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| ***Worship Calendar***  **Monday in Holy Week, March 25th 7:00 p.m. – Tenebrae**  **Tuesday in Holy Week, March 26th 7:00 p.m. – ACW Service**  **Wednesday in Holy Week, March 27th 7:00 p.m. – Compline** (Reckless Prayer - Silence)  **Thursday in Holy Week, March 28th 7:00 p.m**. – (White) **The Washing of Feet & The Institution of the Lord’s Supper, Stripping of the Altar**  **Good Friday, March 29th**  **10:00 a.m. – Stations of the Cross**  **12:00 Noon – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion – Watch by the Cross**  **Sunday, March 31st, Easter Day** (AG Team 1)  **7:00 a.m. Service of Light with New Fire & Holy Eucharist**  Followed by Easter Breakfast in the Parish Hall  **10:30 a.m. Procession, Renewal of Baptismal Vows & Holy Eucharist**  **Sunday, April 7th, Easter 1** (AG Team 2)  **10:30 a.m**. – (White) **Family Service** (AG Team 2)  Followed by a Cup O’ Tea in the Parish Hall |

**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 31st Dianne H. Robert D.

April 7th Leanne S. Andrew B.

April 14th Tracey 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**

**March 24, 2024**

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

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

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

Office phone number: 709 834-2336

Rector Email: [jotienoel@gmail.com](mailto:jotienoel@gmail.com)

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***

*“Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.*

*Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,*

*“Hosanna!” (Mark 11: 7-10)*

And just behind the waving branches and shouts comes an unarmed man, bouncing on the back of a donkey—not riding a strong, impressive war horse like any Roman general would ride, but riding a donkey. This, the Son of David? This, the long-awaited Messiah? We have come out to a grand parade for this? A rabbi who arrives on a shaggy donkey?

It’s an odd, ironic parade, this parade in Jerusalem. This the grand climax of the saga of Jesus? This is when he strides in to take charge of Jerusalem and to save Israel from its Roman oppressors?

I tell you this parade was a jolt to popular expectations for lordship, for salvation, and for

liberation. And this parade is still a jolt to us.

We joyously welcome God among us only to find that God comes to us not as we expected.

My question to you is: ***Will you come forward and join this parade?***

Will you walk behind Jesus as he moves down his narrow path this coming week, as we move from shouts of “Hosanna!” to a mob screaming, “Crucify him!”?

Will you lay aside your preconceptions of salvation, deliverance, and power and take your place in this parade?

Welcome to Holy Week. Come, let us join Jesus’ parade wherever he takes us this week.

***Come, join the parade!*** *Canon Jotie, TSSF*

*Holy and immortal God,*

*as we enter into this holy week*

*turn our hearts to Jerusalem,*

*so that, united with Christ and all the faithful,*

*we may enter the city not made with hands,*

*your promised realm of justice and peace,*

*eternal from age to age. Amen.*

**The Parish Office is now accepting Easter Memorials**

****The **deadline** for Memorials will be **Tuesday, March 26th.** You may drop off your memorials in the drop box located outside the parish office entrance. You can also email the parish office at [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) If you are sending an e-transfer please put the name(s) of the person(s) to be remembered in the message section of your transfer.

**ACW Lenten Project:**

During the month of March, the ACW will be collecting Personal Hygiene Products for both men and women and/or boxes of tea bags and jars of Instant Coffee for the Gathering Place.  There will be a container at the back of the church or items can be given to any ACW member.  We are grateful for any help from our congregation!

**Bible Study – LUKE** – Bible Study, resumes on Wednesday, **April 10, 10:30 a.m**. Join us as we continue to study the Gospel of Luke references for Sunday worship. If you do not have a Bible, we can provide one for you, as well as a large print copy of the lesson for the study.

**Life in the Eucharist** is a program whereby young children are prepared to participate more fully in the Eucharist where they receive Communion before Confirmation. This program is designed for young families. In fact, it recognizes that the parents are the key people in nurturing children in the faith. After completing this program, the young people come and make their first Communion with the rest of the congregation and continue to do so for the rest of their lives. If you are interested, or know of some family who might be, please contact Canon Jotie.

**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.

**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., Kelly R.

**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 by **Thursday, April 4th**.

***Worship Calendar***

***Holy Week - Easter***

**Monday in Holy Week, March 25, 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae**

The word ‘Tenebrae’ is a Latin word meaning ‘Shadows’. This service is designed so that each worshipper will be invited to re-examine their own spiritual life. As they become mindful of those followers of Jesus who fell away and of those who are antagonistic and cruel to Jesus, they may reflect upon their own sinfulness.

**Tuesday in Holy Week, March 26, 7:00 p.m. ACW Service**

All are welcome as St. John the Evangelist ACW plan and officiate at this service.

**Wednesday in Holy Week, March 27, 7:00 p.m. Compline (Reckless Prayer – Silence)**

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’.*

**Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m. (White) The Washing of Feet, The Institution of the Lord’s Supper & The Stripping of the Altar**

This service will focus on Jesus’ call at the Last Supper to servant ministry. We will recall the admonition that whenever we eat and drink, we do it in remembrance of Jesus. In preparation to celebrate the Story of the Lord’s Passion, we remove all distractions from the Sanctuary and Chancel for the stark reality of crucifixion and death.

**Good Friday, March 29**

**10:00 a.m. The Stations of the Cross**

The Stations of the Cross have formed part of Christian devotion at Passiontide for

many centuries because they enable us to engage actively with the path of suffering walked by Jesus. They originated when early Christians visited Jerusalem and wanted to follow literally in the footsteps of Jesus, tracing the path from Pilate’s house to

Calvary. They would pause for prayer and devotion at various points. Eventually those pilgrims brought the practice back to their home countries and ever since then Christians of differing traditions have used this form of devotion.

In the late fourteenth century the Franciscans were given the responsibility for the holy places of Jerusalem, and they erected tableaux to aid the devotion of the visitors. These kinds of images are now commonplace inside churches, and occasionally outside them.

The number of stations has varied immensely through the centuries from as few as five to as many as thirty-six, but the traditional number is now fourteen.

**12:00 (Noon) The Celebration of the Lord’s Passion - Watch by the Cross**

The Story of Jesus’ arrest, trial, suffering and crucifixion. We begin in Sorrow, listen to the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, Reflect on what we heard, offer a Solemn Intercession and a veneration of the Cross.

**Sunday, March 31, Easter Day,**

**7:00 a.m. Service of Light with New Fire & Holy Eucharist (Followed by Easter**

**Breakfast in the Hall)**

We break the Great Vigil of Easter into an unfolding of time. We begin with the Service of Light with a new Fire to break the darkness to begin the celebration of the Resurrection on Easter morn! After the Eucharist we gather for a breakfast meal together, yes there are eggs, maybe even chocolate!!!)

**10:30 a.m. Procession, Renewal of Baptismal Vows & Holy Eucharist**

We continue the Great Vigil of Easter with a Procession, welcome our Ukulele Family Ministry’s offering of music, Process with the Symbols of the Resurrection. We make opportunity to Renew our Baptismal Vows, a median through which we intentionally connect belief and action with the universal church, and celebrate with a Eucharist.

**Sunday, April 7, Easter 1, 10:30 a.m. (White) Family Service followed by a Cup O’ Tea in the Parish Hall**

It is becoming our tradition on the first Sunday of the month to focus on family life who pray and eat together.