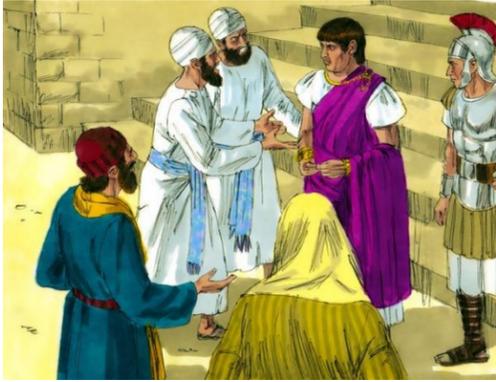


March 20, 2016

Palm Sunday

Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10
 Luke 19:28-40

An Unfortunate Legacy



As Christians, we live under the burden of a sad and violent history of anti-Semitism, in the sobering shadow of the Holocaust of the last century. It is critical for us to be clear about what our scriptures mean when they make reference to “the Jews,” especially during Holy Week, when we contemplate Jesus’ death.

When the crucifixion narratives speak of “the chief priests and leaders of the people,” they are referring to officials who collaborated closely with the Roman systems of oppression, and were viewed with contempt by much of the Jewish community in

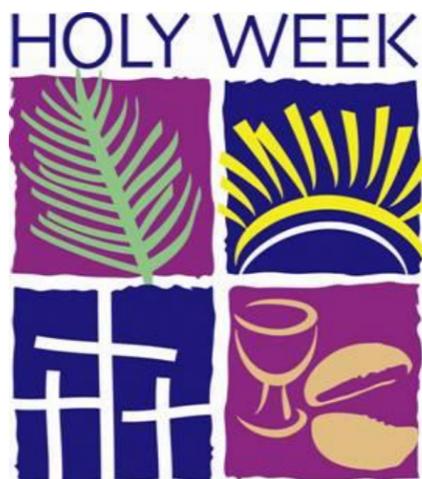
their time. They should not be identified with the Jewish people of the past as a whole, and certainly not with Jews in the present.

It may be helpful to recall the cultural context of our Christian scriptures, emerging as they did from a small, originally Jewish community of believers in Jesus as the Messiah. All of the Gospels originated from Jewish communities. Jesus himself, was born, lived, and was crucified, a Jew. Any criticism of Jews from Gospel writers should be understood as the expression of differences of opinion among or about their fellow Jews. The gospels’ use of the term “the Jews” therefore, should not be read as a criticism of the Jewish religion, and especially not as a condemnation of an entire people, either then, or now.

It is one of the bitter ironies of history that our sacred texts have been used to justify the persecution of the covenant people, from whom our Saviour came, and who are created, as we all are, in the precious image of God.

by Rev. Mary Luti

This Week at Inca



Palm Sunday, March 20

8:30am – Spoken worship with the Liturgy of the Branches

10:00am – Choral worship with the Liturgy of the Branches

8:00pm – Contemplative Fire Gathering, a time to reflect, meditate and renew your spirit

Maundy Thursday, March 24

6:30pm. Join us as we share a community potluck meal, celebrate the liturgy, and hold a hand-washing ceremony.

Good Friday, March 25

10am - Liturgy of the Passion – reflections in scripture and song

Holy Saturday, March 26 –

8:30pm - The Great Vigil of Easter celebrated in joyful song

Easter Sunday, March 27,

8:30am - Contemplative Holy Communion

10am – A Choral Easter Day service with an expanded choir featuring music from Handel’s *Messiah*



Hot Cross Buns!

We’re looking for bakers to whip up some of these Easter favourites to be enjoyed after our Good Friday worship.

Please see sign-up sheet in the office if you can bake a dozen or two. Recipe available, or feel free to use your family’s secret recipe.



Syrian Refugee Family

A huge thank you for all the furniture donations for our incoming family! The only item we are still looking for is a coffee table. Please contact Mary Loeffler at 905-825-0982 if you have any items to donate.

These items will be collected each Sunday by the following people:

- Household items - Lesley Hickey
- Clothing - Jean Grieve and Judy Vanderwater
- Toys, books, car seats (forward facing and booster type) - Lynne Jenkins

Our family will have many adjustments to make to life in Canada. It is important that they have some of the comforts of home, including familiar food, during this time. It’s fine if there are multiples of staples, like rice and beans. You can bring your donations to church, or arrange to deliver them to Leslie Hickey.



Choir Practice –

The choir rehearses every Wednesday **at 7:30**. Share your voice, all welcome. Rehearsals for Easter begin this week, 7:30-8:30 PM.



Easter Flowers:

Donation envelopes are now available at the greeter's table. Please make sure to fill out the front of the envelope and hand it to one of the counters.



Wing and a Prayer – Thursday, March 31, 2016!

We meet at 6:30pm at Monaghan's. Cost: \$25 per person including food and drink. RSVP Rob Moniuk (Robert@Moniuk.ca).

Everyone is welcome!



Contemplative Fire – Sunday, March 20, 8:00pm.

Are you looking for time to reflect, meditate and recharge your spiritual life? Each meeting begins with a communal sharing of food followed by quiet and intentional reflection in the gathering area. The response to this has been very encouraging. We continue to see new faces at each meeting and look forward to growing this community. For more information, please speak to Michael. All are welcome.



