

Other events

Confirmation Classes on the Horizon Sunday, February 21st following the 10 a.m. service

Confirmation is a sacrament in which the strengthening power of the Holy Spirit is granted to a member of the Church as he or she continues a journey of discipleship. Confirmation is customarily offered to young people at a time when they affirm the beliefs and responsibilities made on their behalf at Baptism. Bishop John Chapman will visit our parish on Sunday, September 26th, 2010 to conduct a service of Confirmation.

In the coming months, Confirmation classes will be offered for young people who are members of our parish and are currently (i.e. during the school year of 2009-2010) in grade six and up. There will be four to six classes held on weekend days at a time that is convenient for most of the candidates. Parents will be asked to attend some of the classes. It may be that, if there is enough interest and if there is a wide age range of those interested, two classes will be offered. On Sunday, February 21st there will be an information session, following 10 a.m. coffee, at which time we will set dates for youth confirmation classes, discuss some basic expectations for candidates, and answer any questions that there may be.

Confirmation is, of course, not only for young people. During the Bishop's visit, interested adults may also be presented for Confirmation, for reception into the Anglican Communion, or for the public renewal of Baptism. Sign-up sheets for young people and adults interested in Confirmation will soon be available following Sunday services. The preparation program for adults will be designed depending on the number interested. Feel free to contact the church office to express interest or ask any questions.

Holy Week & Easter Services 2010

Monday in Holy Week – March 29th

7 P.M. – Choral Evensong in the Chapel

Tuesday in Holy Week – March 30th

7 P.M. – Service of Scripture, Song & Silence in the Chapel

Wednesday in Holy Week – March 31st

5:30 P.M. – Church School Potluck Supper followed by Instructed Eucharist as a culmination of the program our children and youth will participate in during Lent studying the themes of baptism and the Eucharist.

Maundy Thursday – April 1st

7 P.M. – Eucharist in Foundation Hall

Good Friday – April 2nd

9:30 A.M. – Children's Service in Foundation Hall
1 P.M. – Meditations & Anthems in Foundation Hall

Easter Sunday – April 4th

6 A.M. – Easter Sunrise Service – Begins outside and moves into the chapel. Followed by breakfast (muffins, fruit, scrambled eggs and ham). A few people are needed to bring muffins/loaves to share.

8 A.M. – Festal Eucharist in the Chapel
10 A.M. – Festal Eucharist in Foundation Hall



—THE— **Lychgate** In The Pews

Revised Pre-Lent 2010

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Tuesday, February 16th, 5 – 7 p.m.

Volunteer sign up sheets are in the foyer and tickets are now available. Everyone is welcome!

Ash Wednesday Children's Activity Day, Wednesday, February 17th – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

We are very excited about our upcoming Ash Wednesday Activity Day. Children from pre-school to high school will be absented from school as we explore the deeper meanings and themes of Ash Wednesday. We will be trying some new things and keeping some of our proven favorite activities. We are looking forward to our new "church-wide" scavenger hunt where teams will race to answer trivia, perform tasks, and follow clues on this new activity day challenge. We will conclude our program with a family service in the Chapel at 4p.m. Registration forms are now available from Susan or Donna or the CCBC website (www.christchurchbellscorners.ca).

Traditional Ash Wednesday Liturgy, Wednesday, February 17th – 7 p.m. in the Chapel

Please return blessed Palm Crosses from past years to CCBC for burning prior to Ash Wednesday. There is a box on the shelf in the foyer for palms and palm crosses.

Annual Vestry Meeting, Friday, February 26th Fellowship at 6 p.m. Potluck Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Meeting to Follow

February is the season of annual Vestry meetings. At a Vestry meeting the congregation of a parish hears reports, elects officers, discusses issues, and passes a budget for the coming year. A great deal of effort, consultation, and prayer goes into the preparation of a Vestry meeting. For example, budget planning began months ago and involved a great many people. In addition, we have undertaken a full review of our Mission & Outreach program. Sometimes folks seek clarification concerning complex issues such as parish finances and other matters. Therefore we will hold an information session prior to Vestry to focus, in a relaxed atmosphere, on recommendations from the M & O Review as well as on our parish finances. This session will take place on Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer.

