

RECTOR'S REFLECTION

Last week, you may recall that the ominous last words of the homily were “repent, or perish”. These were in relation to the words of Jesus, who reminded the crowd around him that, if they did not repent and prepare for the judgement that would come at their time of death, they might not be ready when the time arrived “like a thief in the night”. He also told the story of the barren fig tree, which was condemned to be uprooted after three years of bearing no fruit. Perhaps after hearing these words, you were left anxious, sitting on the edge of your seat, waiting for more. If you were, good—that was the point. If you weren't, were you listening?

Now, a week later, as we come together again, it's sort of like a serial TV show where the first few minutes of this week's program review the content of last week and then the announcer says something like, “And now for the exciting conclusion.” Remember last week's story about the need for repentance but listen to the words of the message this week.

Jesus, ever fond of parables, tells the crowd—which now includes tax collectors, sinners, Pharisees and scribes—a story about a young man who tells his father that he wants his inheritance (which amounts to saying he wished his dad were dead). Receiving his share of the estate, the son left for a distant country, where he wasted no time in squandering his property in dissolute living. After a while, bankrupt and dejected, the son comes to the realisation that even his father's livestock and slaves eat better than he does at the moment. The son repents—remember that word from last week?—and resolves to return to his father to beg for mercy.

What the son doesn't know, however, is that his father has been waiting at the end of the lane in the hope that his son would return, and when the son was still far off, his father saw him and ran to him. When his father reached him, he was caught up in an embrace, showered with the unconditional love of a father. And, not even getting to complete his well-considered apology, the son found himself forgiven and the guest of honour at a great banquet.

And so, as we ponder the message from last week, that we must all repent—that is, to turn away from the things that take us from God—we also find in the story from this week that, according to Jesus, God (who is represented by the father in the parable) is waiting for us to come home. Like the father, God allows us to make our own choices in life—we are also given the opportunity to take our inheritance and squander it. Some of us do and some of us don't. But regardless of whether we do or not, the love of the father for both of the sons is the same. Maybe his love for the one who has strayed and come home is just a little greater.

God invites us to repent, and we can do so knowing that because of the cross of Christ, we have already been forgiven. Saying the words “I'm sorry” are more for our own sake than for God's, for in God's household, there is always mercy.

Our mission, for the glory of God in Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit, is to:

- Celebrate all that God has done for us through worship and witness with others.
- Respond to our call to be disciples of Christ by sharing our faith, rooted in the Word of God, with others and encouraging others to become followers of Christ through word and action.
- Practice good stewardship of our human, financial and environmental resources, working to ensure that all of God's Creation is viable for future generations.
- Grow ourselves and others by reaching out to our communities, following Jesus' example of generous caring, giving, and welcoming.

REGULAR SERVICES

All Saints', Tyendinaga

Sunday Celebration—8:30 a.m.

Christ Church, HM Chapel Royal of the Mohawk

Sunday Celebration—10:30 a.m.

Third Sundays Combined Parish Service

April to September—Christ Church—10:30 a.m.

October to March—All Saints'—8:30 a.m.

PARISH PRIEST

The Rev'd Brad Smith

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WARDENS

All Saints'

Bill Brant 967-1129

Bev Hill 962-5183

Christ Church

Doug Green 396-2337

Tammy Doreen 396-4663

PARISH CENTRE

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962-2787

Website: <http://www.parishoftyendinaga.org>



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF TYENDINAGA

DIOCESE OF ONTARIO

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



CHRIST CHURCH

HER MAJESTY'S CHAPEL ROYAL OF THE MOHAWK



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

TYENDINAGA

Vision Statement

To be a Spirit-filled and life giving place where strangers become friends and friends become disciples.

**Sunday 14 March 2010
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Opening Hymn CP 318
Apostolic Greeting BAS 185
Summary of the Law
 Presider Amen.
 People **Lord, have mercy.**

Comfortable Words
Exhortation, Confession, and Absolution
 Presider ...and make your humble confession to almighty God.
 All **Eternal God, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Trisagion CP 707
Collect of the Day

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32 BAS 742



You sur- round me with shouts of de - liv-er-ance, O Lord.

Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Gradual Hymn CP 609
Gospel Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
Homily
Nicene Creed BAS 188
Prayers of the People
Peace

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Offertory Hymn CP 613
Prayer over the Gifts
Eucharistic Prayer 2 BAS 198
Sanctus and Benedictus (Holy, Holy, Holy) CP 735
Lord's Prayer BAS 211
Breaking of the Bread 7 213
Agnus Dei (O Lamb of God) CP 747

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Bearer of our sin, have mercy on us. Jesus, Redeemer, Redeemer of the world, give us your peace, give us your peace.

Communion
Music: CP 434, SB 53

All are welcome to join in the Eucharistic feast. As you come forward for Communion, please take a moment to clean your hands with the sanitiser found at the front of the church. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, please be assured that receiving the bread alone is considered making a full Communion. Please do not dip your bread into the wine.

COMMISSIONING AND DISMISSAL

Prayer after Communion BAS 214
Blessing
Closing Hymn CP 451
Dismissal BAS 215

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER LITURGIES

Mon 29 Mar to Thu 1 Apr—Holy Week Morning Worship
7:00 a.m., Rectory

Maundy Thursday (1 Apr)—Commemoration of the Lord's Supper
6:00 p.m., Queen Anne Parish Centre
Please bring a potluck dish to share (avoiding meat and "treats" if we can) as well as necessary dinnerware and utensils.

Good Friday (2 Apr)—The Crucifixion of our Lord
10:00 a.m., All Saints' Church

Holy Saturday (3 Apr)—The Great Vigil of Easter
8:00 p.m., Christ Church

Easter Sunday (4 Apr)—The Resurrection of our Lord
8:30 a.m., All Saints' Church
10:30 a.m., Christ Church

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Almsgiving—As the exhortation on Ash Wednesday reminds us, Christians are called to augment their financial support of the work of the Church in Lent. Alms will be collected on Easter Sunday. Don't give 'til it hurts: give 'til it feels good!

Lenten Study—Our study of Psalm 23 continues Tue 16, 23 March at 7:00 p.m. at the QAPC.

Gifts of the Spirit Workshop—Led by Canon David Smith at St Paul's, Sandhurst. See posters for more info.

Selby Theatre Night—Join Love in Action for an evening of comedy and fun at Lennox Community Theatre, Selby. "Breath of Spring" by Peter Coke plays Wed 14 Apr, 8:00 p.m. Featuring a lady, her maid, and many stolen furs . . . Tickets available soon! Speak with Paul Robertson (396-5496) or members of *Love in Action*. All proceeds go to outreach in our community.

"Stewardship in Perspective: Turning Spiritual Vision into Practice"—Stewardship Conference presented by the Dioceses of Ontario and Ottawa, Fri 7-Sat 8 May, Kemptville Agricultural College. Keynote speaker Bp Michael Curry. Cost: \$125 (a subsidy will be available from the parish). For more info call Canon David Smith, (866) 524-4774 x 32, visit www.stewardship2010.ca, or speak to Brad.

BIBLE TRIVIA



Last Week's Answer

Martha affirmed to Jesus her belief that her brother would rise again (John 11:23).

This Week's Question

Whose husband was ordered to be killed by King David to cover up his adultery?

Prayers this Week

Anglican Communion
Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean
The Most Rev'd Gerald James (Ian) Ernest, Archbishop

Diocese of Ontario
The Rt Rev'd George Bruce
Parish of Wolfe Island
Holy Trinity Church Christ Church
The Rev'd Canon Chris Carr
The Rev'd Dn Gerry Moore

Companions
St Ann's Episcopal Church, Amsterdam; the Rev'd Christopher Smith
HM Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, the Rev'd Denis Mulliner

Parish of Tyendinaga
Flower Co-ordinators/Arrangers
Families of: Heather Maracle (Phillip), Janice Maracle, Kim Maracle,
Laverne & Norma Maracle, Marguerite Maracle

Readings for Next Sunday

Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8