

## Easter Day

page 1 BAS page 335

The Rev'd Canon W. Lynn Dillabough may be reached at 819-239-6902 or [lynn@dillabough@gmail.com](mailto:lynn@dillabough@gmail.com). If you would like a pastoral visit, please contact Jane Bishop at 819-887-6802 or Canon Lynn.

**News and events: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia! Happy Easter greetings to all**  
**Our happy birthday wishes to Betty Dougherty on Wednesday and to Joanne Smyth on Friday.**

**April 3, Second Sunday of Easter, Holy Eucharist** with Canon Lynn in St. Paul's Church, Bury at 9:30am with Sunday School available, and in St. Peter's Cookshire at 11:00am.

**Lectio Divina - Beginning Monday, April 4 to Monday, June 13, please note the change of day and time to Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00p.m.** at St George's, Lennoxville. All are welcome for an hour of quiet reflection on the lectionary readings. We use the method of Lectio Divina to listen for God's Word speaking in our lives. No need to sign up. Any questions, please contact [lynn@dillabough@gmail.com](mailto:lynn@dillabough@gmail.com)

**Episcopal Ordination of the Ven. Bruce Myers, Coadjutor Bishop-Elect:** The Deanery is organizing a bus to transport people to the Cathedral for the episcopal ordination on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. A bus will leave from St George's Church, Lennoxville at 1:00 pm to allow time for supper before the service. There is a reception so the return trip will be late in the evening. The cost will depend on the number of participants. Reservations and pre-payment required. Please contact Kay Hartwell for information and to reserve your seat. (819 349-1971) The more the merrier and the more economical so plan to join us.

**Wednesday, April 6, 5:15-6:45 St Paul's, Bury - Messy Church.** All families with children 12 and under are welcome for this time of learning and worship. Parents (or grandparents) attend along with their children as we learn about our faith and enjoy a good meal. Storytelling, crafts, worship and dinner with materials and food all provided. We do collect a freewill offering during worship. This month we are learning about resurrection and hope. If you would like to attend, or would like more information about the program, please contact [lynn@dillabough@gmail.com](mailto:lynn@dillabough@gmail.com)

**Saturday, April 9, 1:00 – 5:00 pm - Opening to the Spirit Afternoon** Writing Retreat at St Paul's United Church in Magog. All are welcome to join the authors of the weekly Opening to the Spirit column (Fridays Sherbrooke Record) for an afternoon of writing and sharing. Suggested \$19 donation to cover cost of materials and refreshments provided. Please contact [lynn@dillabough@gmail.com](mailto:lynn@dillabough@gmail.com) for more info and to register.  
See **More News & Events on page 4...**

**Sentence:** Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore let us keep the feast.  
*1 Corinthians 5.7-8.*

**Collect:** Lord of life and power, through the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have overcome the old order of sin and death and have made all things new in him. May we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

March 27, 2016

**This week please pray for:**

- We pray for God's people throughout the world; for Dennis, our Bishop, Lynn, our Priest, Coadjutor Bishop-elect Bruce, Fred our Primate, and for all in leadership, both lay and ordained. Grant them the gifts of wisdom and courage as they lead the church.

- In our Diocesan Fellowship of prayer, we pray for the Parish of Sept-Iles, for All Saints' Anglican and St. Andrew's United Church, for lay incumbent Linda Stubbart; for our Companion Dioceses of Moray Ross and Caithness in Scotland and Bishop Mark Strange, and for Bujumbura in Burundi and Bishop Eraste Bigirimana.

- In the Provincial Prayer Cycle, we pray for Bishop Mark McDonald, National Indigenous Bishop, and for the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples; in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

- In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle we pray for Christian faith communities in China, Hong Kong and Macao.

- We give thanks to God for those preparing for baptism, especially for baby, Colleena Cooper and her parents, Angela and Bobby Cooper. We pray for our families, friends, and communities; and we ask God's blessings for Betty Dougherty and Joanne Smyth on their birthdays.

- We pray that God may reveal the light of His presence to the weak and the sick, that they may be comforted and strengthened, and we pray especially for Joan Dougherty, The Ven. Robert Bryan, Dufferin Annesley, Eva Rider, Sandra Hurd, Maria Garcia, Orvil Anderson, and Tereasa MacLeod.

- We pray that there may be peace and justice for all in the world. **Amen.**

**More News & Events con't from page 1...**

**Cancelled!** Sunday, April 3 - 2:00p.m. St Augustine's Church, Danville - Country Gospel Hour. **Please note this has been cancelled.**

**Confirmation Class - St John's Church, Waterville** - Confirmation classes to begin at St. John's, Waterville. All who are interested please contact the Rev. Ruth Charleau ASAP so that she can plan the starting date and get material for everyone. 12 years old and up.