Many ministries of our parish submit reports on their activities of the previous year and their hopes for the future. The Vestry Package containing these materials will be available beginning Sunday, February 14th. As you can imagine, a Vestry meeting is an important time in the life of a parish. It should reflect the mind of a congregation – its leadership as well as its members. It is also a good way to become further informed about the ministry and operations of the church. Please make every effort to attend this year's Vestry meeting to be held on Friday, February 26th.

Lenten Programme and a Special Offering focussed on God's precious gift of *water*.

"With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" [Isaiah 12.3]

"I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink" [Matthew 25.35]

This year, Christ Church Bells Corners traverses the Lenten Season and joins in the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of our Primate's World Relief & Development Fund (PWRDF) through a Lenten Programme and a Special Offering focussed on God's precious gift of ***water***. Through liturgy, music, spiritual disciplines, exploration of Bible stories, a symposium on water, and a special offering to provide financial support for the PWRDF Masasi Water Project in Tanzania, we hope to:

- ❖ Deepen our biblical and theological understanding of water and its rich symbolism in both the Old and New Testaments;
- ❖ Raise our awareness of the issues surrounding water and its wise use internationally and locally;
- ❖ Give tangible expression to our commitment to provide greater and safer access to water in the Third World;
- ❖ Recognize what we can do in our own lives to be better stewards of this precious resource.

This Lent, give up chocolate if you must, but think about nourishing your mind and your heart by participating in some or all of these Lenten Offerings:

"Water: A Global Challenge for the 21st Century"

Keynote Speaker: Claude Laverdure, Senior Canadian Diplomat (ret.) and member of First Drop Foundation.

Friday, February 19th: 6:30 for 7: Dinner with keynote speaker on *Water: A Global Challenge for the 21st Century*
Saturday, February 20th: 9:30 for 10: Panel & discussion groups focusing on how we can make a difference.

A cutting edge programme on the challenges at the international and local levels surrounding clean and safe water access will feature a kick-off Lenten Dinner with a high profile keynote speaker Friday night, a panel of speakers on Saturday morning punctuated by discussion groups to explore the implications and how we might be part of the solution, including the launch of the Special Offering for the Masasi Water Project, and a closing liturgy that celebrates the life-giving quality of water, for our bodies and our souls.

The Masasi Water Project

In partnership with the Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania and CIDA, the Primate's World Development Relief Fund is striving to improve the health and well-being of the people in 10 villages through several water projects aimed at providing safe and clean water closer to home. Join us to learn more about the project and consider what contribution you can make through the Special Lenten Offering.

**Lectio Divina with the Rector
Thursdays during Lent
February 18th, 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th**

6:30 p.m. in the Lounge

Join Peter John to explore the inner workings and meanings of scripture in your life in this unique spiritual discipline that blends prayer with an experiential approach that is at once individual and collective. Throughout Lent, the passages selected will reflect the water theme.

**Chapel Chat with the Clergy – Sundays during Lent
February 21st, 28th, March 7th, 14th and 21st**

9 – 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Join us at 9 a.m. in the Chapel for a half hour discussion of Biblical stories about water, and their relevance to our 21st century lives, led by our Clergy. Among the topics – Water at Creation: Whose Responsibility?; Noah, the Deluge, and God's Covenant: Promise in the Midst of Destruction?; Jesus Stills the Waters; What do we Fear?; The Woman at the Well.

**Lenten Healing Service
Monday, March 22**

7 p.m. in the Chapel

Jesus of Nazareth was a healer. As Christians we stand in the healing ministry of Jesus and pray for wholeness and health. The Church's ministry of healing began very early with the first followers of Jesus and has continued in various ways throughout the generations of the Church. Our own Anglican spirituality has always had a place for healing in the Prayer Book tradition through laying on of hands and the sacramental rite of anointing. Part of the work of a priest very often includes anointing people who are sick and praying for their wholeness. As an extension of this ministry, we have occasionally held healing services here at CCBC. This service will begin in the Chapel at 7 p.m. - the Chapel will be open at 6:30 p.m. for a time of silent meditation. Our musical guests will again be Vocata, featuring Valerie Steeves, Irena Mandaric and Laurel O'Connor

**Palm Saturday Children's Activity Day – The Amazing gRace
Saturday, March 27th**

12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

You've heard of the Amazing Race, well now come and experience CCBC's Amazing gRace. Teams will be sent on a series of challenges and tasks as they race around our church to the finish. Come and join us for this exciting new activity day format, Saturday March 27th. Registration forms will be available March 7th.