



REVELATIONS

Ordinary People Learning to Follow Jesus

April 2025
Volume 25 Issue 1

Clergy Team Message

At our Ash Wednesday services, we invited the parish to observe a holy Lent, “by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God” (BAS p. 282).

As we begin our Lenten journey each year, we never know where the road through Lent to the cross will take us. We don’t know the losses or joys we might encounter on the way. But we begin with the cross of ash that mirrors the cross marked on our foreheads at our baptism where we were signed with the cross and marked as Christ’s own forever.

As Christians, we live simultaneously in the shadow of the cross of Christ on Good Friday and the empty cross and tomb of Easter. We have seen and felt both of those crosses this Lenten season. We have felt the deep sorrow at the loss of friends, family, and loved ones. And we have had deep and abiding joy in the fellowship and worship we have shared together – and you will see stories of those joys in the pages that follow.

We now enter our final days of Lent with the journey of Holy Week from Palm & Passion Sunday to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the joy of the resurrection at the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. We encourage you to participate in as many Holy Week services as you are able – the full schedule is on the last page. We particularly invite you to join in the Saturday Easter Vigil at 7:30pm at Holy Trinity. Parishioners from across our whole Deanery of the Northwest will be coming together to celebrate the resurrection and join in the joy of Holy Baptism.

May you know the abiding presence of God as we walk the last days of Lent together, and may you experience the hope and life of the resurrection in new ways this Easter.

In Easter hope,

Rev. Matthew, Rev. Gillian, Rev. Nick,
& Rev. Christine



St. Patrick’s Choral Evensong with the Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa Girls Choir

On Saturday, March 22, 100 people filled St. Patrick’s Church, Lower Stafford, to hear the transcendent voices of the Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa Girls Choir lead Choral Evensong.



The Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa Girls Choir is the only all-girls cathedral choir in all of Canada! It was established in 2001 as a place for girls to grow in musicality and in leadership while thriving in a friendly and welcoming environment.

The Girls Choir participates in regular liturgies at our Cathedral as well as diocesan, civic, and state events. They have toured extensively over the years and later this summer they are looking forward to a tour of Ireland! It is because of this tour of Ireland that we were pleased to welcome them to the only St. Patrick’s church in the entire Diocese of Ottawa!



The liturgy for the evensong included selections from The Four Cathedrals Service by Malcolm Archer and a beautiful setting of Psalm 23 by Charles Hylton Stewart. After the service, members of St. Patrick’s with members of St. Thomas Rankin and St. Stephen’s Micksburg treated the Girls Choir to a delicious Valley supper before they headed home.

In Memory of Jamie Bramburger

On Tuesday, March 18, we said farewell to Jamie Bramburger. In a service led by Rev. Matthew Brown and the Parish of the Valley clergy team, we gathered at Holy Trinity Pembroke with 250 family members, close friends, and people who worked with Jamie at Algonquin College, the City of Pembroke, the Pembroke Lumber Kings Hockey Team, and numerous other community groups and initiatives that Jamie worked with or supported throughout his life. The service was live-streamed and live-broadcast onto YourTV Ottawa Valley and, to date, has been viewed online by over 6000 people. It is a testament to how many people were touched by his life.



In his homily, Rev. Matthew remarked that while Jamie was Mr. Pembroke, Mr. Ottawa Valley, Mr. Pembroke Lumber Kings, Mr. Algonquin College, and Mr. Radio and Television, he was first and foremost a husband, a father, a Papa, a son, and

a brother. Rev. Matthew reminded us all that the pain that our wider community is experiencing at Jamie's death is but a smidgen of the loss that his family is feeling and said, "I pray, with my whole heart, that God will give each of you whatever it is that you are needing as you journey through the days to come. Time to weep. Time to laugh. Time to be frustrated and angry. Time to be still. Time to be together. You have blessed us as a community by allowing us to share in this moment with you. I pray that God might help us all now, as a community, to honour that blessing - and to honour you."

Jamie grew up at St. George's, South Alice. He was baptized there on November 5th, 1966, just a few weeks after he was born. Following the service, we laid Jamie to rest in the St. George's Cemetery, near his father, Frank, and his brother, Arlin.

May Jamie rest in peace, and may all who loved him be comforted.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Amen.

