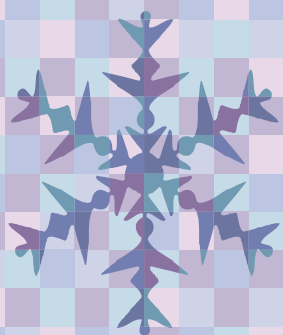


Winter Mailing

February, 2011



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, PETERBOROUGH

Lenten News

Ground Hog Day— A Day of Prediction

Groundhog Day, Feb. 2nd is known as a day of prediction.

The church calendar celebrates this day as a similar day of prediction known as Candlemas which is a feast of the mass that features candle light.

In the spirit of prediction please reflect on this Candlemas poem from a by-gone era.

“As the light grows longer
The cold grows stronger
If Candlemas be fair and bright
Winter will have another flight
If Candlemas be cloud and rain
Winter will be gone and not come again
A farmer should on Candlemas day
Have half his corn and half his hay
On Candlemas day if thorns hang a drop
You can be sure of a bumper crop”

Feb. 2nd has always had a special place in my heart as it is also the date of my son's birth and my ordination to the priesthood. It was fairly predictable the obvious ways in which these past events would

govern my future.

On this day the church also acknowledges part of the Jesus story that features the Presentation of Christ in the Temple as well as the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. These events were intended to be predictors of Christ future.

Canadian media focuses more on this day being Ground Hog Day and the ability of Wiarton Willie to predict the length of winter. Given that spring is six weeks from Feb. 2nd it is impossible in some ways for the Groundhog to be wrong. Sooner or later winter gives way to spring.

What is past is prologue again.

What has happened in Egypt was fairly predictable. When I was in Cairo in November our Egyptian tour guide predicted as much. “Read the signs”, he said. “Can't you see the shadows of things to come?” Those who live in darkness will seek a light somewhere.

This may have been the first revolution whose light was generated by the world wide web as indicated by the Egyptian government's desperate attempt to turn off its' domestic internet and cell phone service. Hard to stop a revolution if you can't keep people in the dark.

Are there signs that serve as reliable predictors for Christians? Will there be an extended winter or do we see signs of spring? I have a predication. Winter will conclude on Good Friday and Easter will begin our spring of new life and resurrection. That's a reliable prognostication that would rival Wiarton Willie.

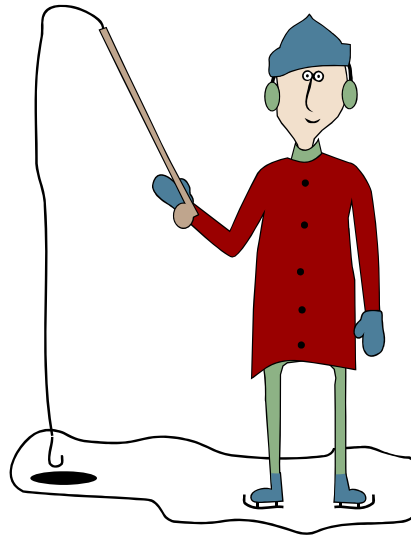
Signs are difficult to interpret if we are unaware. Ordinary Egyptian citizens harnessed the power of modern communication to stay in touch. When was the last time you really paid attention to the shadows and light that inform your life? Have you stayed in touch with God as your guide as you read the signs?

I will make you Ice Fishers of people— Christian Basics

Christian Basics Course:

Adults and older interested youths or families are invited to join us during Lent for a refresher discussion on Christian basics. This is intended for anyone that is interested in relearning some of basics of our faith and church.

For those that desire it this could serve as preparation for confirmation or



reaffirmation as well but is not a required outcome for those interested.

Via Media will serve as one of the educational resources for this celebration of Anglican identity. This opportunity will be offered for an hour once a weeknight on a night yet to be determined during Lent. Please contact Father Bill or the church office for further information. 705-876-1501.

Ash Wednesday: The Imposition of Ashes –March 9th/11

12:10 pm: Noon hour service with Holy Eucharist.

7:00 pm. Evening Choral Service with Holy Eucharist and All Saints' choir

Imposition of Ashes at both. Luncheon Reception

Ash collected from the immolation (burning) of old Palm crosses are used in this ancient rite. The use of ash reminds us of the people of Ninevah who used ash as a sign of repentance and turning back to God.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent and call us into special observance and

and a time of preparation through fasting, alms giving and self denial.

The imposition of ashes by making the sign of the cross on the forehead also reminds us of our mortality and that we should always be deeply conscious of God's gift of this life.

We are but dust and to dust we shall return.

