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| ***Worship Calendar*****Sunday, April 14th, Third Sunday of Easter** 10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist: **Sunday, April 21st, Fourth Sunday of Easter**10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist**Sunday, April 28th, Fifth Sunday of Easter**10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist**Sunday, May 5th, Sixth Sunday of Easter**10:30 a.m. – Family Service  |

**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.**

**Sunday 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

April 14th Tracey C. James S.

April 21st Jo-Anne R. Philip G.

April 28th Audrey M. Robert D.

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| Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel RoseDiocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene TaylorRector: The Reverend Canon Josiah “Jotie” Noel, T.S.S.F.(Third Order, Society of St. Francis)Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa CoxOrganists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-LedwellParish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Leanne SquireOffice Administrator: David Kelland |

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

**April 7, 2024**

Second Sunday of Easter



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

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Office email: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Office phone number: (709) 834-2336

Rector Email: 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***

*When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”* (John 20:19)

Everything depends upon Easter. If God really did raise Jesus from death to life, then we also might reasonably expect new life, newness. Easter was an explosion that not only changed people, but also, changed the world.

While Christmas is sometimes reduced and packaged and sentimentalized for children, then Easter is a distinctly grown-up affair. Christmas tends to specialize in the wonder, the innocence, the joy, and the spontaneity of children. Easter deals with the grown-ups and thoroughly adult concerns – the sadness of life, the unfairness, the injustice, the pain, and the deep tragedy.

In the middle of these big, desperate, adult concerns, we find Jesus, battle flag in hand, rising triumphant from the grave, defeating the final enemy, victorious. Easter is about a war, not a party. Easter is political – God Almighty going head-to-head with the powers-that-be. I think this helps explain why at the first Easter one of the first things that the risen Christ said to his astonished followers, who were full of fear, when he came back to them was, “Peace be with you!”

In a way it is a curious thing for him to say to them. Rarely do I say, upon entering someone’s house, “Peace be unto you or Fear not!” It has been a long time since I have begun a conversation with someone, say at the beginning of a pastoral counseling session, with “Fear not!”

The predominant initial emotion, at the resurrection was not joy, but fear. The risen Christ did not say to them, “Merry Easter!” He said, “peace be unto you!” Not, “God bless us everyone,” but “I’m back and I’ve got work for you to do, I’ve got places for you to go and things for you to say before the whole world.” *Canon Jotie, T.S.S.F.*

*Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:*

*open the doors of our hearts,*

*so that we may seek the good of others*

 *and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,*

*to the praise of God, the Source of all life. Amen. (ACC)*

 **Donations have been given to the Glory of God**

**in Memory of: Remembered by:**

Mildred (Myrtis) & Evan Stone Philip & Flora Stone

Ralph & Lorraine Stone

**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., Phyllis H., Cynthia G.

*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.*

**New Flag –** We are grateful for the generous donation of new Anglican Church Flag; given by Cliff and Effie Fowler in memory of their parents, Charles & Lydia Fowler and Fred & Annie Collins and brothers, George and Scott and sister, Violet.

**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 possible.

**Volunteers -** As we get closer to our annual meeting, we need to identify people to replace those going off vestry. We will need 2 people for vestry and we will need a People’s Warden. If you have the time and willingness to fill either of these positions, please tell Rex Hillier or any other member of vestry.

**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 April. 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).

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

**The Diocesan Anglican Men's Association** (**D.A.M.A.)** will hold its spring meeting on **Sunday, May 5 at St. Peter's Church, Upper Gullies.** The meeting will begin with **supper at 5p.m., followed by a Meeting at 6 p.m. and then a Church Service at 7p.m.** The session is open to all men and Men's Service Clubs in the Diocese. One of the topics for discussion will be a new constitution as well as a time of fellowship.

Please **confirm your attendance by April 25 by email to Rev. Bill Strong at** **wstrong1450@gmail.com** to facilitate meal preparation. Hope to see you then!

***Cemetery Summer Employment -*** Any high school students (Grade X1 or X11) who may be interested in working at the Cemetery during July and August are asked to submit their resumes marked “Cemetery Summer Employment” to the Church Office. Any positions available are subject to the approval of application made by the parish to the Human Resources Student Programs 2024. **Applications for the positions** **must be submitted by May 23, 2024.**

**LASAGNA SUPPER: -** This is an early notice that the Parish Spring Lasagna Supper will be held on Saturday, May 4th. Details to follow.

If anyone wishes to make a financial donation towards this important fundraiser, it would be gratefully appreciated.

**St. John the Evangelist Vestry** – will be meeting on **Thursday, April 18th** at 7:30 p.m.