

Interim Pastor Easter Message

Dear Friends & Parishioners;

I suspect that for each of us the meaning of Christ's death and resurrection will have a different nuance. For some, it will speak of our reconciliation to God, of sins forgiven. The assurance of eternal life in Christ will be the message that others hear. For others, the message is God's ultimate victory over evil and the promise of the reign of justice will be the good news that is heard. I am certain that you would have your own understanding of what the Easter event means to you. This is only normal. The Gospel speaks to each of us in our own circumstance and where we are in life's journey.

However we hear this Good News, we know that the resurrection of Christ is the heart of our faith. It isn't just an article of our faith . . . It **is** our faith. As we look forward to celebrating the "Great Fifty Days" of Easter, we are invited once again to identify our life with that of Christ, that is, to see our life story in the light of His story. That is in one sense, what our baptism is about.

During this Easter season, let us reflect on how the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection is speaking to us. As we do, we will experience the unspeakable blessing of His presence and his peace.

Blessings,

Fr.Gordon Walls

Message from Rector Emeritus

Dear Friends,

For the past few weeks we have been reading St. Paul in our Lenten Bible study. If we have learned one thing it is that the apostle is captive to the risen Christ. No one exults in the Easter joy more than he: "Behold I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed!" – What is this mystery Paul wants us to embrace? Just this—that as at creation (the 'Big Bang'), God takes the initiative: God acts. So it is He Himself who acts to redeem the world gone awry. When things are dark and life is unravelling, God acts. When life is dead, when human possibilities are exhausted, God acts. When hope is lost, God acts.

On the third day the light of the resurrected Christ flooded the darkness of His tomb and from the tomb to the world, God acts. God breaks the bars of iron asunder which death has forged, so that death yields the victory to the crucified and risen Lord.

St. Paul shouts his joy across the centuries: “Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 15.57

Happy Easter to all,
Robert

Rector Search Update On March 24, your Search Committee met again with the two Peters (Archdeacon Peter Scott, Wellington County, and Venerable Peter Wall, Transitional Consultant from the Diocese). They are very pleased with our Parish Profile, and with a few little additions we expect to be ready to go online for all to see on our St. John’s website, www.stjohnselora.ca, by the end of March, with hard copies available at church and the office for those without internet access. Finally! Then the Search officially begins in earnest as St. John’s Rector position is advertised widely, through the Diocese, nationally, and elsewhere, and applications are received by Bishop Michael Bird. He sends us his list of potential candidates to consider and we expect our interviews to begin as soon as we receive some names. Stay tuned!

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AT ST. JOHN’S			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Day</i>	
April 13	6:30 pm	Maundy Thursday	Holy Eucharist (Men’s Voices)
April 14	11:00 am	Good Friday	Ante-Communion and Reproaches
April 16	8:00 am 9:00 am 10:15 am 11:00 am	Easter Sunday	Holy Eucharist Contemporary Eucharist Choral Mattins Choral Eucharist
April 30	11:00 am	Easter II	Lessons and Carols for Eastertide
May 7	11:00 am 12:30 pm	Sunday	Patronal Festival followed by lunch, Elora Community Centre
June 7	4:00 pm	Sunday	Coronation Evensong
SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SERVICES AT CHRIST CHURCH, DRAYTON			
April 14	9:30 am	Good Friday	Ante-Communion and Homily
April 16	9:30 am	Easter Sunday	Choral Eucharist



Parish Church of St. John the Evangelist

2017 PATRONAL 'Potluck' LUNCH

Sunday, May 7th

Immediately following our 11am Sunday Service

12:30 – 2:00pm

**Elora Community Centre
6 David Street West, Elora**

Our traditional gathering to give thanks and celebrate the many blessings we enjoy as a parish community.

Our wonderful 3 choirs will entertain – not to be missed!

We welcome your favorite salad, hot/cold dish or dessert.

Please bring your potluck contributions ready to serve.

Wine, coffee/tea and an assortment of juices will be provided.

RSVP number attending and your potluck selection by April 21st

to stjohnspatronallunch@gmail.com or by calling the

Parish office at 519-846-5911.

Many thanks, we hope you'll be able to join the fellowship and fun!