In Memorium

The year 2025 has been off to a heavy start, with the death of many family members, friends, and loved ones in the Parish of the Valley. Those who we have said farewell to so far this year:

Joyce Moore-Cowan
John Sterling
Shirley Beaupré
Joan Blakley
Vera Rakai
Ann Cochrane
Doreen Dunlop
Jim Poland
The Rev. Canon Bill Gilbert Sr.
Sharon York
Sharon Rollins
Dave Dobson
Brian Gale
Abbygail Wiles
Jamie Bramburger
Sylvester "Doc" Yantha
Isabel Stacey
Amy Mason



Introducing *Wide Smiles for All Through Education* and Kenneth Kasule

Since 2010, the congregation of St. John the Evangelist, Eganville, has had a partnership with the Ugandan educational charity, *Wide Smiles for All Through Education*. *Wide Smiles* was founded in 2004 by Kenneth Kasule.

Kenneth Kasule grew up in Uganda in the 1980s, during the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and civil war. He had a difficult home-life during his childhood and struggled to complete his schooling while working to cover his school fees.

While working on his Bachelor of Education degree, Kenneth was struck by the children playing around his residence building, day-in-day out. Upon speaking with them, he learned that they had been asked to leave classes because

they did not have the basic supplies needed to stay in school. He began to share his own supplies with them but wanted to do more.

While studying at university, Kenneth met the Rev. Dr. Carolyn Langford, past incumbent of the former Parish of Combermere, who was at the time a visiting lecturer at his university. Their conversations sparked both the beginning of *Wide Smiles for All Through Education* and, following a visit from the Rev. Gale and Paul Edmondson to Uganda, a long relationship with St. John's Eganville and Ascension Killaloe / St. John's Tramore in what is now our Parish of the Valley.

The mandate of *Wide Smiles for All Through Education* is to extend education to children and young people in Uganda who might otherwise have missed out on a formal education.

The primary way this happens is through education sponsorships: providing the supplies and fees needed so that students can stay in school and complete further levels of education than they might have otherwise been able to accomplish. To date, *Wide Smiles* has sponsored children in primary and secondary schools as well as a variety of post-secondary training and educational settings.

In 2024, *Wide Smiles for All Through Education* celebrated 20 years of operation! In those 20 years, over 400 students have graduated and moved on to meaningful employment throughout Uganda, and over 100 students were currently enjoying the school sponsorship program.

The 20-year anniversary also saw the launch of a new, ambitious program to further education in Uganda. *Wide Smiles* is working on the building of a new educational facility, which would allow greater access to education to even more students from across the region.



St. John's Eganville and Ascension Killaloe / St. John's Tramore first welcomed Kenneth to Canada and 2017, and we are looking forward to hosting him again as the Parish of the Valley this year, between April 25-June 20.

The clergy team, together with a visit planning group, have put together a schedule of opportunities for us all to hear a little more from Kenneth about *Wide Smiles*, their work so far, and their future plans, at a series of post-worship Sunday coffee hours across our parish. We know that we cannot get a visit to every single congregation in the parish, but we hope that you will take the opportunity to join in one of the post-church coffee hours at one of the following locations, or to join in one of the week-day gatherings.

Our tentative Schedule in the Parish of the Valley is:

- Sunday, April 27: St. John's, Eganville
- Sunday, May 4: Epiphany, Barry's Bay
- Sunday, May 11: Holy Trinity, Pembroke
- Sunday, May 18: All Saints, Petawawa
- Sunday, May 25: Visiting a church in Toronto
- Sunday, June 8: St. Paul's, Cobden
- Sunday, June 15: St. John's, Eganville
- Wednesday, June 18: Farewell Potluck at St. John's, Eganville

Some additional dates are still being confirmed: more opportunities to hear from Kenneth may arise as we get closer to his arrival.



In addition to joining in fellowship and hearing Kenneth speak across the parish, we are looking for households willing to host Kenneth as a guest for at least 4 nights. While he is with you, we hope that you will be able to offer him meals and fellowship, perhaps some sight-seeing in your area, bringing him to church if he is with you over a Sunday, making connection with the next host, and offering the opportunity to do laundry etc. as needed.

If you would like to know more about hosting Kenneth, or to sign up for a period of time as a host, please contact Carol Clark of St. John's Eganville at 613-625-2755. Thank you for considering this ministry of hospitality as we welcome Kenneth to our parish community.

