail.com.

LENTEN LUNCHESES

A time honoured tradition is being revived in our community this Lent. Each week in Lent, beginning **Wednesday, February 21**, 12:00 noon, a simple lunch will be served in our Parish Hall accompanied by a short talk on a Lenten theme. Teams of three or more people are needed to prepare and serve the lunch; if you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office by phone at 529-8662 or by email at allsaints@nb.aibn.com. Two teams have already been formed, including one to serve the first lunch, so now we need only four more! The meals will be provided free of charge, but donations to offset the cost of food will be gratefully accepted. Any funds left over will be given to the Saint Andrews Open Door Program which, among other activities, operates the Saint Andrews Food Bank.

PARISH HALL REPAIR & REDECORATION

Mark Chase is heading up a group of volunteers to repair and redecorate the Parish Hall. The carpet has been removed from the stage; it will be refinished and enhanced with provision for spot lighting and a retractable screen for movie nights and other presentations. New overhead lighting will be added if enough funds are raised. Much of the work, including painting the walls, will be done by volunteers. Crack filling and painting the ceiling will be done by professionals. Donations toward materials and the cost of hiring tradesmen have already begun to come in, but additional donations are needed and welcome. Simply put your donation on the collection plate when you come to church with its purpose clearly marked or drop it off at the Parish Office.

PARISH MOVIE NIGHT

The Youth and Family Ministry Committee will host the second Family Movie Night of the year on **Saturday, February 24**. Showtime is 6:30 pm. The movie we will watch is *Chariots of Fire*, the 1981 film based on the true story of two athletes who competed in the 1924 Olympics, Eric Liddell, a devout Scottish Christian who runs for the glory of God and Harold Abrahams, an English Jew who runs to overcome prejudice. This event is for parishioners and friends of all ages; of course snacks will be served.

PARISH SLIDING PARTY

On **Sunday, February 25**, a Parish Sliding Party will be held at 580 Mowatt Drive, (just across from Tara Manor, the lane with stone pillars). We will slide in the field below the white house, the second house on the lane at the very end of the driveway; Miss Mowatt would be pleased). There will be no Sunday School that day and everyone of all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult; please dress warmly and it is recommended that sliders wear helmets. Bring your sleds, crazy carpets, discs, toboggans, etc. If you do not have any of the above, there's sure to be extras. Hot beverages will be served and a washroom is available. Those who think they are not brave enough to take the plunge are welcome to bring lawn chairs and watch. The fun begins at 2:00 pm.

COLOUR OUR WORLD

The Youth and Family Ministry Committee have initiated an intergenerational project as a Pre-Lent and Lenten activity. Illustrative posters featuring the Psalms (with the necessary equipment) will appear in the hall or the church over the next several weeks. Feel free to pick up a marker and colour, during a meeting, Bible study, lunch, etc.!! The completed posters will be displayed in the Hall or Church and will be used in the Children's ministry.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2018

This year's World Day of Prayer will be held on **Friday, March 2**, 2:00 pm, at Wesley United Church, 77 Williams Street. Everyone is welcome. The service has been written by the women of Suriname, South America, with a theme of the goodness of creation and our responsibility to care for the world God has given us. The speaker will be Madelyn Huntjens, from Little Ridge. Refreshments will be served.

"IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE" A CREATIVITY RETREAT

Canon Ed and Ruth Coleman will be visiting with us during Lent. On **Saturday, March 10**, they will lead "In My Father's House," a creativity retreat. Ed and Ruth are skilled artists and spiritual directors; some of you will remember the other successful retreats they have led in our parish. This retreat will be held in the Parish Hall, beginning at 9:30 am and ending by 3:30 pm. There will be a time of meditation and contemplation to begin the morning and afternoon sessions, with morning and afternoon painting sessions. Lunch will be provided and the day will end with a reflection on our shared experience. *Registration will be limited to twenty participants* and a donation of \$20 is suggested to help defray the cost of art supplies and lunch. Inability to make this donation should not, however, prevent anyone from coming. To register, please sign the sheet at the back of the church or call the Parish Office at 529-8662.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday in Lent is known as 'Mothering' or 'Refreshment' Sunday, names derived from the Epistle and Holy Gospel for that day. It has been our practice to follow the ancient tradition of enjoying Simnel Cake on that day. Each year, this tasty treat is made by a different parish family. If you would like to make the cake this year, for **Sunday, March 11**, please contact the parish office and we will make sure you get the recipe! The Rev'd Canon Ed Coleman will be our guest preacher on this year's Mothering Sunday.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EXTRAVAGANZA

Once again this year, Nancy Carson and friends are organizing a "St. Patrick's Day Extravaganza" to be held on **Friday, March 16**. If last year's event is any indication, it will be a fun-filled evening of music, auctions, delicious desserts and lots of laughs. Admission is 'by donation,' with proceeds going to the Saint Andrews Open Door Program, youth ministry initiatives and Parish Hall renovations. Food donations for the food bank will also be welcome. Doors will open at around 6:00 pm with the show starting at 6:30 pm.

PALM CROSS MAKING PARTY

Once again this year, the Youth and Family Ministry Committee will host a Palm Making Party *for all ages* on **Saturday, March 24**. There will be instructions for all who would like to make palm crosses and, of course, the usual wonderful snacks and great conversation. Everyone is welcome; the party begins at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

The following services for Holy Week and Easter will be held in All Saints Church:

Palm Sunday (March 25)	Holy Communion	8:00 & 11:00 am
Monday in Holy Week (March 26)	Holy Communion	10:00 am
Tuesday in Holy Week (March 27)	Holy Communion	10:00 am
Wednesday in Holy Week (March 28)	Holy Communion	10:00 am
Maundy Thursday (March 29)	Holy Communion	7:00 pm
Good Friday (March 30)	Community Good Friday Service	11:00 am
	Children's Service	4:00 pm
Easter Day (April 1)	Holy Communion	8:00 am & 11:00 am

READING FOR LENT & EASTER

Books from our Parish Library and the rector's personal library are available at the back of All Saints Church for Lenten reading. Please sign the sheet provided and return the book(s) when you have finished.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS AT EASTER

If you would like to make a donation toward Easter flowers, or make a donation for any other memorial, please sign one of the sheets at the back of the church. All memorials will be noted in the Easter bulletins.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS IN LENT & AT EASTER

This mailing includes two envelopes, one for a special Lenten offering and another for Easter. The Lenten envelope replaces the coin cards formerly distributed, because the cards are expensive to mail and have been used less and less over the years. If you would like a coin card, however, they are available at the back of the church or call the parish office and one will be delivered to you. Thank you for your generous support of the work and mission of our parish in our community and around the world.

THE NEW READERS' SCHEDULE

Many thanks to Linda Walsh for drawing up a Readers' Schedule for All Saints Church. Those who read the weekly Scripture lessons and lead the Intercessions now know ahead of time when they are 'on duty.' If you are not on the schedule, but would like to begin reading at our Sunday Services, please speak to Linda or me or contact the Parish Office. New readers are always welcome.

WEEKDAY SERVICES AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

The "Daily Offices" are said regularly in All Saints Church, and everyone is welcome to attend. Morning Prayer is held more regularly than Evening Prayer. Parish and hospital visiting and other parish business often prevents me from holding Evening Prayer. By now you all know that volunteers to help lead the offices are always welcome, particularly for the afternoon service. If you would like to help, I would be happy to hear from you.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the church at 10:00 am each Wednesday. The Sermon at these services has, over the past few years, morphed into more of a discussion among those present than a conventional homily. Please feel free to join the 'faithful few' (4-8) who gather regularly for what has become a time of great blessing for us.