

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND ANGLICAN CHURCH

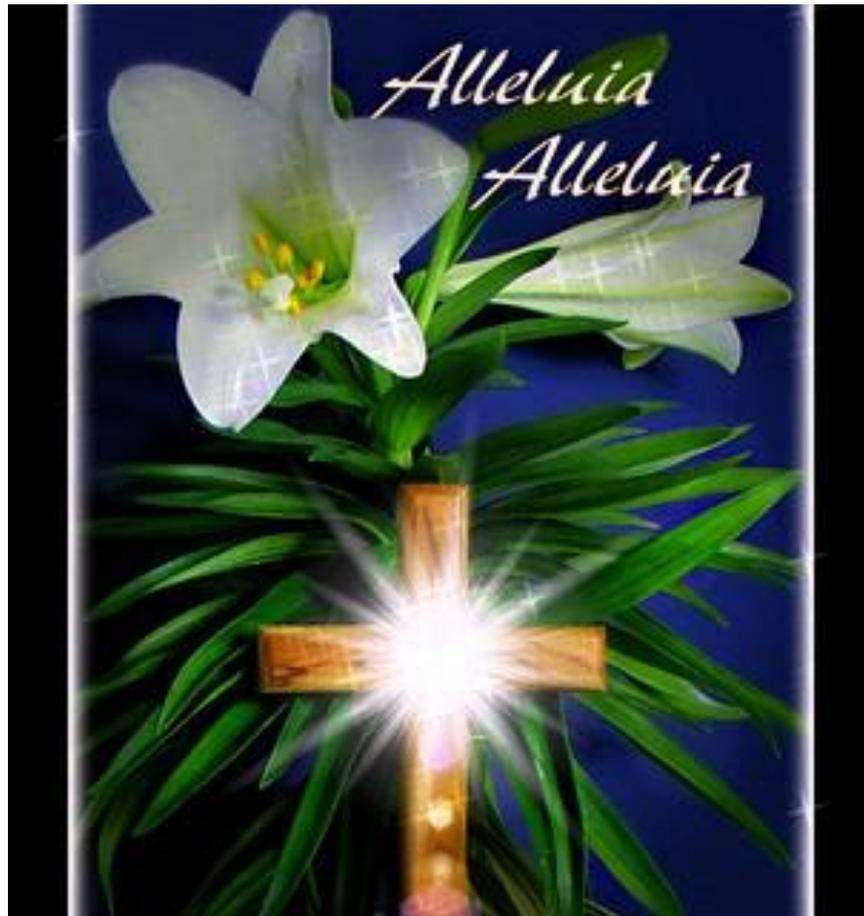
161 Hanmer St. W., Barrie, On L4N 7S1

www.stmargaretbarrie.ca

Email: stmarg@rogers.com

(705) 721-9528

Fax: (705) 721-9455



Seventh Sunday of Easter

Ascension of the Lord

May 29, 2022

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Ascension of the Lord

May 29, 2022

8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional: *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

#461 HB

THE GREETING

Pg. 185

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ is risen

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Celebrant: May his grace and peace be with you.

People: **May he fill our hearts with joy**

Children's Time Rev. Susan

Celebrant: Almighty God,

People: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GLORY TO GOD

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest,

All: **and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Kyrie *Lord, have mercy.*

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day (Prayer of the Day)

All: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So, when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

PSALM: 93

The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength. He has established the world; it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the LORD!

Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

SECOND READING: **Ephesians 1:15-23**

A READING FROM BOOK OF EPHESIANS

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: **Luke 24:44-53**

(All stand for the Gospel)

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According To Luke

People: **Glory to You Lord Jesus Christ**

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you--that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them.

While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon: Doug Court

The Ascension

The Bible is a collection of different stories, but they all have a common thread. Whether reading the Old Testament books, (stories), or the New Testament stories and letters, they all serve the purpose of showing God interacting with His people, collectively or individually.

The Gospels tell the story of Jesus, the Messiah promised by the prophets of the Old Testament. The Gospels show of God's love for us and the new relationship between us and God through Jesus his Son. Often events that we celebrate in our liturgical year consolidate our understanding of Jesus' messages given earlier in his story. For example, Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, Pentecost, and others. All fulfill earlier messages given in scripture. Today I would like to look at Jesus' words that, I believe, help us to understand the significance of his Ascension into heaven.