“I Made You Wonderful” World Day of Prayer 2025

Submitted by Nancy Clark

"I Made you Wonderful" was prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Cook Islands, which consist of 15 islands lying in the centre of the Polynesian Triangle of the Pacific Ocean.

There were 73 people in attendance for the Pembroke service at Our Lady of Lourdes, the host church this year.

The service included reading from Psalm 139, stories told by women of Cook Islands, a devotional message delivered by Parish Priest Father Ryan Holly and participation in the singing of familiar hymns.



In an attempt to create the warmth and colour of Cook Islands on this March day in

Pembroke, many participants dressed in floral outfits, wearing lei and flowers in their hair.

The Women's Inter-Church Council in Pembroke, consisting of representatives from nine local churches meet three times a year to discuss, organize and prepare for World Day of Prayer. All churches are most welcome to attend; it is a local expression of the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada.

The focus for World Day of Prayer 2026, written by the World Day of Prayer Committee from Nigeria will be, "I will give you rest. Come." The Pembroke service will be held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church.

World Day of Prayer services also took place on March 7 at Our Lady of Sorrows, Petawawa and St. James the Less, Eganville. Below are two photos from the service in Petawawa, with participation from All Saints.



Shrove Tuesday Pancakes in the Parish of the Valley!

On Shrove Tuesday, we enjoyed pancakes all across the Parish of the Valley. Starting with Lunch at Holy Trinity, Pembroke and ending with Supper at St. George's, South Alice and St. John's, Eganville - everyone had their fill as we prepared to being our Lenten Journey.

The Gift of Fellowship

Submitted by Marie Cheesman

The churches in the Parish of the Valley are known for our warmth and welcoming hospitality, hosting a variety of special events – luncheons, rummage sales, wine tastings, quilt shows, bazaars. The list is diverse and evolves as we do, producing one success after another. We have done it for generations. It is integral to who we are as a church community, helping define the fabric of our lives, our communities and our calendars.

Funds are raised for special causes or to help offset the cost of keeping our doors open, and our successes encourage us to consider new and innovative future opportunities. The benefits invariably outweigh our investment of time, and I have to say that, having convened several events for Holy Trinity Pembroke since the pandemic, the benefit that shines brightest for me is the overwhelming opportunity to enjoy the invaluable gift of fellowship. We invite family and friends from across the region to join us while looking to our congregations - and sometimes to neighbouring congregations - to help make these events happen. It's the opportunity to join together for a common cause that is so meaningful, a lesson that I witnessed again very recently.

This past February, we hosted our annual Shrove Tuesday luncheon, the informal launch to this year's calendar of events. It is a long-standing tradition for us and the planning process has developed a rhythm of its own: strike a steering committee, review last year's notes, estimate how many guests we might have and then get busy with promotions, shopping lists and table layouts.

Lists of potential volunteers are drafted and the coordination of jobs begins. At one time, these



connections were made predominantly by phone, but recently we have done more of that work via email to help make the job

easier. That said, Iris Ball still coordinates the table servers, along with the fellows who pour the tea and coffee, by phone, and does a stellar job. Iris turned 90 last year so it would be understandable if she felt it might be time to pass the baton, but not quite yet. The opportunity to contribute and stay connected with folks in the congregation is important to her, and everyone looks forward to her call and a chat.

Matching the right job to each volunteer has become a little more involved recently as we try to accommodate some mobility challenges (we're all getting older!), but every effort is made to include those who want to be part of the day. Can a job be done sitting down? Can a job be



shared by two or three? Do we need a few stools in the kitchen so that volunteers can take a quick rest? And, if there isn't a task for everyone, how can we use their talents the next time around?



As the luncheon approaches there is always a check and double check

of the shopping lists to ensure that everything is covered (What??? The pancake mix takes both eggs AND milk?!). Last minute details are tended to and creative talents transform our hall into a welcoming space. And then, as if by magic, everyone falls into position. It's like a well-orchestrated ballet. Everyone knows the drill.

On a quick tour of the hall before the door opens it is apparent why these events are so important and vital to our life together: smiles abound. The hall begins to fill with chatter. Everyone shows up prepared to have some fun and work side by side. And, while we always look forward to connecting with our guests and do everything in our power to ensure that they enjoy their time with us, I think we sometimes overlook the incredible gift that we enjoy as hosts, community and fellowship.

