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| ***Worship Calendar***  **Wednesday, February 28th**  7:00 p.m. Compline (Reckless Prayer – Daily Devotions)  **Sunday, March 3rd, Third Sunday in Lent**  10:30 a.m. – (Purple) Family Service (AG Team 2)  followed by a Cup O’ Tea in the Parish Hall  **Wednesday, March 6th**  7:00 p.m. Compline (Reckless Prayer – Lectio Divina))  **Sunday, March 10th, Fourth Sunday in Lent**  10:30 a.m. – (Purple) Holy Eucharist (AG Team 3)  Chancel Chat with Louise Smith, Anglican Life Correspondent  **Wednesday, March 13th**  7:00 p.m., Compline (Reckless Prayer – The Jesus Prayer) |

**2024 Envelopes -** If you need a new box of envelopes for 2024, please contact the parish office by email [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) or call 709-834-2336. We also have the option of Pre-Authorized payment or e-transfer. To learn more about these options please call the Parish Office.

**A Note from the Treasurer:** Please ensure your **envelope number is on** all financial **correspondence** so that we can credit your account for income tax purposes.

**Parish Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**2024 Bulletins -** If you’d like to give a weekly bulletin to commemorate the life of a loved one or in Thanksgiving for an event in your life, please contact David in the office for the dates available.

***Service Roster:*** Sidespersons Sound Room

March 3rd Betty P. Robert D

March 10th Gail T. Andrew B.

March 17th John C. James S.,

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| Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose  Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor  Rector: The Reverend Canon Josiah “Jotie” Noel, T.S.S.F.(Third Order, Society of St. Francis)  Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox  Organists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell  Parish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Leanne Squire  Office Administrator: David Kelland |

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

**February 25, 2024**



The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God

and in Loving Memory of

Walter (Wally) Barnes,

On the 50th Anniversary of his passing,

By Daughter Cindi & Family

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

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Rector’s Cell: 709-325-2366

**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**

*“Jesus**called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?” Mark 8: 34-36*

Here, Jesus speaks of self-denial, of death and suffering, of not being ashamed to walk his way, and he speaks it to this rag-tag bunch of very ordinary people, his disciples; people just like us.

At the end of this teaching, we are not told that any of his disciples left muttering to themselves, “I had no idea that Jesus was walking in this direction; I’m out of here.” Mark does not say anything about the disciples leaving.

They keep walking with Jesus, even though he has been explicit about the difficulty of the way he is walking. They keep with Jesus, even though he has promised them a cross.

When you think about it, it is rather amazing, especially when one considers how ordinary, yet disappointing the disciples are in the Gospel of St. Mark. That Jesus would enlist people like this to walk a path like his.

Yet he does, and, they do; they follow. These ordinary people are called to walk with him, to do the same things he does, to bear the same cross that he bears.

Today, the good news for us, living here in 2024, here in Conception Bay South,

part of the St. John the Evangelist Parish family, the good news in this challenging

teaching for us is that:

**Jesus believes that you are able to bear the cross.**

*Faithful God, may we set our minds and wills to yours,*

*and take up our cross,*

*following Christ with confidence*

*for the glory you reveal in him;*

*who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,*

*one God, now and for ever. Amen. (ACC)*

**Lent is Here - The Discipline of Reckless Prayer**

The word **reckless** refers to a person or their action without thinking or caring about the consequences of an action. If we say that someone is **reckless**, we mean that they act in a way which shows that they do not care about danger or the effect their behavior will have on themselves or other people. Well indeed, you might ask **what this has to do with prayer?**

It is a good question. Many of us in our faith community pray using the prayers and forms set out in Anglican Books of Prayer, much like we do on Sunday when the community gathers. These prescribed and approved Orders of Service and Prayers keep us within a boundary and direct exactly what we say, think and believe.

**Reckless Prayer** references stepping outside these boundaries of words and form into a wilderness, an unfamiliar borderland. We seek to encounter the *“holy”* without the walls of prescribed words or actions. We seek to listen, to hear, to know, completely on our own without the filters (approved forms and words). Without the safety net of the censoring norms of the faith community we dare to bask in the presence of *‘the source of our being, the eternal word and the Holy Spirit’.*

**Our Mid-Week Lenten Observance, Wednesdays in Lent, 7:00 p.m.:**

Wednesday, February 28 – ***Reckless Prayer through Daily Devotions***

Wednesday, March 6 – ***Reckless Prayer through Lectio Divina (Reading the Bible)***

Wednesday, March 13 – ***Reckless Prayer through The Jesus Prayer***

Wednesday, March 20 – ***Reckless Prayer through Beathing***

Wednesday, March 27 – ***Reckless prayer Through Silence***

**World Day of Prayer** - The annual World Day of Prayer service is being held in our church this year on **Friday evening,** **March 1st at 7 pm**. All are welcome, male and female! The theme is “I Beg You….Bear With One Another in Love” and was written by a group of Ecumenical Christian Palestinian women.

Refreshments will be served following the service.

**Bible Study – LUKE** – The Gospel of Luke reveals a beautiful story of the good news of Jesus Christ. Join us in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m**. as we exchange ideas and insight for an hour of conversation and discernment. We can provide a Bible for you if needed.

**The Laying on of Hands** – In preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, **Sunday, May 26,** **2024**, 10:30 a.m. we plan to start Confirmation Classes in late January. Confirmation Candidates should currently be in Grade 6 or older. Please contact the Church Office to register or for more information (709-834-2336 or [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)).

We are ready, willing and able to prepare adults for Confirmation if you may be interested. Please contact Reverend Jotie for details.



**Thank you! -** The ACW sends a sincere thank you to all who supported our Shrove Tuesday Supper. A lovely evening meal enjoyed with our parish family and friends!

**We invite prayers for those who are sick -** Patricia B., Elaine M., Benjamin C., Doug T., Tammy H., Jeanette P., Wally H., Trudy T., Brad L., Ruby H.

*Almighty and immortal God, the giver of life and health: We beseech thee to hear our prayers for thy servants for whom we implore thy mercy, that by thy blessing upon them and upon those who minister to them of thy healing gifts, they may be restored, according to thy gracious will, to health of body and mind, and give thanks to thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Parish Home Visits** – The dynamic of the times still provides many issues for clergy home visit ministry. As we continue to emerge out of the pandemic and still live with it, Canon Jotie is ready, willing, and able to visit you in your home. Under the circumstances, this offer comes with the understanding that he will respond to invitations. Please call him to invite him to visit your home if you wish for conversation, prayers, or Home Communion.

**Annual Meeting –** The annual meeting for the parish will be scheduled shortly; This is reminder for all groups and organizations to prepare their reports and submit them to the office as soon as is possible.