

## Parish Update #34

Good day to all of our parishioners! Now that the rush of Holy Week and Easter Day is behind us, we take time to enjoy the peaceful joys of the great 50 days of the Easter Season. This is a slower time; a time when we can open ourselves to sense the powerful presence of the risen Jesus in our hearts and our lives. It's also a time when I have a moment to write another update for you!

I am thankful to say that we are back to a more open style of worship now in our parish. Services continue to be on Sundays at 10:00 with no registration or limits on gathering. We still recommend a mask and attention to physical distance with those around you. We continue to receive communion with a drop of wine on the wafer and there are markers on the floor of the center aisle to help us give each other space. The chair area at the back is being kept for those who would like a little more space around them. Our protocol if an exposure is reported will be to inform you by way of an email parish update of the date and time of the exposure.

In other news, **Terrace Hill Cemetery is open for the season as of May 2.** We have hired a **new cemetery manager** in the person of Robert Cullen. He began his work with us on April 16. He can be reached at the usual cemetery phone number of 902-956-1809 or by email at [cemetery@stjohnstruro.ca](mailto:cemetery@stjohnstruro.ca). This information is always accessible on our website. Thanks to the hiring team: Wardens Jason Reynolds and Elaine MacInnis and Cemetery Committee member Bob Adams.

Mark Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup> in your calendars as we are planning a **celebration of Maria Murphy's 40 years as Cemetery Manager** for Terrace Hill on that day. Join us for worship at 10:00 a.m. and come to congratulate Maria at a reception after the worship in Kaulbach Hall upstairs.

We are in the midst of our **Water of Life** campaign for 2022! It kicked off on April 24 and runs until May 15. To date, we have helped approximately 46,000 people in villages throughout Africa and Haiti to have safe drinking water and have trained people in those locations to manage their new wells and pumps. The fringe benefits of better water that is right in the village instead of miles away are: time for children to attend school and women to be gainfully employed and better care for their families, and the establishment of health care clinics and programs for training in better hygiene. Lives are being improved by Water of Life for sure! Your donation can be made in all of the usual ways – over the offering plate at church (clearly marked for Water of Life), by putting money in the jar at church, by writing a cheque to Lifewater Canada and they will send you a receipt, or by donating online using this URL: [www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/water-of-life](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/water-of-life) project. Your donation will go directly to Lifewater Canada for our project. Thank you!

As many of you know, we are engaged in a **process of discernment** for the parish with regard to future ministry needs and opportunities. The process is called **The Good News**

**Café** and is a series of workshops being led by the Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith, our Diocesan Vocations Coordinator. Frances has also been engaged with the two parishioners currently in discernment about possible ordination, Cory Lunn and Natasha Bejarano. The Good News Café process is a companion piece to their work and asks the members of the wider parish to think and pray and talk about the total ministry of the parish – both lay and ordained. The first workshop was held on March 26 and focused on our identity as baptized persons; an identity in which all of our ministry and service is rooted. The second workshop is planned for **Saturday, June 18** from 9-12 in the upper hall. This workshop will focus on the gifts present in the parish and how they can be used for service in God's world. **Please note:** You don't have to have been present at the first session to attend this one! There's still lots to be learned, to be gained and to be contributed by each of us. Contact Rev. Lori or Bev DeVoue ([revbev@mail.com](mailto:revbev@mail.com)) to sign up! **Advance notice:** The third and final session in the Good News Café is tentatively planned for **Sept. 24** so mark your calendars!

Good News! Our former AST student **Jane Magrath** will be ordained a transitional deacon by Bishop Sandra Fyfe on Tuesday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m. in All Saints Cathedral in Halifax. All are welcome to attend and join in prayer and celebration with Jane!

We continue to record Sunday's worship and post in on the parish website at [www.stjohnstruro.ca](http://www.stjohnstruro.ca) by 1:30 on Sunday afternoons. We have also recently begun livestreaming of the worship on Facebook. You can access the livestream on Sunday mornings at 10:00 at [www.facebook.com/StJohnsTruro/](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsTruro/).

Summer is fast approaching with times of slowing down and relaxing and enjoying God's great creation; the church of the outdoors. We hope that we will see you in worship in our parish church before that time – depending on your good health, comfort level with gathering and downward trending COVID case numbers! In any event, our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

May the resurrection grasp you,  
And never let you go.  
May God's word speak in you  
And never be quiet.  
May promise surround you  
And never be broken.  
And may the God of Life,  
The Spirit of hope and  
The Son of resurrection  
Ever and always be with you all.

Easter peace,

Rev. Lori