

RECTOR'S REFLECTION

In our Lenten study the other night, we were discussing ways to share the good news with people. We talked about how we might better share our stories of Jesus and encourage people to really get to know who Jesus is and how to follow his example. Of course, most of us seem to have a hard time openly sharing our faith. We often don't want to be seen as too pushy or judgemental or perhaps we feel as though we have inadequate words to answer the questions people might ask us. Whatever the source of our reticence, I'd say we have a pretty solid track record of not being very vocal about who and what we believe in.

Not so the crowds on Palm Sunday. As we read in the story from the Gospel of Mark this week, the people were quite exuberant in their proclamation of Jesus. "Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" There was no doubt in the minds of those in the crowd who Jesus was. They were convinced that he was the Messiah, the one who would be like a second King David, who would liberate them from the unfair and oppressive regime of the Roman Empire.

As we know, however, as the week went on, Jesus failed to live up to their expectations and, by what we now call Good Friday, Jesus was on trial before the religious authorities and the imperial governor. While there is some debate over whether it was the same crowd that gathered outside Pilate's palace as the one that followed Jesus on Palm Sunday, the fact remains that it was the crowd that was incited to demand the release of the murderer Barabbas and the crucifixion of Jesus. So sure on Palm Sunday of the fulfilment of their expectations, a few days later, the crowd cried out in their blood lust for the murder of Jesus. It wasn't that he didn't come to strive against injustice and oppression. It's just that he didn't do it in the way the people wanted him to.

As we journey with Jesus through holy week, "from the glory of the palms to the glory of the resurrection by way of the dark road of suffering and death", I invite you to be mindful of how you understand who Jesus is and what his mission was while he was with us on earth. Too often we struggle when our expectations of God are not met: not because God failed to come through but because our expectations were based on what we want God to do rather than on what God says he will do. If we want to be like the crowds who were sure of who Jesus was on that Palm Sunday long ago so that we may boldly proclaim him to those who do not yet know him, then we need to be sure of who he is.

This week, we are worshipping in a different way. We're in the hall instead of the church. We will have a reflection with four voices participating in it rather than a sermon. This is what I want you to take away from this experience of Palm Sunday worship this week: our faith put into practice is not just confined to the four walls of the church. It's not just words and gestures reserved for a holy day and set aside safely on a shelf the rest of the week. It is alive and real and it happens not only in our worship but in our fellowship, in our work, in every interaction with have with others. It is not just worshipping Jesus but sharing with him in the way of the cross, striving against the unjust and oppressive powers of the world. As the collect for Palm Sunday says, "may we follow the example of his great humility and share in the glory of his resurrection". Amen.



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF TYENDINAGA

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

SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Sunday 29 March 2015

Palm Sunday

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS

9:30 a.m.

All Saints' Church, 1295 Ridge Rd

PARISH PRIEST

The Venerable Brad Smith
rector@parishoftyendinaga.org

QUEEN ANNE PARISH CENTRE

1295 Ridge Rd
Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory
962-2787
parish@parishoftyendinaga.org

Website: <http://www.parishoftyendinaga.org>
Facebook: www.facebook.com/tyendinagaanglican

Mission Statement

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Lunch and Easter Egg Sale—today, Noon–3:00 p.m. at the QAPC. Free will offering for a lunch consisting of soup, sandwich, dessert, and beverage. Homemade Easter Eggs for sale, \$3 each. Baked goods and jewellery table. Five gift baskets for raffle, tickets \$2 each, 3 for \$5 or 10 for \$10.

Love in Action—The next meeting is Mon 30 Mar at 7 p.m. at Gail Clement's.

Lenten Study—Wed 1 Apr. We will gather from 5-7 p.m. in the QAPC. Each session will begin with a simple potluck supper and continue with the study. To read this week: Chapter 6 (starts p 49) and the commentary for chapter 6 (starts p 100).

Food Bank Donations—We gather non-perishable food items on the first Sunday of each month and donate them to the Food Bank. The Food Bank is experiencing a significant increase in the number of families it serves so this is a material way we can help our neighbours. The next Food Bank Sunday is 5 Apr.

John Bowen on the Church in the 21st Century—What does it take for the church to thrive and grow in this post-Christendom culture? John Bowen believes we need first of all to recover what it means that Christianity is about good news and then for existing churches to find new ways to touch their communities with the Gospel. Sat 11 Apr, 9:30 a.m., Christ Church, Cataragui. Lunch is provided. Registration is required; contact Haynes Hubbard, fr.hqhubbard@gmail.com or 613-546-3386.

Friendly Manor Service—The next ministry team visit for the Friendly Manor is Thu 23 Apr at 10:30 a.m. In winter weather, please bring indoor footwear.

Parish Leadership Workshop—offered by the diocese to clergy, wardens, and treasurers (not just new ones). Sat 25 Apr, Christ Church, Belleville. Time and other details to follow.

Rectory Rental—The rectory is available for rental on a weekly basis as a cottage for tourists, fishermen, etc (and may be rented for shorter periods in the off season). Check out the website at cottagesincanada.com/bayofquinterectorycottage and please tell your friends who might need a place to stay!

Camp Hyanto—Registrations are now open. Visit <http://ontario.anglican.ca/wp/camp-hyanto/> to register online. You can financially support Camp Hyanto in order to assist with the provision of Christian camp ministry to youth online (go to the website above and click on the tab that says "2015 PAG form").

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Maundy Thursday 2 April, 6:00 p.m.

Please bring a simple dish for potluck supper and a feast basket

Good Friday 3 April, 10:00 a.m.

Easter Day 5 April, 9:30 a.m.

...

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Anglican Communion

The Most Rev'd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury
Diocese of Jerusalem & Middle East
The Rt. Rev'd Suheil Dawani

Diocese of Ontario

The Rt Rev'd Michael Oulton
St. Mary Magdalene, Picton
The Rev'd Charles Morris
The Rev'd Fran Langlois

Companions

St Ann's Episcopal Church, Amsterdam, the Very Rev'd Neal Longe
HM Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace, the Rev'd Canon Denis Mulliner

Parish of Tyendinaga

Readers

Pray for the families of: Bruce Gee & Carol Pederson;
Georgina & Duane Gilbert; Billie Green; Carol Green; Chelsey Green

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 5 APRIL

Acts 10:34-43
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
John 20:1-18

Stewardship Reflection

The Rt Rev'd Michael Pollesel

Today's gospel gives us a good chunk of THE STORY, which we call our story. How much of THE STORY is familiar to you? A faithful steward has more than a passing knowledge of it.

Financial Report

Weekly Need:	\$2,459
Last week's Offering:	<u>\$1,492</u>
Shortfall	\$ 967

Based on the 2015 budget and the number of identifiable givers, the following is what is required of each giver in order to meet our needs:

Weekly: \$40 Monthly: \$173