



May 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Spring has sprung, the Easter season is soon winding down and our minds turn to thoughts of summer. But before that arrives, I'm sending a few things by way of update.

Parish Survey: Thanks for your participation in our recent survey. We had an excellent rate of return and lots of interesting responses. Parish Council has tackled the data and we are trying two things for the present moment in the months of May and June. The first is a return to **coffee fellowship** on the first Sunday of the month after the 10:00 worship. So this Sunday, **May 7** and on **June 4**, we'll host coffee time. We are looking for volunteers to commit to set up, bring a small snack and clean up afterward. We encourage people to work in teams for this. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for volunteers or you can call the parish office. The second initiative is a return to **8:00 Holy Communion** from the Book of Common Prayer at the high altar on the second Sunday of each month. These will be on **May 14** and **June 11**. We will see what the response to these initiatives is and make further plans for the fall season. You will notice other smaller liturgical changes happening now and more to follow. Your feedback has been important to us!

Water of Life – Our annual campaign for the digging of wells and provision of clean water kicked off on April 23 with a homily about the project by Joan MacDonald. On April 30, Placide Chiasson spoke about his experiences with our community partners. This Sunday, we will view a video from LifeWater Canada about the impact of wells on villages that receive them. The project will conclude on May 14. There is still time to give in the usual manner. You can:

1. Put money in the jar at the church.
2. Make a cheque out to Lifewater Canada. A receipt will be sent to you from Lifewater Canada. Mail to Lifewater Canada, 457 Heather Cres. Thunder Bay ON P7E 5L1
3. Donate online: www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/water-of-life-project. When you have completed your donation, you can immediately print

your tax receipt. Your donation will go directly to Lifewater Canada for the credit of our program.

Retreat: Your Spiritual Development Committee invites you to a **Spring Retreat Day on Saturday, May 13th** at Whispering Spirits Farm in Hodson outside River John. We will be hosted by Karen Ewing and Carol McNutt. Our theme this time is **Alleluia, Amen!** This is another chance to be in God's beautiful outdoors, to worship Christ and to reconnect with our parish family. The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and muffins. We will share a short gathering liturgy and then have choices about how to spend our reflection time. There will be stations where you can share with others and be creative, quiet spaces for personal reflection or reading on your own and lots of trails to walk in peace. We'll brown bag for lunch and finish with another short reflection time and lastly share in the Eucharist, finishing around 2:00 p.m. We would love to have you with us! A car pool is planned and we have good driving directions to get to Hodson which is about 55 minutes outside of town. Please indicate your interest by signing up on the sheet at the back of the church or call the parish office. Plan to bring: a bagged lunch and travel mug for warm drinks, a water bottle, lawn chair, bug spray and warm clothes! The retreat will go forward rain or shine!!!

Pride Parade: This year's Truro Pride Parade takes place on **Saturday, June 24th** at 2:00 p.m. Again, St. John's will send a walking group to the event. If you would like to be part of our team, speak to Rev. Lori or Melinda Tattrie. (Watch for an appearance by our special guest walker, The Paraclete!)

May the greening of the world and the warming of the days help to renew you in resurrection faith,

Rev. Lori