

Church of Saint Andrew

Understanding Lent

Ashes. In the Old Testament ashes represent death & sorrow for sins. Ashes & dust are synonymous. Our bodies are made of dust (Gen 2:7), & upon death they return to "dust & ashes" (Gen 18:17). Ashes serve as a stark reminder of human mortality which is a compelling reason to do penance. In biblical times, once people admitted their sins they covered themselves with sackcloth & ashes (Jer 6:26; 25:34; Dan 9:3; Jonah 3:6,10) as a public admission of guilt, a plea for God's mercy, a promise to reform, & a pledge to resist future temptation. The ashes used on Ash Wednesday come from the burning of palms from previous Palm Sundays, the residue is crushed into a fine powder, & then applied to the forehead in the Sign of the Cross with one of two statements: "Turn away from sin & be faithful to the gospel" (Mk 1:15) or "Remember you are dust & unto dust you will return" (Gen 3:19). Antiphon I on Ash Wednesday urges us: "Come back to the Lord with all your heart; leave the past in ashes."

Violet. Violet is the liturgical color for the season of Lent, as well as the color of the stole worn by the priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Violet is a somber color which symbolizes mourning, suffering, humility, regret, & the willingness to do penance, particularly fasting. Violet's association with suffering is based upon Jesus' Passion when the soldiers clothed him in a purple cloak & tortured him (Mk 15:17-20; Jn 19:2-3).

Barren stones. Jesus went out into the desert where the landscape was parched & the surface covered with loose stones & almost no sand. The stones are a symbol of austerity & rigor, desolation & misery, severity & sadness. The devil used stones to tempt Jesus, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread" (Mt 4:3), but Jesus made them a symbol for overcoming temptation when he replied, "One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Mt 4:4; Dt 8:3).

Fish. A fish is a Lenten symbol for the obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday & Good Friday & to abstain from all flesh meat on every Friday in Lent.

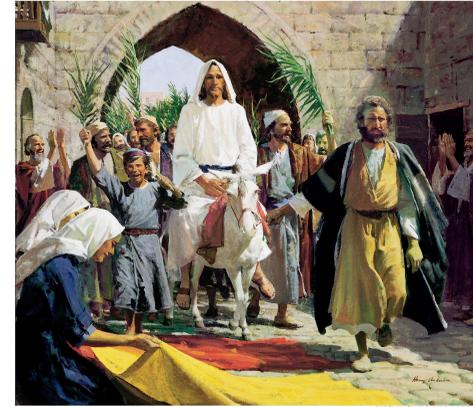
Praying Hands. Praying hands represent prayer, the activity that ranks first among the other three traditional penitential practices: fasting, almsgiving, & works of charity. Prayer is the premier way to strengthen one's relationship with God, & in so doing, to turn away from sin.

Incense: Incense is another symbol for prayer. The Psalmist wrote, "Let my prayer come like incense before you" (Ps 141:2); it was customary to burn incense in the Temple to worship God (Lk 1:9); & in John's vision of heaven the elders were gathered around the throne of the Lamb, & "Each held bowls filled with incense which are the prayers of the holy ones" (Rev 5:8). As incense smoke curls upward in the air, may our prayers rise upward to God, & as the fragrant fumes have a pleasing aroma, so may the sincerity of our prayer be pleasing to God.

A Money Bag or Money Bags: symbolize the Lenten penitential practice of almsgiving. It is "penitential" because it "covers a multitude of sins" (Sir 3:29). In fact, the archangel Gabriel, the great messenger for God, exhorted Tobit & his son Tobiah, "**Prayer & fasting are good, but better than either is almsgiving accompanied by righteousness. It is better to give alms than to store up gold, for almsgiving saves one from death & expiates every sin. Those who give alms shall enjoy a full life**" (Tob 12:8,9). (con't next week)

Passion (Palm) Sunday

14 Apr 2019



As he (Jesus) rode along (on a colt), the people were spreading their cloaks on the road;

and now as he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty deeds they had seen.

They proclaimed:

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest."

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him (Jesus),

"Teacher, rebuke your disciples."

He said in reply,

"I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!" (Luke 19:36-40)



Church of St. Andrew - Parish of St. Croix

Pastor: **Fr. Suresh Savariraj**, HGN (Heralds of Good News)

e-mail sureshsavariraj82@gmail.com

St. Stephen office - (506) 466-6043 - hours: Mon, Wed & Fri (8 am - 12:30 pm), Thu (8 am - 2 pm)

Office hours Saint Andrews - every Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm

212 Parr Street, St. Andrews, NB - E5B 1M3

Parish Center (Church Basement) 529-3114 - contact: Rosemary Spires 529-3043

Bulletin Entries: Don Menton by Thu pm 529-4778 (donmenton@hotmail.com) (entries may be edited)

