

# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

July 2, 2017

*Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
O come let us worship!*

## **8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:**

✠ Psalm 26 | Joshua 3 | St. Mark 3:20-end

## **9:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

Introit: Psalm 25:16-22:	page 359
The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 221
The Old Testament Reading:	2 Chronicles 33.9-13
Psalm 26:1-3:	page 359
The Epistle:	page 221
Gradual Psalm: 7:9-12:	page 336
The Holy Gospel:	page 222
The Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in thy mercy; C: <b>Hear our prayer</b>
The Consecration:	page 82
Post-Communion Prayer:	page 85

## **9:45 a.m. – Time with Fr. Stockall**

## **10:30 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

♪♪ Processional Hymn:	403 (Hymn to Joy)
♪♪ The National Anthem	

The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 221
The Old Testament Reading:	2 Chronicles 33.9-13
Psalm 7:9-12:	page 336
The Epistle:	page 221
♪♪ Gradual Hymn:	358 (Darwall 375)
The Holy Gospel:	page 222
♪♪ Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia
The Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
♪♪ Offertory Hymn:	353 (Praise my Soul)
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy; C: <b>Hear our prayer</b>
The Consecration:	page 82
♪♪ Hymn during Communion:	222 (Rendez a Dieu)
Post-Communion Prayer:	page 85
♪♪ Recessional Hymn:	333 (Londonderry Air)

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

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## *From the Rector* \_\_\_\_\_

A fascinating, but often overlooked, Gospel story is commemorated in the Prayer Book calendar each year on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. It's the story that tells of the visit made by Mary to her cousin Elizabeth.

In one way, it's little more than a curiosity: a sudden trip made by a young woman to a not-so-young woman to confirm that each is pregnant – not the kind of earth-shaking event that usually gets recorded for posterity. We can perhaps imagine a billion or so such stories in human history: a young woman, rightly filled with a mixture of fear and excitement, seeks support from someone who has shared, or will share, something very similar.

But, of course, this story is like no other story, because, in this case, each woman has been asked by God to play a very particular role in his plan of salvation; and both women do so at incredible risk.

For Elizabeth, that risk is largely social. Luke tells us in his Gospel that she kept the news of her pregnancy hidden for five months. Perhaps she feared what

people would say behind her back; perhaps she worried that, at her age, something might go wrong. And perhaps she dreaded the possibility that she might have to explain to her sceptical neighbours what Zechariah had told her the angel had said when he announced that she would be having a baby. Perhaps she feared that people would treat her like a fool for believing such a tale.

For Mary, the risk was greater yet. Unlike Elizabeth, she was not yet married, so news of her pregnancy risked her place in her family and community; maybe even her life if she was thought to have sinned in conceiving the child. Perhaps you've faced a moment of deep fear and terror when you had more than you thought you were up to. If so, maybe you can begin to imagine the challenges that Mary faced when she heard what the angel had to tell her. Perhaps you can imagine the growing sense of panic that she must have wrestled with.

*"Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief!"*

We hear these very honest words in St. Mark's Gospel from the lips of a very desperate father who has brought his son to Jesus to be healed. Even now, two thousand years later, we can hear the fear and panic that lie behind these words: fear and panic that he has wrestled with for some time. We hear the love that he has for his son; and his deep concern that, if his son is not healed, he may lose him forever. But we also hear the father's genuine honesty; as he says, his *belief* and his *unbelief*; his desire to believe that God can make all things well, but his equally genuine fear that he may not.

We live in a world filled with fear. We cope with love well-placed and misplaced; lost and found. We wrestle with powers that seem entirely beyond our control. And, at times, we may wonder whether or not God either cares or can do anything to help if he does care.

If we're being honest, we'll likely have to admit that, at times, our lives are a mixture of belief and unbelief; that we live with hope but sometimes that hope is diminished when things mount up. And, if that ever is the case, it's also likely that we struggle with a sense of guilt when we do. But in these moments of belief and unbelief I think that we can draw some comfort from the experience of Mary and her visit to her cousin Elizabeth.

Even as she had the faith and courage to accept the will of God for her life, and the role that God was calling her to fulfill, Mary needed to have her faith reassured; she needed to know that what the angel said about her was true by confirming that what the angel said about her cousin was also true. Hence her quick trip to Elizabeth, where she was able to hear and see that confirmation.

God's not afraid of our struggles for reassurance and hope: in fact, I think that he's more than willing to offer those reassurances to us, just as he did with Mary. For us the only danger in these moments of belief and unbelief come when we allow our fears to close our eyes to see those signs; and when we allow resentment or anger to close our hearts to his love. Whenever we do that, our doubts will lead only to even greater darkness and fear; and to a loss of hope that will crush us. But if we're willing, as Mary was willing, to take the first step in trust, then God will most assuredly honour and bless that step: if only we're willing to start out on that journey in hope.

*The Anglican Church of Canada*  
*The Diocese of Fredericton*  
**THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK**



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I can tell you for an eternal truth that troubled souls are always safe. It is the untroubled that are in danger. Trouble in itself is always a claim on love, and God is love. He must deny Himself if He does not come to help the helpless. It is the prisoners, and the blind, and the leper, and the possessed, and the hungry, and the tempest-tossed, who are His special care. Therefore if you are lost and sick and bound, you are just in the place where He can meet you.

Andrew Jukes (1815-1901)

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*Priest and Rector*

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

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Fr. David Mercer

*Organist*

James O'Neill

*Pastoral Assistant*

Rick Bungay

## Parish Notices and Updates

**HOSPITAL VISITING IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF PARISH MINISTRY** because spiritual health is a necessary part of our physical health; and the Rector is always willing to visit those in hospital at any time, day or night. Recent changes in the way in which religious affiliation is recorded when people enter the hospital system means that the Rector is significantly less likely to know when members of the Parish have been admitted. Please let him know if you or another member of the Parish (*with their consent*) is in hospital, *including, if possible, the room number*, so that the Church can minister to our whole Parish Family. *And, unless you wish not be visited while in hospital*, be sure to indicate on admission that you wish a pastoral visit. Otherwise your presence in the hospital might not be indicated on the records available in the Spiritual and Religious Care office.

**THE ST. MICHAEL'S YOUTH CONFERENCE** is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> at Camp Wildwood near Bouctouche, and application forms are now available. This is an excellent programme for young people between ages of 13 and 19, combining solid and helpful Christian Education, worship, recreation and fellowship. If you know of someone who would benefit from this amazing programme, please to Janice Stockall or the Rector.

**NEXT SUNDAY JULY 9<sup>th</sup>, OUR DIOCESAN CHOIR SCHOOL** will celebrate sixty consecutive years of promoting Church musicianship with Choral Evensong at 3:30 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton. They invite everyone to this festive anniversary.



### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**JULY 5: OCTAVE OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL**, Apostles  
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

**JULY 6: OCTAVE OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL**, Apostles  
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, *Alleira Assisted Living*

**JULY 8: THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**  
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer  
5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

**JULY 9: THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**  
8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
9:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist  
10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

# The Octave Day of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST: CANADA DAY

July 1, 2017

*The Lord is glorious in his saints;  
O come let us worship!*

## 4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✧ Psalm 67 | Deuteronomy 8 | Romans 13:1-10

## 5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit: Psalm 46:1-8:	page 388
The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 281
The Old Testament Reading:	Joshua 24:14-25
Psalm 46:9-12:	page 388
The Epistle:	page 281
Gradual Psalm: 72:8-11:	page 418
The Holy Gospel:	page 282
The Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in thy mercy; C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	page 82
Post-Communion Prayer:	page 85