**Baptism on April 24th** in St. Paul's Bury we ask your prayers for the candidate, Colleena Cooper, and for her parents, Angela and Bobby Cooper.

**Education for Ministry - Year One: September 2016 until June 2017** - Beginning in September, there will be an opportunity for new participants from the deanery to begin the Education for Ministry program. Now is the time to start thinking about this. EfM is a four-year program of theological education for lay people. The commitment is high, but the rewards are many as you learn to reflect theologically on your own life and on the world in which we live. First year involves an intensive study of the Old Testament scriptures. The following three years are on the topics of: New Testament, Church History, Theology, Ethics, and Ecumenism/Inter-Faith Dialogue. All years have a strong component of practical theological reflection. In many dioceses this is the standard formation program for lay readers, but anyone seeking greater maturity in their faith will find the program enriching. Canon Lynn Dillabough is the registrar in the Deanery and co-mentors the program with the Rev. Ruth Charleau. You may contact her if you would like any more information at [lynn@dillabough@gmail.com](mailto:lynn@dillabough@gmail.com).

page 4

**A Reading from the Book of Acts...**<sup>27</sup>When they had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.”<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority.”<sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.<sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.<sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”  
*Acts 5:27-32*

**Psalms 118:14-29** BAS page 867 or **Psalms 150** BAS page 909

**A Reading from the Revelation to John...**<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,<sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,<sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.<sup>8</sup>“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. *Revelation 1:4-8*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John...**<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”<sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.<sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”<sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.<sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.<sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”<sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”<sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”<sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.<sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. *John 20:19-31*

**Reflection:** Embracing faith in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead is challenging. It was challenging even for Jesus’ disciples, even for those who were closest to him! Thomas, one of Jesus’ hand-picked apostles, refused to believe without proof. No matter what the others told him, he simply would not believe. Unfortunately, this incident has earned him the nickname “Doubting Thomas.” But Thomas was by no means a “doubter” in his relationship with Jesus. Quite the opposite was true—he was one of Jesus’ most

diligent and devoted followers. When it became clear that Jesus was determined to go to Jerusalem to die, it was Thomas who said to the others, “let us go, that we may die with him” (Jn. 11:16).

So then, why didn’t Thomas believe the unbelievably good news that the others were telling him? Whatever the reason, a week later, Jesus appeared to the apostles again. This time Thomas was there and Jesus invited him to prove for himself the good news of what the others had claimed. He let Thomas see the very wounds that he still bore on his body. And in response, Thomas made one of the most exalted confessions of faith in this Gospel: “My Lord and my God!”

But Jesus’ approach to faith was not one that endorsed seeing the evidence in order to prove it for oneself. In fact, he said “blessed are those who have not seen, and yet believed” (Jn. 20:29). This is consistent with what we know of him elsewhere. The multitudes kept coming to him and asking him for some kind of miraculous sign in order that they might believe that he was who he claimed to be. But Jesus refused. I think he knew that a faith that depends on some kind of proof or verification constantly has to be re-proven and re-verified. Those who look for evidence are always looking for evidence, and never really take the leap that faith entails.

Faith is a choice; a choice to look at reality from the point of view that God is making all things new rather than that death is the ultimate reality. But that kind of choice isn’t something you can prove or verify. Faith is also a response; a response to our experience of something beyond us, something that perhaps even strains our ability to understand or imagine. Alan Brehm

**Chuckles: An attendant on a cross-country flight** nervously announced: "I don't know how this happened, but we have 103 passengers aboard and only 40 dinners."

When the passengers' muttering had died down, she continued, "Anyone who is kind enough to give up his meal so someone else can eat will receive free drinks for the length of the flight."

Her next announcement came an hour later.

"If anyone wants to change his mind, we still have 29 dinners available!"

**A man had been driving all night** and by morning was still far from his destination. He decided to stop at the next city he came to, and park somewhere quiet so he could get an hour or two of sleep.

As luck would have it, the quiet place he chose happened to be on one of the city's major jogging routes. No sooner had he settled back to snooze when there came a knocking on his window. He looked out and saw a jogger running in place. "Yes?" the man said.

"Excuse me, sir," the jogger said, "do you have the time?"

The man looked at the car clock and answered, "8:15".

The jogger said thanks and left. The man settled back again, and was just dozing off when there was another knock on the window and another jogger said, "Excuse me, sir, do you have the time?"

"8:25!"

The jogger said thanks and left. Now the man could see other joggers passing by and he knew it was only a matter of time before another one disturbed him. To avoid the problem, he got out a pen and paper and put a sign in his window saying, "I do not know the time!"

Once again he settled back to sleep. He was just dozing off when there was another knock on the window.

"Sir, sir? It's 8:45!"



