

From the Priest in Charge

“Shrove” Tuesday – it doesn’t just mean pancakes!

If I were to ask you what the word “shrove” means, it’s possible that the reply might have something to do with pancakes. This makes sense, because for almost everyone who grew up in the last century, that’s about the only time you’d use that word in a year: Shrove Tuesday. This day has different names that are much more explicit about what happens: Fat Tuesday (English) or Mardi Gras (French). Pancakes, pancakes, pancakes.

I’m sure many of the readers of this column have heard *why* we eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday: since Lent is a time of fasting and self-discipline, it was traditional to consume any remaining fatty foods prior to the beginning of Lent – such as butter, oils, and fats – because they would not be used for cooking during Lent. Of course, our tradition of pancake suppers is hardly connected anymore to refraining from those foods for the season of Lent. No, the word “shrove” has nothing to do with pancakes, but actually does have to do with another kind of “trimming the fat” – the fat of our sins.

SHROVE TUESDAY

This word, “shrove”, is a derivative of an Old English word, “*shrive*” – which means “absolve”, or to partake in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

“Absolve” is a word we might better recognize and is intimately connected to the act of confession of sins. For instance, in the liturgy, immediately after the confession the priest pronounces the Absolution, which is a declaration of God’s forgiveness of sins for all those who repent. Seeing as Lent is a season of penitence and preparation for Christ’s passion, death, and resurrection, the medieval Church encouraged the faithful to seek out a priest in the week before Lent began to confess their sins and receive absolution. “Shrove Tuesday”, as we know it in the English tradition, gets its name



Shrove = Pardon

because this was the last day to seek absolution before the penitential season began – to begin Lent with something of a “clean slate”. Shrove Tuesday, thus, is a recommended deadline for both the trimming of fat from our diets, and the trimming of spiritual fat from our souls.

In the pre-reformation Church in England, sacramental confession was

required of all Christians at certain times of year, and this was one of them. There could be such a demand on the priests’ time that this period of confession was extended to include most of the Gesimas, or pre-Lent, with the final few days sometimes known as “Shrovetide” – or a mini season to seek absolution. This is one of the reasons the Gesima Sundays are so important as a time of preparation for Lent. They are a numeral reminder of how close Easter is (this weekend is Septuagesima – about 70 days). Liturgically, they abruptly turn our focus to the Cross. Personally, they encourage us to repent and seek absolution for our sins.

The Anglican tradition, since the reformation, has been clear that individual sacramental confession is not a *mandatory* practice, and has generally held the motto “all may, none must, some should”. Instead, we have the practice of general or public confessions as part of our liturgies. If, however, you do feel called to speak to a priest, please do not hesitate to be in touch with a member of the clergy. If you’d like to see what that might look like, the Book of Common Prayer provides a form for private confession beginning on page 581, and the Book of Alternative Services provides one beginning on page 167.

As we prepare for this season of repentance and fasting, let us embark on a time of self-examination, and trim the fat from our spiritual and physical diets this Lent.



And Speaking of Shrove Tuesday Pancakes... Another plug for our Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 13th, from 4:30 – 6:00pm. Please share the news with your friends and family. All are welcome! Thank you to those who have volunteered.



We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples. This territory is covered by the “Treaties of Peace and Friendship” which Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik), Mi’kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi’kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.



Parish Notices and Updates _____

THE SEASON OF LENT is quickly approaching! Here are some important dates for planning:

- Please bring old **Palm Branches** by **Sunday, February 11th**
- **The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner** will take place **Tuesday, February 13th, from 4:30-6:00pm**. There is no admission fee, but free-will donations will be accepted and applied to the capital loan repayment of the renovated entryway. All are welcome!
- **Ash Wednesday, February 14th**:
 - o **10am at All Saints, Marysville** – Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes (Morning Prayer at 9:30am)
 - o **7pm at St. Mary's** – Holy Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes (Evening Prayer at 6:30pm)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS: The annual congregational meetings of the three parishes currently in shared ministry are scheduled for the following dates. Please plan to attend your congregational meeting.

- **PARISH OF MARYSVILLE**, February 11th following 9:30am Eucharist
- **PARISH OF STANLEY**, February 18th following 10:00am Eucharist
- **PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK**, February 25th in the Parish Hall following 11:00am Eucharist

If you are responsible for writing an **ANNUAL REPORT**, please submit to Fr. Nicholas by **January 29th**.

OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY continues each **Friday at 10:00 a.m.** in the Church. This year we will be taking a close look at the Sunday lectionary, with a series called “Unpacking the Homily – A Deeper Dive than Twelve Minutes a Week.”

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (or Candlemas) will be observed on Wednesday, January 31st at the 7:00pm Celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

THE NEXT PARISH SHARED MEAL will be **next Sunday, February 4th**, following the 11am Celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

✧

*Please join us in the Parish Hall
following the 11:00 a.m. Celebration
for Coffee and Conversation.*

*The Anglican Church of Canada
The Diocese of Fredericton*

THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK



Whatever is right, whatever is wrong, in this perplexing world, we must be right in “doing justly, in loving mercy, in walking humbly with our God;” in denying our wills, in ruling our tongues, in softening and sweetening our tempers, in mortifying our lusts; in learning patience, meekness, purity, forgiveness of injuries, and continuance in well-doing.

John Henry Newman

EVE OF THE SUNDAY CALLED SEPTUAGESIMA

Saturday, January 27, 2024

*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord,
and to sing praises unto thy Name,
O Most Highest. (Ps. 92)*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalms 123, 124, 125 | Jonah 3 & 4 | 1 Corinthians 16

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit Psalm 18.1-7:	<i>page 347</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 132</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Genesis 1.1-5
The Epistle:	<i>page 133</i>
Gradual Psalm 119, part 4:	<i>page 486</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 133</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Biddings & Intercession:	<i>page 75</i>
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

JANUARY 30: CHARLES STUART, KING & MARTYR

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

JANUARY 31: FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist (*Feast of the Presentation*)

FEBRUARY 1: FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

FEBRUARY 2: THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE & PURIFICATION OF THE B.V. MARY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

FEBRUARY 3: EVE OF SEXAGESIMA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

FEBRUARY 4: THE SUNDAY CALLED SEXAGESIMA

8:45 a.m. – Morning Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

9:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, *All Saints, Marysville*

11:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

Followed by Parish Shared Meal in the Hall



PRIEST IN CHARGE

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THE SUNDAY CALLED SEPTUAGESIMA

January 28, 2024

*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord,
and to sing praises unto thy Name,
O Most Highest. (Ps. 92)*

11:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♫ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	101 (EISENACH – 66)
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 132</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Genesis 1.1-5
♫ PSALM 17.1-7	<i>page 447</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 133</i>
♫ GRADUAL HYMN:	436 (ST. FLAVIAN)
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 133</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
♫ OFFERTORY HYMN:	427 (MONK'S GATE)
The Biddings & Intercession:	<i>page 75</i>
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
♫ HYMN AFTER COMMUNION:	234 (ST. THOMAS)
Post Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>
♫ RECESSIONAL HYMN:	102 (MONKLAND)

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