

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

IMPORTANT NOTE: Some Upcoming Sunday School Changes

We have been exploring some ways to improve how we operate our Sunday School program, and there have been a few changes:

- ❖ Our Sunday School kids **start off** Sunday mornings downstairs in the class. This will provide a bit more time for our lessons together, and will hopefully make for a smoother transition for all.
- ❖ **Children ages 3+** can be brought downstairs beginning at 9:50am.
- ❖ Parents with younger children are free to use our Nursery Room at any time, and any child is welcome to remain in the service if they would like.
- ❖ Parents are encouraged to come downstairs **during the Offertory hymn** to accompany their children back upstairs for Eucharist with the rest of the congregation.
- ❖ This change means that for most weeks, there will be no Children's Talk during the service, however...
- ❖ At least once a month, we will be planning to have our children stay with us for the entire service. On these weeks, a Children's Talk will be offered, and there will also be other resources and opportunities meant to help our children to experience and engage in the service.

Our goal in these changes is to offer both quality Christian Education at a level designed for our youngsters, **as well as** to intentionally involve them in the wider life of the parish. Both of these are needed for their spiritual growth, and for ours.

NEW - Kid's Activity Centre

Check out our new **Kid's Activity Centre** by the doors of the Church leading into the lobby. We have up-to-date pew bags, crayons and things to colour, as well as some books for reading, all for use during or after the service.

A Prayer for Families - from the Episcopal B.C.P.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who settest the solitary in families: we commend to thy continual care the homes in which thy people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech thee, every root of bitterness, the desire for vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh. Turn the hearts of the parents to the children, and the hearts of the children to the parents; and so enkindle fervent charity among us all, that we may evermore be kindly affectioned one to another; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARISH NOTES

Lenten Challenge

At our last diocesan synod, the Bishop strongly commended the book "*Surprise the World*" to be read by everyone. This punchy little book encourages parishes to be intentional in the way they live the mission to share the gospel. I would like to challenge you all to read this book during Lent and to start to think about ways that we, as a parish, can be more mission-centred. Then, after Easter, we can meet and discuss the future shape of our shared ministry at St. Paul's. Books are available at the entrances. We have just 30 copies, so perhaps you can take and read it then pass it on to a friend or neighbour or return it to the church to be offered to another parishioner.

Study Series: Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues

The seven deadly sins are those great spiritual roadblocks that inhibit the growth of our relationship with God and one another. In this study, we will learn how we can be trapped by pride, envy, anger, sloth, gluttony, avarice and lust - and more importantly, how we can counter-act these by practicing the 'seven lively virtues.' This five part weekly study series, led by Fr. Paul, continues on **Tue, Feb 27, 7:30 p.m.** It's not too late to join us.

ACW Meeting This Week

The monthly meeting of our ACW will be held on **Thu, Mar 1** at 1:30. We will be starting the planning for our dessert bridge fund raiser. All church women are welcome.

The Office of Compline Services Discontinued

The Thursday evening service of Compline that was planned for the Lenten season has been discontinued.

No Evensong Today

Evensong has recently been sung on the fourth Sunday of each month. However, due to our Annual Meeting there will be no Evensong today. Our next Evensong will be held on Palm Sunday, **Mar 25.**

Echo Submissions

Anyone interested in submitting material for the next edition of the parish Echo is invited to send it to the office by **Fri, Mar 2.**



Calling all Bowlers!

Parish teams are now being formed to compete in an Annual Bowling Tournament. The goal is to raise funds for the food banks of this area. Our neighbouring parishes have put together teams (sometimes more than one) and have challenged us to do the same. The tournament is on **Apr 21, 10 a.m. -12 p.m.** at the Kennebecasis Valley Bowling Lanes. The entry fee is \$20 per competitor. Teams can also solicit sponsors. If you are interested forming or taking part in a parish team, please speak to Fr. Paul.

A Note from the KV Food Basket

We received a hand delivered thank you note from Lee Bishop, Co-ordinator of the KV Food Basket, this week:
Approximately 125 families receive assistance from the Food Basket each month. Thank you very much for your contribution to this important community service.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Reconciliation (also known as Penance or Confession) is available by appointment and can be easily arranged by contacting Fr. Paul. For those unfamiliar with the rite, it can be found starting on page 166 of the Book of Alternative Services.

Pastoral Visitation

Anyone wanting a home visit, or wishing to discuss prayer, spirituality, or any other pastoral need, please take the initiative and contact Fr. Paul.

Hospital Visitation

It is important that if you or a loved one is admitted to the hospital and would like a visit from the hospital chaplain or your Rector, that you indicate your desire to the admitting staff of the hospital. They may not necessarily ask unless you specifically make this request. Otherwise, you will not be listed in the records that are accessible to pastoral staff. You can also let either Fr. Paul or Judy Streeter know directly if you or a loved one has been admitted and would appreciate a pastoral visit.



The Parish Prayer Chain

The Parish Prayer Chain meets on a monthly basis and is looking for new members . They welcome people to call with specific prayer requests which are handled in a confidential manner. If interested in joining this group or for additional information please call the church office or this month's contact person **Liz Reid @ 847-7642**

Parish Prayer Calendar

We're happy to present a new resource for prayer in our parish. Copies of our new Parish Prayer Calendar are available at the entrances. This calendar provides two prayer intentions for each day, encompassing groups and ministries within our parish as well as in the wider community. It is hoped that we can, in the midst of our busy lives, take time each day to add these intentions to our personal prayers. In this way, we will know that we are united in prayer with our friends and neighbours. Be sure to take a copy of the calendar for yourself and also for a parishioner who may not be able to get out to church.

"When the Lord finished speaking to Moses, he gave him the tablets of the law..."

Last Summer, someone left a tablet in St. Paul's Kitchen. It doesn't appear to be from Sinai. Could it be yours? If you lost a tablet computer last summer, do check in with the office this week.

BEYOND THE PARISH

World Day of Prayer

The annual World Day of Prayer will be held on **Fri, Mar 2** at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Catholic Church, 171 Pettingill Road. We are celebrating the people of Suriname. The guest speaker will be Sister Muriel Buckley, Sister of Charity. She works with recently arrived Syrian families. All are welcome.

Rediscovering The Art of Living and Dying

On **Sun, Mar 11** at 2:00 pm at The Cathedral of The Immaculate Conception on Waterloo Street, Sister Nuala Kenny, MD, will give a public lecture on, "Rediscovering the Art of Living and Dying as Disciples of Christ"