

The Flowers at the **High Altar** are to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. E.E. & Marguerite Watson and Gareth E. & Phyllis Maybee given by Keith & Lynn Watson and family. The flowers at the **South Transept** are to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marian McKelvie give by her husband Sam and family.

Diocese of Huron Chain of Prayer - Today we pray for the parishioners of Church of the Ascension, London; St. Andrew Memorial Church, London; Holy Trinity Church, London; and St. Mark's Church, London.

Intercession List - Please pray today and through the coming week for: Tom, Teagan, Susan, Ken, Edwin, Lois, Jay, Susan, Gordon, Stephen, Florence, Shirley, Georgia, Alice, Ted, Marita, Patti, Elizabeth, Morven, Ray, Tom, Heidi, Suzanne, Jeanne, Tim, John, Marion, Charles, Katie, Leigha, Catherine, Carol, Grace, Christina, Lewis, Carleen, Heather, Joel, Margaret, Diane, Brad, Charlotte, Carol, Lois and Bob, Mary Lou, Peggy, Maya, Clemcia, Rob, Stan, Alexander, Gail, Brittney, Janice, Blanche, Norm, Joyce, Kim, Ken, Ruth, Liz, Christopher, Murray and their families and caregivers. Please also support in prayer the Alongsiders in their intercessions for others in need.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Services this week

Morning Prayer Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. in St Aidan's Chapel 8:45 a.m.

Wednesday, February 8 8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
12:15 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, February 12 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist

This Week's Events

Monday, February 6 3:30 p.m. Brio Music Program
7:00 p.m. DivorceCare

Tuesday, February 7 12:15 p.m. Noon Hour Organ Recital
Andrew Keegan Mackriell, St. Paul's Cathedral, London, ON
with Kathleen Gahagan, harp
3:30 p.m. Brio Music Program
5:00 p.m. Warden's Meeting

Wednesday, February 8 3:30 p.m. Brio Music Program
5:00 p.m. Finance Meeting
7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday, February 9 2:00 p.m. Bible Study
3:30 p.m. Brio Music Program
5:00 p.m. Parish Council Meeting

Friday, February 10 3:30 p.m. Brio Music Program

Saturday, February 11 9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast

Sundays @ 9 – Tokens of Trust: An Introduction to Christian Belief

In this five part series on Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45 a.m., continuing until February 5, 2012, we engage the classic statements of Christian faith, the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds, from the perspective of the 21st century. In particular, we try to understand how the tenets of our faith flow naturally from the fundamental belief that the Maker of Heaven and Earth is fully worthy of our trust. The series follows the Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan William's book *Tokens of Trust, An Introduction to Christian Belief*. Led by Dean Kevin Dixon.

2011 Income Tax Receipts are ready for pick up. Please see Pat Binnington during coffee hour if you wish to pick up your tax receipt and help save postage costs.

Calling all Volunteers – St. Paul's brand new initiative, *Brio Music*, is looking for parishioners who can volunteer any days they are available **Monday to Friday between 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.** *Brio Music* is a free after-school program taking place at St. Paul's that offers children music education as well as a safe and positive environment for children to spend time after school. There are different things we need volunteers for and a music background is not necessary. The program began on January 16th and runs until the end of May. If interested please talk to Gladis Funes or contact her at 519-520-6778 or gladisfunes@gmail.com

St. Paul's Famous Marmalade Many thanks to all the ladies & gentlemen who worked so hard on this most worthwhile project. A good supply of our famous St. Paul's Cathedral Marmalade is now available for sale. The cost is \$4.50 per 8 oz. jar or \$54.00 for a case of 12 jars. (\$4.00 per jar, \$48.00 per case if jars are returned). See Cicely Carter or a member of the ACW during coffee hour to make your purchase.

St. Paul's Men's Club All men of St. Paul's Cathedral are invited to join us for breakfast at "Riverdale Family Restaurant", 360 Springbank Dr. (in plaza) on **Saturday, February 11, 2012.** Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. with fellowship meeting following. Information - Ralph Askew 519-641-3289.

The Evening Women's Group will meet for their annual Valentine "red & white" Pot Luck Dinner on February 14th (6 pm for 6:30 pm). The meat portion will be provided and you are asked to bring a Red or White dish for the main course or desert. Let's dress for Valentine's Day as well. Red & White! For further information please contact Gayle Anderson 519-4711851.

Pancake Supper On Shrove Tuesday, February 21st the choir will host our traditional pancake supper together with crafts for the children from 5 pm till 7pm. Tickets are \$6.00 per person and \$20.00 for a family of four or more. The proceeds from this supper will help in the funding of future choir singing tours. Cash donations for the purchase of sausages, pancake mix, butter, etc. would be greatly appreciated. Tickets may be purchased in advance on Sunday, February 12th and Sunday, February 19th after the Sunday services.

Knitting for Peace – Do you enjoy knitting? Or would you like to learn? Starting the first Saturday of Lent, Feb. 26, I'll be offering an opportunity for knitters in the congregation to use our knitting talents to help provide warmth and comfort for those in need in our community. We will meet from 10:00am to 12:00pm on a weekly basis until the end of April, and we'll follow the community-building projects in the book **Knitting For Peace by Betty Christiansen**. Knitters of all abilities are welcome, so even if you have never knit before, come on out and learn! I'd appreciate donations of wool, yarn and knitting needles to help get us started. Odd balls of any size and colour will be gladly accepted! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email at [LINK"mailto:clark.heather26@gmail.com"](mailto:clark.heather26@gmail.com) clark.heather26@gmail.com or by phone at 519-951-8385. Thank you, Heather Clark

The children of St. Paul's Cathedral are invited to 'Cristosal Night' on the evening of February 17th at 6:00 pm. They will be having an authentic Salvadoran dinner and beverages and will be making treats which Children's Ministries will be selling on Sundays to raise awareness for Foundation Cristosal's work in El Salvador with proceeds going to the foundation. Foundation Cristosal helps the people of El Salvador with legal aid, helping build structures and wells, searching for ways to relieve some of the immense poverty in the country and uniting the communities to become stronger. We encourage the children to bring a friend with them as well. Please RSVP no later than February 16th with Gladis Funes at 519-520-6778 or at gladisfunes@gmail.com.

