

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

St. Paul's Lenten Adventure - March 24

Join us in the St. Paul's Parish Hall on Saturday March 24, from 4-5:30 pm, for an inter-generational (all ages) "Lenten Adventure." Crafts, Colouring, Games, Singing, Story-time & Supper are all on the agenda as we get ready to share in the excitement of Palm Sunday, the self-giving love of Good Friday, and the joy of Easter. This event is free and open to everyone, but in order to help us prepare **please register by Thu, Mar 21** and let us know how many in your party are planning to attend.

UPDATE: Coldest Night of the Year Fundraiser



Well it certainly wasn't the coldest night in Saint John, but our fundraising team, "St. Paul's Pilgrims", had a great time raising awareness and support for Outflow Ministries and their great work by participating in the Coldest Night of the Year - Walk for Homelessness. Thanks to your help, our team reached just over half of our \$1,500 dollar goal, and even though the walk is over, you can still donate online

(<https://cnoy.org/donate>) until March 31, 2018. Many thanks again to everyone who offered their support for this very worthy cause on our own doorstep. Also, our Family & Youth Minister, Rob Montgomery, is *extending* his challenge a bit further: If our team can raise a total of \$1,800 by March 17, then his beard will be shaven in a manner chosen by our top donor.

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:

- ❖ Sunday School kids now *start off* Sunday mornings downstairs in their class.
- ❖ 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 will mean 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.



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.

P A R I S H N O T E S

"You Can Come Home Again."

Next **Sunday, Mar 11**, the New Dawn Players will be visiting with us at the 10 a.m. Eucharist. They will be presenting their version of the story of the Prodigal Son. The New Dawn Players exists as an outreach ministry incorporating the talents of persons with varying abilities. The founders of the New Dawn Players were the same people involved in founding L'arche Saint John. Though supportive of each other, they are separate entities. They are led by volunteers who provide transportation, costuming, and coaching. Last year, they performed the story of the Wedding at Cana.

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 parish friend or neighbour or return it to the church to be offered to another.

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, Mar 6, 7:30 p.m.** It's not too late to join us.

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 in forming or taking part in a parish team, please speak to Fr. Paul.

Spring Cleaning Underway This Week

You may have noticed the dumpster located beside the parish hall. There will be a major cleanup and reorganization of the downstairs this week. Along with spring cleaning we have a secondary objective to create a meeting room in the space that was once the Sunday School room and is now a storage area.

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.

Mission Within Meeting

The monthly Mission Within Meeting will be held at the church on **Wed, Mar 7** at 7:30 pm. *Please note the change from the usual Tuesday evening meeting time.*

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.

Flowers for Easter

Anyone who would like to make a donation toward the cost of Easter flowers in memory of a loved one is asked to contact the office at 847-1812. Your donation may be placed in the Sunday offering plate marked "Altar Guild - Easter Flowers" or dropped off at the office.



BEYOND THE PARISH

Kings Way Volunteers

The Kingsway Care Centre is looking for volunteers. There are so many different ways to help - assist with music, meals, gardening art... Please see brochure on the table in the lobby for more information or email Kings Way at volunteer@kwlifecare.ca

Jonathan Young Amphitheatre Fundraiser

A fundraiser for the Memorial Amphitheatre for Camp Medley in memory of Jonathan Young will be held **April 21 from 7-11pm** at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 69, 714 Wilson Street, Saint John. There will be music, comedy and lots of fun. Entertainment provided by "Gin & Tonic", "Sacks of Wet Cement" and comedian Shane Ogden. A silent and live auction will also take place. Tickets \$20 available at St Paul's Church office or at the door.

KV Memory Café Moving to a New Location

This month will see the Kennebecasis Valley Memory Café in a new location, Shannex Parkland in the Valley, still on **Mar 11**, the 2nd Sunday of the month from 2 to 4 pm. This monthly program of the Alzheimer Society focuses on socialization with an educational component. The Café includes a presentation on a different topic each month, followed by entertainment and refreshments. This program is for people of all ages, at all stages of the dementia journey. Details and directions will be made available shortly. For more information please contact Mark Harris of the Alzheimer's Society at 634-8722 or email mharris@alzheimernb.ca.