Jesus' Ascension, 40 days after Easter, basically, the end of the Easter season, almost passes unnoticed, since our calendar and liturgical focus near the end of the Easter Season tends to be on the celebration of Pentecost, the gift of the Holy Spirit to us. (More next week). But is the Ascension less important than other events that define our faith and provide us with an understanding of God's love for us and a relationship with Him through Jesus? I believe the Ascension is more than just an introduction for Pentecost. So, how does it fulfill a place of importance in our developing understanding and relationship with God.

I refer to St. John's Gospel, chapter 17, vs 20-26. In this passage we hear Jesus praying to His Father. He refers first to the apostles, then to us as he says, *"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us..."* Jesus goes on to say, *"The glory you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one I in them and you in me that they may become completely one..."*. Jesus prays to the Father that we become one with him, family, a new relationship between humankind and God. A love so deep Jesus was willing to suffer humiliation, torture and death to have the prayer fulfilled.

To put this in some kind of context for us, consider a situation, that you may have personally experienced. Think back to, or imagine forward, being introduced to your future life partner's parents. Having decided to commit to your loved one for life, marriage, - or whatever arrangement these days, - your partner pleads with their parents that they may accept you, not just the situation, but you personally, to allow you into their lives as a son or daughter. - to love you as your partner does. To hold you in their hearts as **their** child, and to be one with both of you as two of you are one. To be as much a member of their family as your partner is, with no distinction between you and partner. To be one with one another. Can you imagine the impact that would have on the parents?

Can you imagine the impact Jesus' prayer had on God, his Father! As Jesus was received "**home**", so too, we follow and ascend with him.

For us there is a further implication of the Ascension. In Luke, Jesus last command to the apostles, and through them to us, we are told that, *“Repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations...”* Like the poem “In Flanders Fields”, Jesus is saying, *“to you we pass the torch,”*. Jesus’ message and teaching does not stop with his Ascension, nor at the death of the apostles, nor saints of the past, nor ordained clergy today, the message has been passed to all Christians, **to us**.

Some look upon the Ascension as an ending of Christ’s ministry on earth. But is it? The Ascension marked the beginning of a new form of his ministry. We are one with Jesus and therefore, according to his prayer, **we are the presence of Christ in our world today**.

Our lives, by their actions are to be, and hopefully are, a witness to all that Jesus and the apostles have taught us through scripture. The awaited helper, the Holy Spirit, that was promised to his followers at the Ascension and granted at Pentecost, that same Holy Spirit that came upon them 2000 years ago, is our gift from God, our gift of God today. I have to be careful not to tread on the toes of next week’s speaker about Pentecost, the coming of the Spirit to humankind, but the fact is, we are empowered to continue the work of our Lord and the apostles, as commanded by Jesus himself at his Ascension. The Ascension marks the foundation set for the beginning of the Church at Pentecost and the Church’s continuation through us today.

So, what are we to do with this gift the Apostles were given, and through them we are given when baptized? Jesus said to the apostles, and to us today, *“... you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses ...”*

This is not the first time that Jesus has commanded us in the Gospels, nor the commands throughout scripture that we have the responsibility to carry Christ, through our lives, into the world.

So how do you and I witness in the world today?? Do we, as told in scripture this morning practice, *“repentance and forgiveness”*? Do we take Jesus’ teachings throughout scripture and apply them to our daily lives?

Do we *“love our neighbours as ourselves”*. Do we demonstrate our love of life, and appreciation for the life given to us? Do we celebrate the Fruits of the Spirit and visibly show our *“faith”*, by living lives of *“hope, love, peace, forgiveness, kindness, and joy”* each day? How we live our lives **is our witness** to others. Do others see us as we want to be seen by God?

We are all given gifts that allow us to carry God’s love into the world today. Collectively and individually our actions, overt or private, proclaim him in so many ways.

The Ascension marks a beginning. A command to every Christian, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to be **the presence of Christ today**.

It is after his resurrection that Jesus conquered death and at His Ascension, we, being one with him will ascend to share in his glory everlasting.

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells us, *"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also"*

The Ascension; is sometimes an overlooked event, but it is significant to our understanding of salvation.

"Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into Heaven." Glory be to God. Amen

People: Amen.

(Time allowed for Silent Reflection.)

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Pg. 189

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (#15)

(In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, "Hear us, Lord of Glory!")

