St. Mark's Chronicles

APRIL 2023





From the Rector's Desk

By The Venerable Peter Scott

Easter is the principal feast in the Christian calendar surpassing Christmas and all other holy days in the year. It is, as well, a movable feast

occurring each year on the first Sunday after the full moon after the spring equinox. It is a time of year when we are hopeful; the weather improves, the days get longer and the 40 days of penitence in Lent end and the 50 days of celebration begin with Easter Day.

What is there to celebrate, you may well ask? The ware in Ukraine is dragging on, the economy is out of control with high inflation, Covid-19 is still with us, and winter doesn't seem to know that spring has sprung. There are signs of hope, but you have to look for them and they are in places that you might not expect to find them. We have been able to carry on with our food cupboard ministry and the Beacon, and 12 Step groups and other renters with whom we are partners are in full swing.

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Fluffy and Cedric

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

Fluffy, the orphan bunny and Cedric the orphan snake lived in the forest; they were, by an

amazing coincidence, both blind from birth. One morning, bright and early Fluffy was hopping through the forest when he tripped over the body of Cedric who was basking in the sunlit undergrowth. Fluffy landed quite hard on the prostrate body of Cedric.

Crikey,' exclaimed Fluffy the bunny, 'I'm so sorry. I didn't mean to squash you. I've been blind since birth, so, I can't see where I'm going. In fact, since I'm also an orphan, I don't even know what creature I am.'

'That's OK, mate,' commented Cedric the snake. 'Actually my story is much the same as yours. I, too, have been blind since birth and also never knew my mother. Tell you what, maybe I could slither all over you and work out what you are, so at least you'll be able to find that out. 'What a marvellous idea,' replied Fluffy the bunny.

So the Cedric slithered all over Fluffy and said, 'Well, you're covered with soft fur, you have really long ears, your nose twitches and you have a soft cottony tail. I'd say that you must be a bunny rabbit.'

'Oh, thank you, thank you,' cried Fluffy with tremendous pleasure. Then Fluffy the bunny suggested to the snake, 'Perhaps I could be allowed to feel you all over with my paw and help you the same way that you've helped me.'

So Fluffy the bunny felt Cedric the snake all over and summarised, 'Well, you're smooth and slippery, you have a forked tongue and no backbone. I'd say you must be either a team leader or possibly someone in government.'

All I Need to Know About Life I Learned from the Easter Bunny



Don't put all of your eggs in one basket. Walk softly and carry a big carrot. Everyone needs a friend who is all ears.

There's no such thing as too much candy. All work and no play can make you a basket case. A cute little tail attracts a lot of attention.

Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day. Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits. Some body parts should be floppy.

Keep your paws off other people's jellybeans. The grass is always greener in someone else's basket. An Easter bonnet can tame even the wildest hare.

To show your true colors you have to come out of your shell. The best things in life are still sweet and gooey!

Parish Profile

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray



Helen Farewell

Helen was born in Toronto in 1929. She was baptized at The Church of the Redeemer and confirmed at St. Anne's Parish. Helen graduated from Central Tech High School and worked as a long-distance operator for Bell.

In her twenties, looking for some adventure, she moved to the states and worked as a temp receptionist for a while until getting a job in Los Angeles in the business office of Bell working in small claims court. Her final move before coming back to Canada, was in Santa Monica where she worked for Systems Development Corp, a think tank factory which developed military manoeuvres for the U.S. Army which required her to have security clearance. Helen continued going to church in the states – to the closest episcopal church to where she was.

After moving back to Toronto she met Bill at a dance in 1982 and months later they were married. They moved to Alton where they lived for 10 years. They adopted their daughter Connie and decided to move to Orangeville where Helen worked as a sheriff's bailiff for Tom Collyer. She left the work force permanently after Connie died.

She and Bill have lived in Orangeville for 30 years until bill died last year. Helen is on her own now and still attends St. Mark's as she has done for the past 30 years. You can find her at the 8:30 service most Sunday mornings. Having had to give up her car a few years ago, she is grateful to those parishioners who have offered to pick her for the service.

