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News and events:

Our best wishes for a happy birthday to Cathy Jacklin and Norma Harrison on Thursday.

Next Sunday, July 10th, our one-point parish service will be a Service of the Word in St. Paul's Church Bury at 10:30 am led by lay reader.

Altar Linens, Cruets, Palls, and Burses Available - Canon Lynn had dozens of these items from churches that have amalgamated into the new model, and they are available to any church who needs them. They were on display at the new model meeting June 16 and have been left with Archdeacon Simonton. Most need washing and/or repair but there are a lot of treasures, too.

Last Tuesday night a big tree was blown down into St. John's Cemetery Brookbury during the storm that passed through the area. We extend our thanks to Robert Coleman, Incumbent's Warden, for organizing a crew to come and clean up the fallen tree and having another dead tree cut down. We are grateful to all who worked together to get the job done. In our small congregations we really have to depend on our volunteers. Thanks to all of you!

Brookbury Community Centre will hold a series of card parties in the hall on July 5th, 12th, and 19th at 1:30pm. A lunch will be served. For more information call Brenda at 819-884-5984.

Friday, July 8th the Sacred Harp singers will gather at St. Martin's Chapel at Bishop's College School from 7:00 – 9:00pm which will begin their weekend gathering.

July 31st the 5th Sunday Deanery service will be in St. Barnabas Church, North Hatley at 10:30 am with The Ven. Richard Salt officiating. All local churches will be closed.

July 31st at 2:00pm St. John's Cemetery Brookbury will have their annual Flower Service.

Sentence: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. *Colossians 3.15, 16*

Collect: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of your children we do also for him. Give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, but lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

This week please pray for:

- **We pray for** God's people throughout the world; for Bishop Dennis, Coadjutor Bishop Bruce, for all clergy, and for those 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 Fort Haldimand Camp, Quebec Lodge and Parish Bible Day Camps. We pray for all staff and participants; 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 Anglican Cycle** of Prayer, we pray for the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea, for The Rt Revd Clyde Igara Archbishop of Papua New Guinea & Bishop of Dogura.

- **In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle** we pray for Christian faith communities in Bolivia, Chile, and Peru. We pray for the impoverished and oppressed, for an end to drug trafficking throughout the region, and the availability of other economic means of support, for social, economic, and political reforms, that they bring justice for all, for the rights of indigenous and mestizo (mixed race) peoples in these countries.

- **We give thanks for** our families, friends, and communities, and we ask blessings for Cathy Jacklin and Norma Harrison on their birthdays; for Robert Coleman and the team of workers who cleared the fallen tree from St. John's Cemetery, and for all who volunteer their time and skills for the work of the church.

- **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, Sandra Hurd, Maria Garcia, Wanda Sylvester, Audrey Dougherty, and Erwin Watson.

- **We pray for** all who are on vacation; for all traveling; for an end to terrorism and gun violence; for all who have been displaced by fires and floods; for mercy, peace, and justice in the world, and for our country, Canada, on its 149th birthday. **Amen.**

Prayer for Burundi: For the beautiful but poor country of Burundi, we pray dear Lord. For the population living in fear and dread, afraid of the unknown and the uncertain, we ask for hope. For those fleeing in Burundi or abroad, we pray for safety, freedom from disease and famine and the security that they may return home.

For those seeking the way of violence that they would instead seek reconciliation between all parties. For the surrounding countries that they may remain at peace, act justly and broker a just settlement. Enable an end to violence so that Burundi may become a beacon of peace rather than a place of fear and death. Strengthen your church to stand for the ways of justice and righteousness and to reach out in love to the suffering. We ask these things in the name of Him who carried all our human failings on the cross, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A Reading from the Book of Amos...⁷This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand.⁸And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; ⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words.¹¹For thus Amos has said, ‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.’”¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there;¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees,¹⁵and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”¹⁶“Now therefore hear the word of the Lord. You say, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not preach against the house of Isaac.’”¹⁷Therefore thus says the Lord: ‘Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword, and your land shall be parceled out by line; you yourself shall die in an unclean land, and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.’” *Amos 7:7-17*

Psalm 82 (BAS page 815)

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians...Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. ³In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God.⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf,⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. ⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God’s will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God.¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. *Colossians 1:1-14*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke...²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?”²⁷He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.”²⁸And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”³⁰Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to

Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead.³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side.³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity.³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?”³⁷He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.” *Luke 10:25-37*

Reflection: We all know the commandment, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” It’s at the heart of our faith. Although it is associated with Jesus, it was the heart of the Jewish faith long before Jesus’ day. It’s not even unique to the Jewish and Christian traditions. Every world religion advocates compassion for one’s fellow human beings. Jesus just set the bar about as high as it could go. He insisted that we treat all people as brothers and sisters, as beloved children of God, as persons of value and worth. That means regardless of where they live or what they wear or whether they went to school or even have a job. “You shall love your neighbour as yourself” includes everybody.

In Jesus’ day, there was no such thing as a “good” Samaritan in the eyes of most of Jesus’ Jewish contemporaries. Samaritans were the “unclean Samaritans,” the “unwelcome Samaritans,” or the “hated Samaritans.” Jesus made a despised Samaritan the hero of the parable. More than that, Jesus made him the example for Jewish people to follow if they wanted to obey the command to “love your neighbour as yourself.” That was turning their world upside down. The outcast became the ideal for those who viewed themselves above him. That would have been like making a terrorist into a spiritual example for us to follow. It was shocking; it was confusing; it was offensive to them.

In order to love our neighbours, we have to first recognize their humanity. We have to recognize the humanity of the homeless, the refugees, the migrant workers, the single moms, and elderly retirees on welfare in order to love them enough to truly work with them to help improve their well being. That’s where compassion starts. It’s more than just feeling sorry for them, or giving money to causes that support them. It requires recognizing “that every human face is the face of a neighbour.” – Alan Brehm

Chuckle: A company, feeling it was time for a shake-up, hired a new CEO. This new boss is determined to rid the company of all slackers. On a tour of the facilities, the CEO notices a guy leaning on a wall. The room is full of workers and he thinks this is his chance to show everyone he means business! The CEO walks up to the guy and asks, "And how much money do you make a week?" Undaunted, the young fellow looks at him and replies, "I make \$200.00 a week. Why?" The CEO then hands the guy \$200 in cash and screams, "Here's a week's pay, now GET OUT and don't come back!"

Feeling pretty good about his first firing, the CEO looks around the room and asks, "Does anyone want to tell me what that slacker did here?"

With a sheepish grin, one of the other workers mutters, "He's the pizza delivery guy."

