

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 29, 2017

*Arise! Shine! For your light has come;
O come let us worship!*

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalms 119 parts 3 & 4 | Isaiah 48:12-end | Ephesians 3

9:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit: Psalm 98:1-7:	<i>page 455</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect and Epistle:	<i>page 128</i>
Gradual Psalm 98:8-10:	<i>page 456</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 129</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in thy mercy; C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post-Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School: Parish Hall Time with Fr. Stockall

10:30 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♫ Processional Hymn:	97 (Dix)
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect and Epistle:	<i>page 128</i>
Gradual – Surge Illuminare:	<i>page 28</i>

The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 129</i>
♫ Gospel Acclamation (refrain only):	747 (Iris)
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
♫ Offertory Hymn:	396 (Cruger)
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in thy mercy; C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
♫ Hymn during Communion:	352 (Lasst Uns Erfruen)
Post-Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>
♫ Recessional Hymn:	92 (Forest Green 82)

*Please join us in the Parish Hall following the
10:30 Celebration for Coffee and Conversation.*

✱

From the Rector _____

A story is told of a woman in a community who was well known for her deep faith and great calm in the midst of many trials. Another woman who had never met her but had heard of her came to visit one day. "I must find out the secret of her calm, happy life," she thought to herself. As she met her she said: "So you're the woman with the great faith that I've heard so much about."

"No," came the reply. "I am not the woman with the great faith, but I am the woman with a little faith in a great God."

That story is a good way to approach the figure of Polycarp, a bishop in the 2nd century and one of the last connections between the time of the Apostles and the early development of the Church.

Polycarp was a disciples of St. John the Apostle, who ordained him as bishop of Smyrna (in what is now Turkey). His ministry took place in a time of great uncertainty: those who had known and heard the teaching of Christ had died and a great variety of interpretations of the sayings of Jesus were being taught. Having known John personally, Polycarp's role was to authenticate orthodox teachings to ensure that it was consistent with what had been received by the apostles from Christ.

But, over and above his theological role, the Church remembers Polycarp for his great courage in the face of persecution and martyrdom.

Betrayed by a member of his own household, Polycarp was arrested and brought to the local stadium to be tried by the proconsul. The Roman official brought up the matter of Polycarp's advanced age, trying to entice him to take the required oath to Caesar: to deny Christ and proclaim Caesar as Lord, offering a pinch of

incense in his honour. Accused of repudiating the local and imperial gods, and threatened with death by fire or wild beast, Polycarp refused to deny Christ and take the oath: "Eighty-six years I have been His servant, and He has done me no wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me...I am a Christian." And, with the great crowd calling for his death, Polycarp was burned at the stake.

The stories of the martyrs had a powerful effect on the early Church. The faith of those who trusted God's grace so much that they were willing to suffer for the Name of Christ said more to those outside the Church than their words ever could. Their courage in the faith of persecution and death witnessed to their deep and abiding hope: a hope that, in time, other sought to find.

And even though Christians continue to face martyrdom in our own time, to the tune of 100,000 every year, we're not likely to ever have to face the kinds of life and death decisions that our brothers and sister in Christ around the world have to. Nor are we ever to face the kind of decision that Polycarp had to face that day. But in more subtle ways we all face the daily temptation to worship the gods of our modern world: the gods of self-interest and greed; the gods of individualism and independence; the gods of resentment and vengeance and impatience.

Every time we speak in ways that divide rather than unite; every time we refuse to shape our decisions with compassion and understanding, we toss a little incense on the fire of our contemporary gods. It takes courage to choose a better way: but the example of Polycarp, and our sisters and brothers round the world this very day, will hopefully inspire us to try harder. And the knowledge that even our 'little faith' can do great things when we can trust in the grace of our 'great God' will move us to greater trust and hope.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FEBRUARY 1: THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

FEBRUARY 4: THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

FEBRUARY 5: THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

9:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

Cover art: *The Storm on the Sea of Galilee* by Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1633; stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, March 18, 1990

The Anglican Church of Canada
The Diocese of Fredericton

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY (YORK)



How often we look upon God as our last and feeblest resource! We go to Him because we have nowhere else to go. And then we learn that the storms of life have driven us, not upon the rocks, but into the desired haven.

George Macdonald, *Annals of a Quiet Neighborhood*

Priest and Rector

The Revd. Canon Kevin M. Stockall, B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

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Honorary Assistant
Fr. David Mercer

Organist
James O'Neill

Pastoral Assistant
Rick Bungay

Parish Notices and Updates

Please join us next Sunday following the 10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Holy Eucharist for our monthly *Shared Meal*. Members of both congregations are warmly encouraged to gather with their sisters and brothers in Christ as we share the peace and joy which are have in Jesus Christ.

