

A Message from Bishop Clara...

I have often found the season of Lent to be a time for reflection and going deeper in my faith. This year it has been particularly enriching as I have enjoyed companioning about 23 people from across the Territory as we delved into the topic of forgiveness using materials from the Living Compass Wellness & Spirituality Initiative (www.livingcompass.org). The conversations have been thoughtful and engaging. There have been other learning opportunities in parishes throughout the Territory and I hear that they are well-attended with enthusiastic learners as well. It makes my heart sing to hear of the hunger and desire to grow in our faith. To be a disciple is to see ourselves as life-long learners who together are seeking to become more and more who God has called us to be. We are learning how to be like Jesus – to live out our faith in ways that will help us to love God and our neighbours.

What are you noticing in this season of Lent? What is God inviting you to experience or learn as you live into your understanding of faith? As we prepare to make our way through Holy Week and the Passion Story, can we remain open to God's Spirit who desires to teach, encourage and sometimes challenge us? What will we need for the journey ahead?

I'm looking forward to continuing my travels and visiting tour. I will be on the road from Palm Sunday until Easter Sunday, living out of a suitcase, visiting and worshipping in various communities. It will be a Holy Week pilgrimage, and I pray for God's wisdom and guidance as I make my way. Perhaps the symbol of a suitcase is apropos! Afterall, Christ called his disciples to pack lightly for the journey.

Join me in praying for each other, for our communities, neighbours and the world around us who are desperately in need of God's healing presence. May our Lenten journey inspire us to keep going even when we are not clear on where we are going. I leave you with this prayer from Thomas Merton (one of my favourites):

"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following You will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please You does in fact please You. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that, if I do this, You will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust You always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for You are ever with me, and You will never leave me to face my perils alone. Amen" – Thomas Merton, *Thoughts in Solitude*, page 79.

In Christ's service,

Bishop Clara

Bishop's Schedule March - April 2024

March

Mar 3	Ashcroft – St. Alban's
Mar 10	Monte Creek – St. Peter's
Mar 21	Administration Committee on Zoom
Mar 24	Palm Sunday – Quesnel – St. John the Divine
Mar 28	100 Mile House – Maundy Thursday Service – St. Timothy's & St. Peter's
Mar 29	Williams Lake - Good Friday – St. Peter's
Mar 31	Kamloops – Easter Services with Confirmation – St. Paul Cathedral

April

Apr 6	Coordinating Council Special Meeting – Zoom
Apr 7 – 12	National House of Bishops – Niagara Falls
Apr 13-15	Lillooet/Lytton Visit
Apr 22-25	National Executive Officers Conference – Regina
Apr 29-30	Clericus Retreat Day – Williams Lake



(photo credits: Philomena Hughes)

Prayer Corner



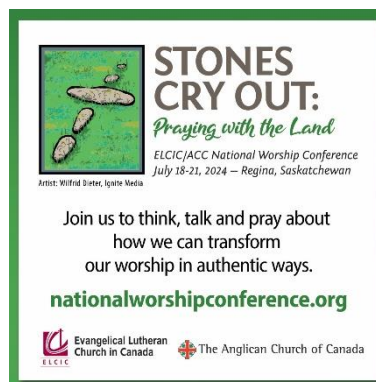
- * We pray for our neighbours, families and friends that they may experience the love of Christ in and through us.
 - * We pray for clergy and lay leaders as they prepare for the busyness of Holy Week/Easter preparations.
 - * We pray for those preparing for baptism and confirmation.
 - * We pray for lay staff in the Territory and in parishes.
 - * We pray for new wardens, treasurers, council members and assembly delegates.
 - * We pray for our Pastoral Elders: Ursula Drynock, Amy Charlie, Pauline and Ernie Michell
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- * We pray for all who are confined by illness, praying they may find peace and strength in the love and care they receive from others.
 - * We pray for those who are impacted by the opioid crisis, for their families and friends.
 - * We pray for peace in the world, especially in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and Sudan.
 - * We pray for the millions of refugees and those displaced by war, famine or flood.
 - * We pray for those who are nearing death or have died, and for those who mourn.

Territory News:

- **Anglican Foundation of Canada:** A reminder that the next deadline for applications is April 1st. All applications are to be reviewed and approved by Coordinating Council and the bishop. For more information go to: www.anglicanfoundation.org
- **Holy Week/Easter Services:** Be sure to check the Territory Website for information about various Holy Week and Easter Services in parishes throughout the Territory. Please note that the Maundy Thursday Service at the Cathedral will be livestreamed on their Facebook page should your parish be unable to offer Holy Week services.

Other News:

National Worship Conference 2024. This conference will be held in Regina this July 18-21.



O God of unchangeable power and eternal light, look favorably on your whole Church, which is a wonderful and sacred mystery. In your eternal foreknowledge, you peacefully do your saving work for humanity. Let the whole world know that things that were cast down are being raised up, and things that had grown old are being made new, and all things are being restored by him in whom they have their beginning; Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ~ *Holy Saturday, from [Ancient Collects, ed. William Bright,](#)*

Around the Territory



Around
the Territory