Go for the Gold – Fundraising event for Incarnation

Next appraisal session: Saturday, March 19 3-5pm

Doug will be on site again on to discuss in more detail

We had a great response to our first appraisal session! Gather up your broken and unwanted gold items, coins, paper money, donate them to the church by putting them in the envelopes provided, and receive a tax receipt for the value once the items have been sold.



Continuing to Break the Silence Workshop Series

Thursdays 6-9:30pm at Incarnation

A series of three workshops to explore vital personal and relational areas of mental health. Contact Karen Pitt for more information karpitt@gmail.com 902-880-4780

April 5 – About Abuse

April 12 - Suicide and Self-harm

April 19 Caring for the Relationally Damaged



Youth Synod

Session 1: April 15-17,

Session 2: May 27-28

Contact Su McLeod for more details su.mcleod@niagaraanglican.ca

Niagara Youth Conference – August 28 to September 2, 2016

A caring, spiritual, participatory learning community that encourages inclusivity and personal growth - mitigated, of course, by fun and frivolity! This is a residential conference for youth ages 13-21. Early bird registration is now open. Details can be [found here](#)



Youth Group Events-

For info contact Phil Carver at incayouthprogram@gmail.com

Diocese News

JUSTnews

The Anglican Diocese of Niagara
...creating a just and loving world for all

Excerpts from the March Issue of Just News

Towards Marriage Equality

Our upcoming General Synod will consider a revision to the national Marriage Canon that would not change the meaning of marriage but broaden it to include same-sex relationships. Following a special meeting in Niagara Falls to consider the matter, the [House of Bishops issued this statement](#), which was posted alongside an [article](#) which offers some helpful context.

Bishop Michael quickly responded with a pastoral letter to express his sadness and regret that the proposed changes to the Marriage Canon lack support from the House of Bishops. In his words the changes "seek to uphold this sacred dignity in the sacrament of marriage for those who identify as LGBTQ2." You can [read the full letter here](#).

The Council of General Synod has also weighed in on the matter with a [statement to the Church](#) and a [response directed to the House of Bishops](#).

As we strive for justice as a church and work towards marriage equality please: ready, study and engage with the report on the Marriage Canon, [This Holy Estate](#). And pray for those who are delegates to General Synod as they discern God's leading.

Care in Dying

The Anglican Church of Canada [made a submission to the Special Joint Committee of Physician-Assisted Dying](#). In a letter accompanying this submission our Primate wrote that, "the seriousness of our efforts in theological-ethical thinking during these recent decades have been built upon millennia of Christian and Jewish pastoral experience in accompaniment with the sick and the dying."

A report from the national Working Group on Physician Assisted Death is expected to be released in April. Resources related to this matter are and will be [available here](#).

Caring for God's Creation

This year marks the 10th anniversary of [Earth Hour!](#) It's a worldwide movement organized by the [World Wildlife Fund](#) to inspire individuals, communities, households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 PM on Saturday March 19 as a symbolic action of care for the planet.

Don't forget that Earth Sunday is on April 17!

Community News



The Choir of St. Jude's Church

Palm Sunday, March 20, 4:00pm, St. Jude's Church

"Olivet to Calvary", A Victorian Sacred Cantata recalling the scenes which mark the last days of the Saviour's life on earth

Puttin' on the Ritz, The Talisker Players Quartet

Friday, April 8, 2016 8:00pm, St. Jude's Church

Featuring music from the Irving Berlin Songbook including: Top Hat, Cheek to Cheek, Heat Wave, Always, and Puttin' on the Ritz. Form more information call 905-844-3972. Tickets \$30

This & That



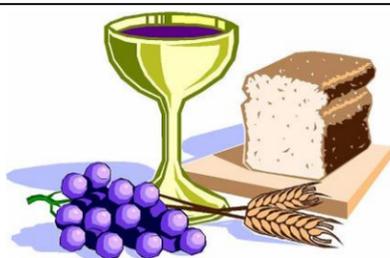
Looking to volunteer?

We have lots of way you can get involved. Positions include: altar prep, greeters, readers, hosts and coffee preparation. **Youth** can gain some volunteer high school hours. Training will be provided. Contact Claudine Boulert, at boulert@rogers.com for more information, or call 905-825-2851.



Changes to Order of Service or Bulletin News - Any changes need to be sent to the office by Tuesday, noon. office@incarnationchurch.ca

Nametags let people know who you are and make it helpful for people to put names to faces, especially for newcomers



Receiving Communion

All people at Incarnation are invited to receive the bread and wine at communion. The bread is received from the priest who stands between the servers who offer wine from the common cup; choose whatever side is free. You may choose to receive from an individual wine cups available to the left of the altar. Take one, consume the wine and replace the empty cup in the same spot. We hope this provides an inclusive approach to communion where all are welcome.

VOLUNTEER!	March 20	March 27
Bread Making	C. Surplis	A. Moniuk

Altar Prep	A. Moniuk	M. Stevens
Coffee	Hutchinson/Henley	Easter
Coffee	Lockhart	Easter
Host	B. Abrams	E. Lee
Reader 1	J. Bowden	L. Stevens
Reader 2	TBD	V. Moniuk
Gospel	J. Grieve	K. Pitt
Prayers	I. Hickey	S. Curran
Server 1	J. Stevens	P. Moffat
Server 2	B. Hanna-Morrison	A. Turner-Sommer
Wine Cups	Z. Boulert	E. Lorimer
Counting	M. Thompson	W. MacDougall