**Sunday Services**

You **MUST** register each week for Sunday Services. You may do so by emailing [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) or by calling the parish office @ 834-2336, if there is no answer, please leave a message. The maximum number of people that can attend a service is 100, which includes the clergy, choir and volunteers. We suggest that you register as early as possible. **Masks must be worn by all people at all times and may only be removed to receive the Eucharist.**

**Parish Office Summer Employment and Cemetery Summer Employment**

Any students that would be interested in working in the Parish Office during July and August are asked to submit their resumes marked **“Parish Office Summer Employment”** (Federal) or **“Cemetery Office Summer Employment** “ (Provincial) to the Office or by emailing [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) *Any positions available are subject to the approval of applications made by the parish to the Student Programs 2021*. **Applications for the positions** **must be submitted by April 30, 2021.**

#### Sunday Bulletins

If you would like to give the bulletin in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving of an event in your life, please call the parish office (834-2336) to book a date. **Dates available are: June 13th, September 5th, 12th & 19th, November 14th, & 21st.**

***Collect***

O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Prayer over the Gifts***

God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd.

**Amen.**

***Prayer after Communion***

God of steadfast love, watch over the Church redeemed by the blood of your Son. May we who share in these holy mysteries come safely to your eternal kingdom, where there is one flock and one shepherd. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen.**

**Readings**

1st Reading: *Acts 4: 5-12*

Psalm: 23 *Refrain:* **The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

Second Reading: *1 John 3.11-18*

Holy Gospel: *John 10:11-18*

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John the Evangelist**

Conception Bay South, Newfoundland

April 25, 2021

[www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com](http://www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com/)

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Twitter: @StJohnEvang

Office email: [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)

Office phone number: (709) 834-2336

Priest-in-Charge Email: rector@nfld.net

Cell: (709) 325-2366

****

**The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God**

**and in Loving Memory of:**

**Our Fathers, Ronald Fowler and Ferdinard Eaerle**

**By**

**Kelvin & Marg Fowler & Family**

**Our Parish Mission Statement We believe in nurturing a community of faith dedicated to inclusion, support and sharing the story of God's love with all people regardless of the stage of their spiritual journey**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you on this fourth Sunday of Easter and only one week before my “retirement” from full time ministry. I don’t think the word retirement is to be found anywhere in the Bible. When God calls people to serve it is for life, regardless of the capacity in which one is called. I’ll come back to this thought momentarily.

In May of 2019, I was tasked with the work of Mission Archdeacon for the Diocese, and commissioned to oversee the implementation of the Report of the Commission on Parish Renewal and Viability. Less than a year into that position we were hit with the Pandemic and everything started to shut down. By the Summer of 2020 most of my work was put on the back-burner since much of it involved working upfront and in person with vestries and parish councils. But God is good and the Bishop assigned me to be your priest until the end of April, 2021.

Truthfully, I had hoped that during these four months with you that I would have gotten to known some of you a little better. I was looking forward to meeting with some of the parish groups, to follow through on “Confirmation” and have an Annual General Meeting. I had hoped to plant a few seeds, i.e., to get you thinking about mission and congregational development, and to explore some possibilities. I had planned on showing you a couple of presentations during the AGM and to generate some discussions. But again, all this fell through the cracks when we were hit with the second wave of Covid-19 in mid-February. Regardless of the plans we make, even when they don’t work out, we still have to trust God in the journey.

And I guess that brings be back to my decision to retire at the end of this month. I have served God all my life both as a lay person and in an ordained capacity. The interesting thing about this journey is that every time I think I have it all figured out that I know what God expects from me, God “throws a wrench in the works.” So, while I may say that I’m retiring from ministry as a priest, nothing surprises me anymore. I’m sure that after a well-deserved break from “full-time” ministry, God willing, I’ll be filling in somewhere down the road on a contractual basis.

God is good and I thank the Lord for my vocation and for the opportunity to serve him. It’s been a wonderful journey to say the least. And many thanks to all of you and for this limited but fruitful time to serve as your priest.

Blessings,

Archdeacon Greg+

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Parish of Gambo** **Parish of Gander**

Rector - The Rev. Hannah Dicks Rector - The Rev. James Beaton

Deacon – The Rev. Diane Sacrey

**Satellite Ministry**

Corner Brook Clergy – Holy Trinity - Gallants

**The Sick**

Michael, Salem, Paul, Michael C, Randy S, Eleanor M., Fred T., Violet B.

**\*\*\*\***

**Thank you and Happy Retirement!**

The Parish would like to thank Archdeacon Greg Mercer for his time here with us and wish him all the best in his Retirement!

**“You have served the Lord with gladness - tirelessly, faithfully, and with great compassion for His flock... Now, as the day dawns on the next chapter in your life, may God continue to richly bless you, watch over you, shower you daily with joy and grant you peace always “.**

**\*\*\*\***

**On behalf of the Parish, we would like to thank Mr. Gerald White for providing us with music and song before our worship today**.

**REMINDER! ACW “No Bake Cake”**

Will be over next Sunday, May 2nd, we are asking for the support of our congregation for this event. We appreciate all donations, which can be brought to the church, (office, lock box or collection plate); given to an ACW member, or sent by

E-transfer to [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net). Please be sure to note your name and envelope number (if applicable) and mark it “No Bake Cake”. We thank you for your support! Please stay safe!