World Day of Prayer – Friday, March 2nd at 12:00 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral. Topic: Women of Malaysia. Everyone is welcome.

Music @ St Paul's – Remember to keep in touch with the music programme here via www.facebook.com/musicatstpauls and at musicatstpauls.blogspot.com

Speaking of Stewardship...

Pity Me!

Pity me! The hot water heater in my house bit the dust last week.

Pity me! I'm reduced to heating water in a pan on the stove for dishwashing and shaving.

Pity me! The plumber had to special order the unit that will fit, and with his busy schedule I've had to go more than a week without hot water!

I need your pity because I probably won't get much from the 1.1 billion people in the world who lack safe, clean, plentiful drinking water, according to the United Nations. Or from the families of the 3 million people who die each year from preventable water-related illnesses, according to the World Bank. Or pity from the millions who have to get water from an outside source and carry it home. Or from the millions who have running water but can only dream of hot water.

My hot water dilemma reminds me how many blessings we take for granted as citizens of a safe, wealthy, industrialized nation. We are so used to peace, freedom, plentiful food and safe water that we forget what blessings they really are. Personal stewardship begins with an attitude of gratitude for the gifts that God has given us, and gratitude becomes difficult when we take our everyday blessings for granted. My week-long experience without hot water has reminded me to appreciate anew the abundance that God is giving me: Good health, a great family, wonderful friends, a job, a house, running water, central heat, electricity, a car, and life in a free and peaceful country. It's everything I need. More than most of the world's people have. So I can share more, right? How about you?

Ron Blezard, Stewardship of Life Institute

Today's Scriptures

Malachi 3:1-4

Cyrus, King of Persia, has permitted the people of Israel to return to Palestine. The Temple, gutted in 586 BC, has been restored, but Israel is still a Persian province. People expected that their fidelity to God would be rewarded by (material) prosperity, but life has continued to be hard, so after several decades, they have lapsed into waywardness. It is the ungodly who prosper. In the old days, the king was God's agent, but now (there being no king), the priests have assumed this role. In previous chapters, the prophet has condemned the priests for despising God, corrupting worship and misleading the people.

A "messenger" (v.1) or angel, God's agent, will come to prepare a way for him. God, long expected, will come to "his temple", to the priests. God's "covenant" with Israel was summed up in the priests. His arrival will be sudden, unannounced. Verse 2 implies that when God comes, he will judge the people. (The accused *stands* to hear judgement.) A *refiner* used the heat of a fire to separate ore into pure metal and slag; a *fuller* cared for newly shorn wool or woven garments by cleaning them, purifying them, with lye. The messenger will "purify ... and refine", (v.3) the priests ("the descendants of Levi") until they hold him in proper respect. Their offerings, on behalf of the people, will then again be "pleasing to the Lord" (v. 4). God will judge adversely those who deviate from proper moral behaviour and from his ways (v. 5). Chapter 4:5 tells us the messenger is Elijah; hence the popular belief in Jesus' day that Elijah would return.

Luke 2:22-40

Jesus has been circumcised, marking him as a member of God's chosen people, Israel, through whom world salvation was to be achieved. After childbirth, it was 40 days before a mother could be purified before a priest in the Temple, so it is at least that long since Jesus' birth. She was expected to offer a lamb, along with a turtledove or a pigeon; if she were poor (as Mary is), two turtledoves or pigeons sufficed. Exodus required that every firstborn boy be consecrated to God. Jesus' presentation in the Temple is like Samuel's. Jesus and his family fulfil the requirements of Mosaic law.

Simeon looks forward to the coming of the Messiah to restore Israel to favour with God ("the consolation of Israel", v. 25). The Spirit has told him that he will see the Christ before he dies (v. 26). Simeon's words in vv. 29-32 are known as the *Nunc Dimittis*, from the first words in Latin. He begins by saying that God is setting him free, as a slave is granted liberty. He is now free to die (for the Spirit's revelation to him is now fulfilled), and Israel is free of bondage. God has saved Israel, as he promised to "all peoples"; his salvation is for Gentiles too. In v. 33, Joseph is Jesus' legal father. Simeon prophesies in vv. 34-35 through the Spirit (v. 25). Jesus is destined for the death and resurrection ("the falling and the rising", v. 34) of many; he will meet opposition, and will cause many to think deeply about him. Mary too will need to decide for or against Christ ("own soul", v. 35). Simeon and Anna together stand before God; to Luke, men and women are equal in God's eyes. Anna praises God, and tells many the meaning of Jesus, as Simeon has prophesied. Like Samuel, "the favour of God was upon him" (v. 40).

Readings for next Sunday

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 - Paul has written that he has been “entrusted with a commission” from God to spread the good news. He has gone beyond what God expects of him, making himself the servant of all. He accepts this discipline voluntarily, and “for the sake of the gospel”.

Mark 1:40-45 - At Capernaum Jesus has surprised those worshipping and studying in the synagogue by teaching without reference to the scriptures and by healing a mentally disturbed man by command alone. He has also cured Peter’s mother-in-law of a fever. He has now moved on to other towns in Galilee.