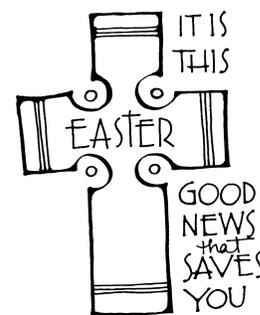


THE EPISTLE



The Dean's Corner ~ The Very Rev. Dr. Iain Luke

The beginning of March brings us to a month that is full of activity. We look forward to welcoming a group of school children to our second March Bible Camp, falling during the teachers' convention time on March 3 & 4. Please pass the word about this to anyone who may wish to take advantage of it!

Then for nearly two weeks, St James' will resound to the strains of the regional music festival. The festival itself is a great celebration of human art and creativity, gifts from God which it is such a great pleasure to see young people developing and exploring. It is also a moment of hospitality, when we welcome a large cross-section of our community into our church and hall, an opportunity which both performers and audiences really appreciate. Every year, this time reminds of the beauty we sometimes take for granted on Sunday mornings – beauty which we can hear as well as see. It also reminds us of the importance of inviting our neighbours into this space which “sounds like God” for all of us.

As soon as the music festival closes, we will launch into Holy Week. Don't let it take you by surprise! We are already in the season of Lent, and many of us have taken on (or given up) something that will prepare us for the intense time of worship at the end of the month. The

tradition of abstinence during Lent – giving up a habit or indulgence – is a tool which teaches us a lot about ourselves. At the very least, it heightens our appreciation for the goodness of God in daily life, but it can also show us how much our habits keep us focused on ourselves rather than on others.

On the other hand, one new habit many of us have taken up this season is Bible reading, through the E100 Bible Challenge. As we will come to the end of the Old Testament readings just before Holy Week, I believe we will be especially ready to see how the death and resurrection of Jesus bring that story to a climax. Not just in Bible times, but right now, the cross confronts human sin, and at the same time conquers it through the overwhelming power of God's love. Reading the whole story helps us to find ourselves in the story, cut to the heart by Jesus' death, and brought alive in an entirely new way by the coming of Easter Day.

I encourage you to take part in as many of the Holy Week observances as you can, because each service in its own way makes us part of the story as well. On Palm Sunday, we acknowledge Jesus as the one God sent to rule; but we also recognize our own part in rejecting what he came to offer. On Maundy Thursday,

we find ourselves right next to the first disciples at the Last Supper, amazed by our master's humility, and willingness to give his own life for ours. On Good Friday, we are struck by the starkness of what actually happened to Jesus, the cruelty, injustice and terror of it.

When we have walked through those days together, the wonder of the great vigil on Easter Eve, and the dawning of Easter Day, carry an even deeper meaning. They join us together as the people of God and the new body of Christ – together with each other, together with Christians of all times and places; but also joined together in a new way with our neighbours and the world around us. God gave his love, and Jesus gave his life, for the people we see every day. Make this Holy Week a time when you too can be part of that act of God's love, not just receiving it, but giving it as well.

Blessings!
Iain +



UPCOMING EVENTS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	March 3 & 4
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER ECUMENICAL SERVICE (FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH)	March 4, 11AM
CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY (ST. MARK'S HIGH PRAIRIE)	March 9, 7PM
NORTH PEACE PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL	March 4-15
HOLY WEEK	March 20-26
PALM SUNDAY SERVICE	March 20, 1030AM
MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	March 24, 6PM
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	March 25, 1030AM
HOLY SATURDAY SERVICE	March 26, 830PM
ECUMENICAL SUNRISE SERVICE—TWELVE FT. DAVIS GRAVESITE	March 27, 7AM
EASTER DAY SERVICE—ST. JAMES	March 27, 1030AM

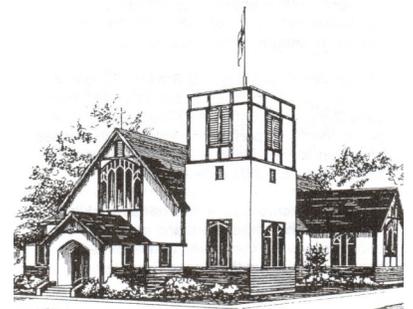
**Diocese of Athabasca
Women's Conference**
"Staying Uplifted in Trying Time!"
 (Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed)

Date: April 22 - 24, 2016 (Registration deadline April 2nd)



Guest Speaker: The Rt. Rev. Fraser Lawton
Diocese of Athabasca

Hosted by St Anne's Anglican Church, Valleyview
Location: Evangel Pentecostal Church, Valleyview



**THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF
ST. JAMES**

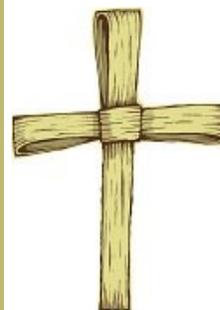
9709 98 AVENUE
PEACE RIVER, AB. T8S 1J3
780-624-2743
STJAMESADMIN@TELUS.NET
WWW.STJAMESPR.ORG

ST. JAMES OFFICE HOURS:
TUESDAY—THURSDAY, 1:30-4:30PM

We are proud that our mission is to
welcome, accept and encourage all
people in the name of Christ.

<p>St. James Anglican Cathedral</p>	WE ARE LOOKING FOR A
	VOLUNTEER TO CHANGE
	THE SIGN ON RIVERFRONT
	RD. PLEASE SPEAK TO
	BRENDA S. OR THE DEAN
	FOR MORE INFORMATION

MAKING PALM CROSSES



Wednesday,
March 16 at
1:00PM in the
Fireside Room.
Please speak
with Brenda
Sawchuk.



"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"

John 11:25-26