Leader: That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader: That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader: That he may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader: That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader: That by his power wars and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader: That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, that they may be comforted and strengthened; let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

Leader: That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Hear us, Lord of glory!

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

Pg. 191

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

(Silence is kept.)

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE PEACE:

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn: *Sons of God*

#135 SB

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

All: Eternal God, our Saviour Jesus Christ has promised to be with us until the end of time. Accept all we offer you this day, and renew us in his transfigured life; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup on wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father according to his command,

**All: we remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and made them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

By whom, and with whom and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Celebrant: As now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF BREAD #8:

Celebrant: Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All: Now we are raised to new life.

Celebrant: We were buried in your tomb.

All: Now we share in your resurrection.

Celebrant: Live in us, that we may live in you.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD:

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION

Communion Hymns:

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

All: Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING:

Celebrant: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace.

People: Amen.

REMINDERS: Birthdays/Anniversaries/Announcements

Recessional: Here I Am Lord

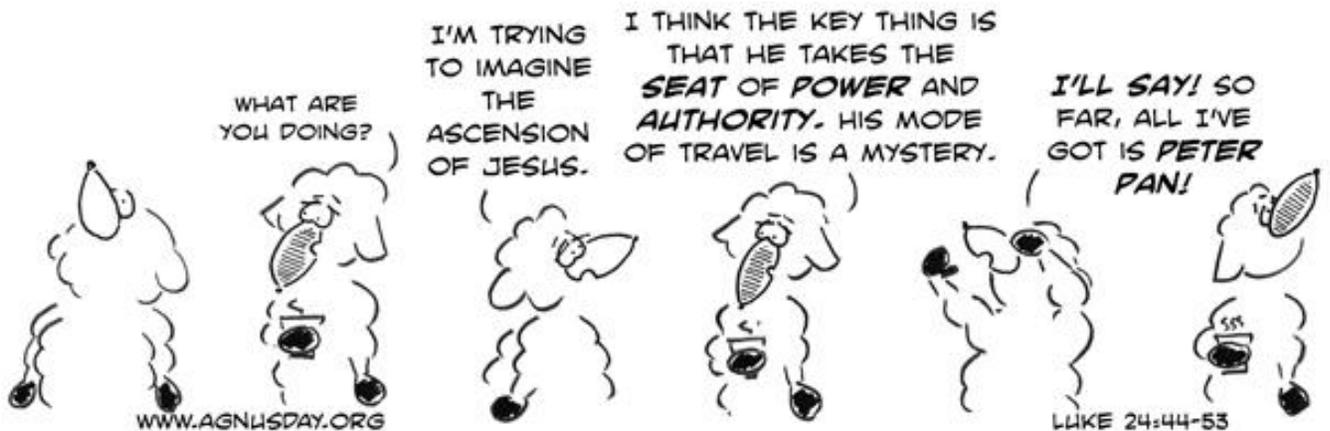
#214 SB

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

++++++



Assisting Rev. Susan:

Celebrant: Rev. Susan Snelling
Preacher: Doug Court
First Reading: Joy Packham
Psalm: Band
Second Reading: Maggie Prentice
Prayers: Lorraine Chew
Gospel: Beth Steffler
Servers: Beth Steffler
Music: Craig Snider
Audio/Visual: David Paradis
Chancel Ministry: Diane MacCormack
Sidespersons: Grant Robinson, Douglas Goodyer

This morning in our worship we remember in our prayers those of our family and friends who have immediate needs and concerns:

Brody; Lequita Adkins; Peggy Russell & Family; Pat Ellis; Rineke Semsch; Linda; Gerry Anderson's Family; Don Cuccio and family; Georgina Ferguson & Family; Daphne Hellard's Family; Anthony Stone; Judy Hill; Ida; Lynn Venkat; Shirley Hatch; Edna Goyette; Frances McInnis; Matthew Canning; Bill Canning; Ida; Cecilia Mowat; Stephanie; Alvin Maynard; Nova; Irene; Kayla; Kim Middaugh; Wilma; Sally; Ron and Karen; Braedy; Karyn; Rev. Janet Mitchell; Sharron Snider; Peter Hubbard; Sally Smith; Marilyn Lloyd.

