

The Parish of St. Peter (Upper Gullies)

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“You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church.” Matthew 16-18

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 4, 2018



Diocesan Bishop:

Rector:

Interim Administrator

Parish Deacon:

Organist/Choir Director

Parish Wardens

Office Administrator:

The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle

The Reverend Jean Smith (On Leave)

The Reverend Irving Letto

The Reverend Dr. Bonnie Morgan (On Leave)

Andrea Powell

Ralph Drover and Robert Hilliard

Jack Morgan

8:30am Book of Common Prayer: 10:30am Book of Alternative Services

LECTIONARY: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19 (BCP p351; BAS p725) 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

COLLECT Father of mercy, alone we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves. When we are discouraged by our weakness, strengthen us to follow Christ, our pattern and our hope; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS Gracious God, we know your power to triumph over weakness. May we who ask forgiveness be ready to forgive one another, in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION God of mercy and forgiveness, may we who share this sacrament live together in unity and peace, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

HYMNS FOR 10:30 SERVICE

Opening: (#527) **How Firm a Foundation**
Youth Choir: **God Says**
Gradual: (#604) **Your Word, O God, a Living Sword**
Offering: (#602) **Lift High the Cross**
Communion: **Take Time to be Holy**
Closing: (#16 Praise Book) **Here I am, Lord**

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Today's Short Message

“Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables” (John 2:15)

I remember sermons that defended Jesus' anger by calling it “righteous anger” and condemned our anger as being sinful. Jesus may have been justified in doing what he did, but calling it “righteous anger” implies that he was not fully human and sets us up to feel guilty when we express our anger.

I've also heard people using Jesus' behaviour in the temple to justify spanking their children or defending someone who shot a doctor

who did abortions. We must be very careful when using scripture to support unacceptable behaviour.

There are such things as right and wrong, and anger can be a way of expressing strongly held beliefs. In small doses it can release dangerous pent up emotions and be a sign of health.

Anger, though, can be a dangerous emotion. When it gets out of hand, it can turn the tables on us and control us. It can be especially dangerous when we believe that we are right.

Where there's smoke, there's fire. Anger is often a sign of some hidden agenda or emotional hurt. Our anger may be a signal that we are doing more than we want to do. Sometimes strong language and shouting are signs of a weak argument.

Feeling angry is a normal everyday emotion. Psychologists tell us that it is healthy to express our anger, and they teach us appropriate ways of doing that.

Taking time to reflect on our behaviour can help us identify our weaknesses and blind spots. Without being aware of it, we get angry with what we see or hear because it reminds us unconsciously of our own shadows. It's easier to take a splinter out of another person's finger because we don't feel the pain.

One of Jesus' routine practices was to go away by himself to pray. An important part of prayer is to help us examine our behaviour. I wonder if Jesus, after he made the whip and used it, remembered how he suggested that we "turn the other cheek."

Whenever we get angry, it is important for us to stop and ask "Why?" We may not like what we see. But if we have the courage to look at it and do something about it we become a healthy people. It may hurt to remove a splinter from my own finger, but once it is done I feel much better.

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This week we are praying for:

All Church Leaders, especially +Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; +Fred, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada; +Ronald, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, +Geoffrey, our Bishop; Jean+, our Rector; Bonnie+, our Deacon, and Irving+, our interim administrator.

In the Anglican/Lutheran Cycle of Prayer, ACC Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson, people, and clergy of the Diocese of Montreal. ELCIC The dean, council, and congregations of the Georgian, Huronia and Bay Areas of the Eastern Synod.

In the Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, the people and clergy of the Parish of Burin, Parish by the Sea and the Parish of Carbonear.

In the CBS Ministerial Cycle of Prayer we pray for the unity of all Christians; and for all clergy and members of the church communities of Conception Bay South.

We pray for those who are sick or otherwise in need, especially: Rodney Andrews, John Bradbury, Janet Butler, Mary Dawe, Muriel Fowler, Brian Gosse, Deneal Haines, Mackenzie Jones, Marion Morgan, Glenys O'Brien, Pat Reid, Lucy Thistle, Mary Bussey, Eileen Shaw (N.B.), Violet Batten, Les McDonald, Fred Kelly, Lyndon Letto, Rev. Jean, Elizabeth Crews, Frances Hilliard, Payton Best, Charlie Morgan, Rod Ward, Edna Warford and Cecil Warford.

With Sympathy

Our prayers and thoughts go out to the family of the late **Marion Phyllis Morgan (Tilley)** who passed away on February 25, 2018. *"+Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her."*

Today's bulletin is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of:

Arthur Blagdon (remembering his birthday on March 6). From wife Dora & Family



To our Youth Choir! We really appreciate your singing at church and so glad to have you taking part in our church. We especially want to congratulate you on your performance at the Kiwanis Music Festival. Enjoy our little party after church today. Something worth celebrating!