A great turnout always helps with meeting our financial goals but we should never underestimate the blessing of community with each other, sharing stories and laughter as we flip pancakes, wash dishes and serve dessert.

St. George's, South Alice Pancake Supper!

From a pancake topping bar, to Rector's Warden Bernie Raglan's famous potato pancakes, to Tony Bramburger's maple syrup, the St. George's Pancake Supper always draws a crowd!



St. John's, Eganville Pancake Supper!

Submitted by Karen Mann

I could feel the anticipation building toward the day. Lent was coming, but our last hurrah was to be our Pancake Supper on March 4th. This is an annual event that St John's has been hosting for a long time, and a lot of people were looking forward to enjoying the supper. Of course, like every other event, planning started well in advance. Heather Park-Wheeler got things in motion and, with some help from me, and a lot of help from other volunteers St John's was ready for the event on the night.

We served 121 adults, 7 children, and a few children under the age of 6. All of these were 'paying customers' except one. A local resident came in with a friend. He stated that he had eaten already but the gentleman with him was

on ODSP and he wondered if we could spare a meal for him. THAT is exactly what 'feeding the community' is! We were very happy to have his friend join us for a complimentary meal. His friend was very grateful, thanking us a number of times when he came in, and more than once when he was leaving. It warmed my heart to know that St John's was able to provide food, fellowship and warmth to someone who was genuinely in need of it.



So, 128 guests for dinner! Hmmm how much to make???? Well we served approximately 300 pancakes, 600 sausages, 4 crock pots of baked

beans, and a crock pot full of blueberry sauce. In addition to this, we have a lot (and I mean a lot) of desserts that parishioners had made and donated. There was something for every taste. Our net total of funds was \$947.00.

This is a wonderful amount to be able to have accessible for the church, but we raised spirits, we brought the community together, we ate and had fun, which in my mind is the most important aspect of the night. It was lovely to watch old friends greeting one another who, for whatever reason, had not seen each other for some time.



We also wanted to make the night a little more special for the youngsters who attended. So we gave out a goody bag to all children aged 4-12. They were thrilled to receive them on the way out.

A huge thank you to all of our volunteers, without whom this could not have happened. You are too many to name but you know who you are. Whether you were cooking sausages, flipping pancakes, acting as cashier, manning the dessert table, collecting dirty dishes around the room, washing and drying dishes, or helping with the set up and clean up of the room, thank you, thank you. We look forward to welcoming you to our feast again next year.

An Update from All Saints, Petawawa

Submitted by Louise Doran, People's Warden and Marion LeMotte, Rector's Warden

*Spring has sprung,
The grass has riz,
I wonder where the birdies is?*

No sign of robins yet but a sure sign that Spring is on it's way is our anticipation of Rummage Sales, or as they say across the pond, "Jumbo Sales." Come and refresh your wardrobe with articles from our upscale section. Also for your summertime leisure reading come and select a book or two, or three from the wide variety on our book shelves.

Our Men's Group stepped up to the plate again (the pancake plate) and on March 9th served up a wonderful lunch of sausages and real maple syrup. Thank you for that and we look forward to Mother's Day where you will again treat us to a delicious lunch.

This year for our Church givings we switched to a local company for our Offering envelopes. This has worked out well as we were able to order them for weekly or monthly givings. Thank you to Bentley Horne of D&H Printing for the great service.

Plans are underway for redoing the Office space and Vestry room. Thanks to a generous donation from a Parishioner we are able to upgrade these areas to make them much more accessible and useable.

If you are looking for ways to help with our Church please speak to the churchwardens. A few suggestions are as follows:

- Flower beds and Juniper Garden maintenance.
 - Signage selection & mounting.
 - Cemetery tidying.
 - Church & Hall Spring cleaning.
- So many options!

Again, no act of kindness, no matter how small goes unnoticed.

We can not begin to say enough about the work that our Clergy Team does. Such kind, gentle and caring hearts. We thank you!

The Church Organist

Submitted by Phil Cottrell

Spare a thought for your friendly Church Organist. They really enjoy playing the organ for your congregation and I am sure that I'm speaking for all our organists when I say we find it very rewarding to hear the members of the congregation and clergy team sing enthusiastically to a particular hymn or responses. We do have some fine voices at All Saints Church in Petawawa, as there are in other churches that I have played in across the Parish of the Valley. If I know a particular hymn well, I may sing along with it too, unless I have to look at the music.