The names below are people in need of ongoing prayers for various reasons so we ask you to please continue to pray for them and their continuing need of God's healing touch and grace:

Brenda; Gail Jones; Jim & Barb Tomkins; Donna, Ray, Nancy & Chris Wilson; Lorraine Whitwell; Steve & Jade; John; Celeste & parents; Colleen; Elizabeth Cresswell; Martin Bertelsen; Stephen Bertelsen; Theresa & Pete; Valerie; Darlene Jessem; Doreen; Derek; Sean; Rose McIntyre; Vayda; Daniel Leibovich; Barb Semsch; Rose Court; Mark Ralston; Jackson; Phil & Kathy C.; Bob Anderson; Nancy Perault; Marco Romita & Rose; Sharon Z; Adesh; Lisa Marie; Joyce Antony; Bill & Cathy Gray; Dave Lawrence; Livia & Neil Purcell; Sheila Green; Carrie Snow; Carl; Mark & Erin; Wally Raymond; Christine; Audrey Moody; Lynda Raye; Garn Mennell; Lee & Jeannie Martin; Michelle Sinclair and mom; Jane & Ron Lewis; Marilyn Foley; Bill Snow; Jen Galicinski; Arlene; Joan Gough; Eunice Merrett; Jean Wallace; Nancy Dodds; Wendy Goodyer; Do Saunders; Jefferson Jr.; June Osolin.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

The Church of South India.

In the Toronto Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:

North Peel Deanery.

Pass The Word

May 29, 2022

Daily Devotions – team of writers at Good Shepherd, St. Margaret’s and Trinity – contact Norm Savill nsavill@bell.net to be included or check the parish websites.

Sunday School

We are open again! 10:00 a.m. Sunday service.

Messy Church

Our next Messy Church will not be until after summer. Fun and fellowship for families. Crafts, story time, music and prayers, simple supper. For more information contact Rev. Susan.

Yard Sale

We are planning a church yard sale for Saturday the 4th of June. We will send out more information closer to the time, but please put this date in your calendar and hold on to things we might be able to sale. Contact Beth Steffler for more information.

Movie Nights

We are going to alternate between Friday and Thursday nights for movies as we have some who would like to come out but can’t make it on Fridays.

Friday, **June 10th**, 7:00 p.m.– Movie – “**At Bertram’s Hotel**”, starring Joan Hinkson as Miss Marple.

Thursday, **June 23rd**, 7:00 p.m. - Movie – “**The First Wives Club**”, a comedy starring Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn, Diane Keaton.

******We would really appreciate donations to the foodbank for Movie Nights.******

Book Club

Thursday, **June 16**, 1:30 p.m. at church to discuss “**Indians on Vacation**”, author- **Thomas King**.

If you would like more information, please contact Michelle: michelle_e_sinclair@yahoo.ca OR 705-737-9895. Please feel welcome to join us even if you have not read the book.

Summer Day Camp

We will be resuming our summer Day Camp. It will be held **July 25th to July 29th**. If you are interested, please contact the church office as soon as possible as space is limited and it will be a first come first served basis. Price \$15.00 per day.

Mini Meals Sale – Trinity ACW

Trinity ACW do a fundraiser for local Barrie charities by selling prepared meals. They include: **Shepherd's Pies** -Lg. \$7.00/ Sm. \$5.00; **Meat Pies** – Lg. (6") pie - \$7.00/ Sm. (4") pie - \$5.00; **Soups** - Squash, asparagus, beef barley, or bean and bacon -- \$6.00; **Potato Pancakes**, 2 per pkg. - \$1.00. Please **call Mae at 705 734 1888** to place your order and arrange for pickup. Pickup is also available after Church on Sundays but must be ordered ahead.

STEWARDSHIP FINANCIAL NEWS FLASH!!!

We are seeing good things happening, here, at St. Margaret's. The COVID restrictions are being lifted, attendance is increasing on Sundays and there is a light that is promising good things to come for the balance of the year.

Our expense budget is focused on a slow start with a gradual build to year end. We are keenly aware of the dollars needed to drive the programs, the Clergy and staff and other operating costs. We are confident with our expense numbers. Revenue is what we need!

FIRST QUARTER RESULTS – Q 1 – 2022

Did you know?	77% of annual revenue (congregation) Main methods are Envelopes & PAG Monthly budgeted - \$14,753
---------------	---

Expected PAG & Envelope	as of March 31 st 2022 \$44,257
-------------------------	---

Actual PAG & Envelope	as of March 31 st 2022 \$35,027
-----------------------	---

Revenue Shortfall	as of March 31 st 2022 (\$9,230)
-------------------	--

Your Stewardship Committee