Book Review

By The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray



Looking for Jane by Heather Marshall

A beautifully written book about the history of women and motherhood and the choices that were made as far back as the 60s. Although the book is fiction, it has a solid foundation in historical fact surrounding underground abortion networks and the postwar-era maternity home system/forced adoption mandate in Canada.

The characters in the story will stir up a sense of grief and outrage when you read about events that occurred in our time but were probably unknown by most of us. It is an eye-opening story that still has repercussions for some mother/daughter relationships today.

The author states in her notes that this book is not about "abortion", it is about motherhood – about wanting to be a mother and not wanting to be a mother and all the grey areas in between. I am glad I read this book. I feel a little wiser about human nature and the history of how women have made strides to rise above patriarchy and outdated societal restrictions.

Easter in my Hand

There's a rainbow in my hand Full of colors that are bright They remind me of the Savior Who was born on Christmas night

He left his throne in Heaven To forgive the sins of man The candy from this egg Will reveal his mighty plan

The purple one reminds me Of the sin that's in my heart It separated God from man And drove them both apart

The red candy reminds me Of the blood that Jesus lost When he went up on the hill And he died upon the cross

Then Sunday morning came And the stone was rolled away By the orange light of sunrise Christ arose on Easter day

Green is the color of the New life in the spring It tells me of the new life That knowing Jesus brings

Yellow is the color of The gold that lines the street In Heaven up above Where Jesus we will meet

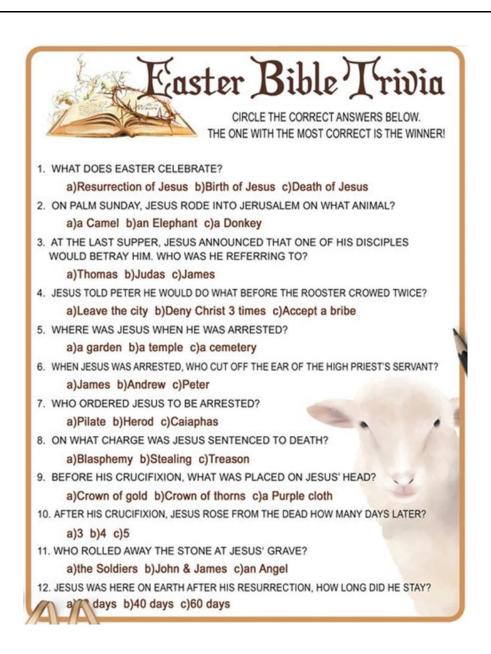
The rainbow in my hand says That Jesus died for me The Savior in my life says That now my heart is free

A Little Bit of Humour

Thanks to The Rev'd Canon Lynne Thackwray

The Secret Service

A parishioner was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the preacher was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed the parishioner by the hand and pulled him aside. The Pastor said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!" The parishioner replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Pastor." Pastor questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."



The Quiet Corner

Thanks to Lee & June Moir

Always Say a Prayer (ASAP)

There's work to do, deadlines to meet, You've got no time to spare, But as we hurry and curry, Always say a prayer.

In the midst of family chaos, "quality time" is rare,
Do your best: let God do the rest
Always say a prayer.

It may seem like your worries are more than you can bear, Slow down and take a breather, Always say a prayer.

God know how stressful life is; He wants to ease our cares, And He'll respond A.S.A.P. -ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

From the Rector's Desk

By The Venerable Peter Scott

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This does mean that there is a need, a need that in many cases is critical, but e are responding to that need. All of us have a need for God in our lives and I know that Lent makes us painfully aware of that fact.

On April 9, Easter Day, we will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus which is our greatest hope, now and to come. I pray that we can continue to journey together through Lent and Holy Week to that celebration.

Church Information

Connect With Us

Website: www.saintmark.ca YouTube: saintmarkorangeville Facebook: saintmarkorangeville

Phone: 519-941-0640 Email: office@saintmark.ca

Services

Sunday Eucharist – 8:30 a.m. Sunday Choral Eucharist – 10:00 a.m. Thursday Eucharist – 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Food Cupboard Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

The Beacon Drop-In Centre

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Address

5 First Avenue Orangeville, ON P.O. Box 22 L9W 2Z5