Shrove Tuesday: Pancake Supper: March 8th/11 5 to 6:30 pm

Upper Parish Hall

Cost:

Adults- \$5.00

Children- \$2.50 (under 5 free)

Please join us for this time of fellowship that marks the last big celebration before the penitential season of Lent begins.

Our men will work their magic once again in the kitchen as we sit down to enjoy a meal of hot pancakes and sausage.



Annual Meeting of the Church Vestry— Sunday, March 6th/11

1. 12:00 noon: following the 10:30 am service
2. Lunch provided by the ACW
3. Meeting to follow
4. Parish Events Reviewed
5. Missional Transformational Church Discussed
6. Review the year past
7. Accept 2011 budget
8. Elect and Appoint parish officers.
9. Report on Heating System Installation and Financing
10. Cornerstone Campaign Review
11. Acknowledgments
12. All Welcome

Suggested items for the agenda must be submitted in advance (Feb. 16/11) in order to be considered by parish officers for inclusion on the agenda of this meeting.

Such suggestions may be referred by parish officers to another appropriate forum other than the annual vestry meeting to be considered at another time if deemed more suitable as a way of considering or resolving a particular issue.

We cannot include items on the agenda of our annual vestry meeting for which we have had insufficient notice.

Wednesday Lenten Noon Hour Speaker and Lunch 12:10 to 12:50

1. Join us for our regular Wednesday mid-week service.
2. A different clergy person from our parish will be our speaker each week on a special Lenten theme.
3. A Simple Lunch of Soup and Bun will follow each service
4. All will be completed in the noon hour.
5. Watch your Sunday bulletin announcements for

a schedule of guest clergy and their speaking dates.



Lenten Envelope—



Please find enclosed your special Lenten Envelope in order to enable your special Lenten donation.

Please return anytime on or after Ash Wednesday.

Lent is intended as a time of giving something up.

Lent can be time of taking something on.

Either can involve sacrifice.

Please make a special effort this Lent to make an extra and sacrificial gift to the ministry of your church's mission.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat

The Musical by Andrew Lloyd Weber

Director- Christine van der Bank

Supported by the Church School and Choir

Sunday April 10– 4:00 pm-All Saints' Church

Tickets- \$10.00– per person or \$25.00-family.

Tickets available from Bob Williams or the church office.

Costume Design– Dianne Mckay

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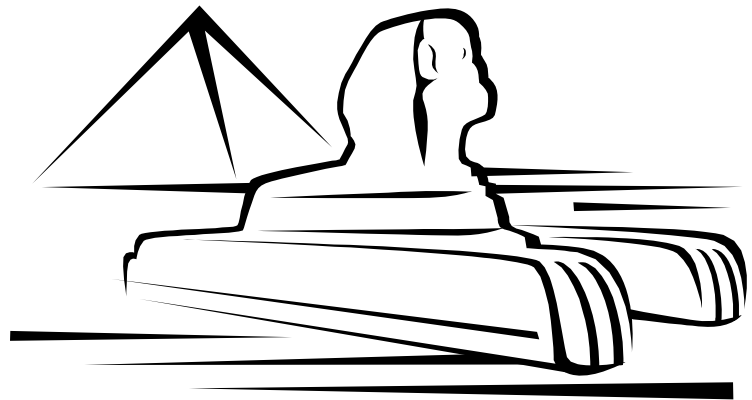
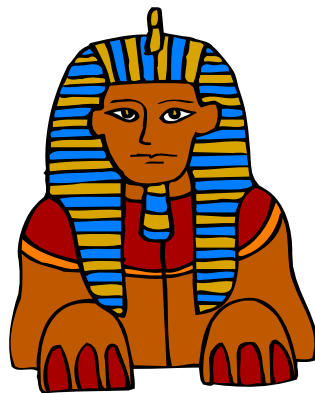
Email:

saints@allsaintspeterborou
gh.org

Web Page

www.allsaintspeterborough
.org

We are on the
Web-Look us
up.



Missional Transformational Church

Twelve parish representatives participated in a diocesan workshop in October in order to introduce us to this unique approach to missional awareness. This was followed by the formation of a parish guiding team which includes Lois MacVichie, (chair), Jamie MacVichie, David and Peggy Watton, Jean Koning, the Reverends Maisie Watson, Alan Wotherspoon, Suzanne McMillan, Peter Savage, Neil Hill, the Reverend Bill Gray.

Parish on line surveys and personal interviews of about 60 parish members were conducted in order to help assess our mission readiness and awareness. The guiding team will attend another diocesan workshop in February to continue our missional development.

This approach is different from the usual type of strategic planning that tends to involve parish leaders in goals intended to transform parish organizations and programs. Rather this strategy is intended to better include grassroots members in transforming the culture of the parish towards better missional awareness intended to better involve us in ministry with the community around us.