The Diocese has a full-time opening for a Personnel and Safe Church Officer. This position, located in Fredericton, will be responsible for all human resource, payroll and Safe Church administration. The full advertisement and job description can be viewed on the Diocesan website at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>. Applications can be sent to application@anglican.nb.ca. The closing date is February 15th.

The newest copy of *The Tidings*, our parish newsletter, is available in the Narthex. Pick up a copy or we can email one to you. Please speak to the Rector or Debbie Perry if you can't find one or if you'd like to receive it electronically.

St. Mary's weekly Bible Study "Faithful and True: a Look at the Women in Holy Scripture," resumes this coming *Friday at 10:00 a.m.* at the Rectory. Everyone is warmly invited to join us; and if your schedule only permits you to attend occasionally, please plan to join us when you can.

A message from our sister Parish: The Revd. Dr. Ross Hebb is offering a four week pre-Lenten Study on the four Sundays of February. Using C. S. Lewis' famous work, *The Four Loves* as a guide, he will be examining each week one of the four loves: affection, eros, friendship, and agape. All interested persons are welcome. The study will begin each week at 2:00 p.m. and run for one hour. They will meet in four different homes. On February 5th they will be at Bob & Maria Matthews (74 Riverfront Way, two streets above Hartt Island Campground on the right). Week 2 will be at Anne & Dennis Klinck's (35 Gardenvue St., off Freisen Drive in Islandview behind Valley Ridge furniture). Fr Hebb has 6 copies of *The Four Loves* for sale \$20.00 each.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish of St. Mary (York) will be held on *Sunday, February 26th*, at approximately 12:15 p.m., following our weekly Coffee & Conversation. All members of the Parish are encouraged to take part in the meeting as we review our work as a Parish in 2016 and make plans for 2017. *We will also be looking for your assistance in filling leadership roles within the Parish for the coming year. Please give very thoughtful and prayerful consideration to how God may be calling you to share your gifts and talents; and speak to the Rector if you have any questions.*

Our friends in the Parish of Marysville are challenging the people of St. Mary's and other neighbouring parishes to their 1st annual Charity Bowling Tournament to raise funds for Bishop McAllister College and Anglican Seminary in Uganda. The event will be held on *Saturday, March 25th*, at Bowl-a-Drome (301 Main Street) from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. It's hoped that St. Mary's can organise two teams of 5 or 6 bowlers each, so please speak to the Rector if

you're interested. To help with organisation, they'd like to know the names of the participants by the beginning of March.

Local historian Bob McNeil is working on a project to celebrate this year's 70th anniversary of the construction of "The Dobie." A CD project will trace the first residents. Research is underway and pictures of the houses have been taken. The next stage is to gather pictures of the people who lived on the Dobie by using old church directories. If you are a former or current resident of "The Dobie" whose picture is likely to have been included in an old directory and you do not wish to have your picture in the Dobie project, please contact Bob at 472-9757.

Are you looking for a new opportunity to share your love for Christ and His Church as we begin a new year? *St. Mary's Altar Guild* faithfully prepares the Church for our weekly celebrations and invite all the members of our Parish Family to consider whether or not they're called to share in this joyful work. Please speak to the Rector if you are interested or if you have any questions.

If you like to knit, St. Mary's Mothers' Union branch invite you to use up some of your surplus yarn and help a number of excellent projects. In addition to their recent efforts to supply *Comfort Bears* for children at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital, **they have two NEW projects.** Instructions have been posted on the Mothers' Union bulletin board in the hall for *Knitted Hats for Newborns* and a request from *Knitted Knockers of Canada* in support of women who have had mastectomy surgery. Feel free to pick up some instructions and get knitting!



For more Information, go to:

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) is the Anglican Church of Canada's agency for sustainable development, relief, refugees, and global justice. With the support of Anglican parishes across Canada, PWRDF makes financial and human resources available to support partners' initiatives and to promote knowledgeable actions of solidarity at home and around the world. PWRDF strives to be a part of the outreach ministry of every Canadian Anglican parish and an expression for all Anglicans of their baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace and to respect the dignity of every human being. For more information about the work done by PWRDF and how you might get involved go to: <http://pwrdf.org/>

Youth in Transition manages and operates Chrysalis House as a safe, stable and secure living environment for homeless youth, providing a nurturing home to help them mend their past hurts and develop essential life skills. In addition to praying for their important work, you may wish to learn more about what you can do to help. To find out more about what they do to help vulnerable youth in our region, go to: <http://yitfredericton.ca/>