However, sometimes, there can be hiccups. A while back at our church, All Saints in Petawawa the organ was occasionally dying in the middle of a hymn, causing me to have to hustle over the piano and try and pick up the particular point in the hymn get back in sync with the singing of the congregation. Fortunately, we were able to get the organ repaired and is now a joy to play and produces a wonderful sound.

I was playing in one Church in Pembroke some years back, on an organ that I was not very familiar with, and I felt, when in the middle of a hymn, that I should be able to get more volume. So I pulled out one of the stops which looked as if it should've produced additional sound, and the whole organ went silent! I was frantically pulling stops here and there and everywhere and eventually got the sound back.

I also remember an incident in Beachburg, at Saint Augustine's, quite a few years ago. I was following the church bulletin while at the organ and I folded it over to the next page. What I didn't realize is that I had given myself a paper cut. Looking down while playing the next hymn, to my horror, I could see all the keys covered in blood! Well, I was able to clean it up and put on a Band-Aid and carry on playing. This led one member of the congregation to exclaim that he didn't realize that organ playing was so dangerous!

I do confess to being somewhat of an Elton John school of music type organ player. I really do love some of the old rousing, robust, traditional hymns like "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty," "Immortal, Invisible, God, Only Wise," "Onward Christian Soldiers," and many others, including

one of my favorites, "Morning has Broken" (the Cat Stevens version!).



Do organists ever make mistakes? Yes of course! When taking piano lessons decades ago, my music teacher told me if you make a mistake, press on, most folks won't realize you made a mistake and those that do won't be bothered by it anyway.

In closing, I always remember the words of the great Ludwig van Beethoven who said, and this is a true quote... "To play a wrong note is inconsequential, to play without passion is inexcusable."



Join **Church of the Epiphany** (32 Dunn St., Barry's Bay) for a delicious soup and sandwich lunch - **Friday, April 25th from 11:30am - 1:30pm.**

Featuring homemade soups, sandwiches, and pie - eat in or take out. Cost is \$10. For Take Out please call 613-635-1600.



Tuesday, April 22 from Noon-2pm at Holy Trinity Pembroke: Come and hear from Daniel and Florence Mayapi from Zambia as they share about their ministry with **Impact Zambia**. Enjoy a luncheon offered by the Holy Trinity ACW while we meet. To assist with numbers, please RSVP to ACW President Maggie Jaques at jacquesp@nrtco.net I or call 613-401-1100 if you intend to come.

Holy Week & Easter in the Parish of the Valley

Palm Sunday - April 13

8am - Holy Trinity Pembroke
9am - St. Thomas, Rankin
9am - Ascension Killaloe
9:30am - St. George's South Alice
10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke
11am - St. Paul's Cobden
11am - St. John's Eganville
11am - Epiphany Barry's Bay (MP)
11:15am - All Saints Petawawa

Maundy Thursday - April 17

7pm - Holy Trinity Pembroke
7pm - St. John's Eganville

Good Friday - April 18

9am - St. Anthony's Whitney
10am - St. John's Eganville
11am - St. George's South Alice
11am - St. Paul's Cobden
11am - Epiphany Barry's Bay
1pm - All Saints Petawawa
3pm - Holy Trinity Pembroke
3pm - Ascension Killaloe

Easter Vigil with Baptisms - Saturday, April 19

7:30pm - Deanery of the Northwest Vigil at
Holy Trinity Pembroke

Easter Sunday - April 20

8am - Holy Trinity Pembroke
9am - St. Thomas, Rankin
9am - Ascension, Killaloe
9am - St. Anthony's Whitney
9:30am - St. George's South Alice
10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke
11am - St. Paul's Cobden
11am - St. John's Eganville
11am - Epiphany Barry's Bay
11:15am - All Saints Petawawa



Spring Rummage Sales to mark on your calendar!

Saturday, April 26 from 8:30-11:30am at Holy Trinity, Pembroke - 68 Renfrew St.

New-to-you treasures of all kinds!

Saturday, May 3 from 9am-Noon at All Saints, Petawawa - 1173 Victoria St.

Nearly-new clothes, a white elephant table, and an amazing selection of books.

Thank You to our Sponsors!

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