Liturgical Ministers

| | 14 | Apr | 21 |
|-----------------------|--|-----|---|
| Greeters | Nancy Welles | | Ainslie Bradford |
| Servers | Paul Mulvihill David Ridgway | | Jeannie Matheson Margaret Obermeier |
| Lectors | Don Menton Sandra Bryant | | spare Alice Fulton |
| Gifts | Sandra Bryant family | | Mary Cochrane, Wendy Firlotte |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Louise M ^{ac} Farlane, Don Menton Paul Mulvihill | | Aline Saulnier, Alice Fulton Rosemary Spires |
| Collection | Paul Mulvihill & Geordie Doon | | |
| Coordinator | Carol Jones | | Louise M ^{ac} Farlane |

| Apr | Mass Intentions | Collection | St. Croix Parish | |
|--------|---|---------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | | Mar 30-31 | |
| | | | St. Andrews | St. Stephen |
| Sun 14 | 11:30 am Evans Maillet Jr. requested by Mary Wobma | Envelopes | 670.00 | 852.00 |
| Mon 15 | | Loose | 245.50 | 153.00 |
| Tue 16 | 6:30 pm Chrism Mass in Saint John | Hall Rental | | |
| Wed 17 | | Fish Chowder | | 223.00 |
| Thu 18 | 7:00 pm St. Stephen church adoration until min-night | Flowers | 20.00 | 383.40 |
| Fri 19 | 11 am Good Friday in St. Andrews (adoration 10 am - 2:30 pm; Mass 3 pm in St. Stephen) | Building Fund | | 100.00 |
| Sat 20 | 9:30 pm Easter Vigil in St. Andrews | PAD | 337.00 | 800.00 |
| Sun 21 | 10:00 am Easter Mass in St. Stephen | Total | 1,272.50 | 2,511.40 |

Collections (envelopes + loose) for Dec are \$5,138.91 which is \$549 (-10%) under the \$5,688 budget & \$9,125 (-14%) under the annual \$65,000 budget (increased from \$60,000 in 2017).

Please pray for our sick & all in need. Also remember our recently deceased, together with our elderly unable to join us at Mass, together with our parish & its people. Thank you!

Calendar of Events

Parish of Saint Croix

Can we pray for YOU? Everyone is invited to drop off prayer requests at the prayer station at the back. Our team would love to pray for your intention.
Confessions are 20 minutes before all Masses & available on request.
 Children wanting to have the sacrament of **1st Holy Communion**, or adults the **baptism** of a child or to be **married**, please contact Fr. Suresh.

New Freeman weekly Saint John diocesan newspaper: FREE at the church entrance.

Birthdays: Art Doyle, Evelyn Bebeau, Heidi Corrigan, Owen England, Sean Feeney, Mark Frost, Paul Goff, Lezlie LeBlanc, Dixie Lively, Quinn M^cCurdy, Louise M^{ac}Farlane, Michelle Monaghan, Hans Obermeier, David O'Leary, Marcus Ritter, Tom Staynor.
Wedding Anniversaries: Mark & Eva Frost, Carlos & Rachel Rodriguez, Lawson & Rosemary Spires.

Community of Saint Andrew

Liturgical List (May - Aug) is being prepared. Anyone wishing to participate or make changes to participating in a ministry, please call Don Menton (4778)

Easter Flower Donations in memory of loved ones, contact, Aline Saulnier(4313), Carol Jones (3552) or Valerie Corbett (3785, message or at Cockburn's Pharmacy) before Wed 17 Apr.

Office hours Saint Andrews - every Tuesday 10 am-4 pm our pastor will present to the Saint Andrews community for home visits, weekly noon Mass, communion for the sick & shut ins at Passamaquoddy lodge.

Chrism Mass: 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (SJ) with reception to follow in the cathedral rectory. Bishop Harris invites the faithful of the diocese to attend

Catholic Bible Studies: 1 pm (only, no longer 6 pm) in the meeting room in the back of the Church of St. Stephen rectory.

Lenten Noon Lunches: 12 noon at All Saint Parish Hall - Food for Body & Soul (final) hosted by Bye the Sea Full Gospel Assembly, with speaker Marguerite Mitchell on refugee work. Freewill donation for Fundy Transition House.

Gospel of Saint John Study: All Saints Hall, co-led by Rev'd Jim Crighton & Byron Munro. Everyone is welcome, light lunch will be served.

Easter Preparation: Invitation to assist preparing the church for Easter. Everyone welcome. Valerie Corbett (3785)

Community Easter Dinner: All Saint parish hall with traditional ham & scallop supper. All welcome - free admission; donations will be accepted.

Patrick Cordier Benefit Concert All Saint Parish Hall. Details to follow.

Spring Cleaning Yard Sale: St. Stephen CWL needs small items - please donate to the office during office hours.

Diocese of Saint John

Those Living with Cancer monthly Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with an anointing of the sick .

Chrism Mass: Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception (SJ) blessing of parish holy oils for another year & renewal of priest ordination promises, with reception following. All are invited. Robert Harris, Bishop of Saint John †