

# *THE PARISH LIGHT*

*The Parish of the Northern Lights Newsletter – February 2018*



## **What to give up for Lent**

Give up watching television one evening a week. Visit some lonely or sick person instead.

Give up looking at another people's worst points. Concentrate on their strong points and positive attributes.

Give up speaking unkindly. Let your speech be generous and understanding.

Give up your worries. Trust God with your problems and frustrations

Give up hatred or dislike of anyone. Learn to love instead.

Give up the fear which prevents Christian witness. Seek courage to speak about your faith to others.

Give up spending so much time with newspapers and magazines. Use some of that time to study your Bible.

Give up grumbling. Learn to give thanks in everything.

Give up ten to fifteen minutes each day. Use that time in prayer.

Give up buying anything but essentials for yourself. Give that money to God's work or someone in need.

Give up judging by appearance and by the standards of the world. Learn to give up yourself to God.



## What is Love?

Love is an attitude – love is a prayer  
For a soul in sorrow, a heart in despair;  
Love is good wishes for the gain of another,  
Love suffers long with the fault of a brother.  
Love giveth water to a cup that's run dry;  
Love reaches low, as it can reach high;  
Seeks not her own at expense of another;  
Love reaches God with it reaches our brother.

- Author unknown

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Mrs. Forrester cried softly into a tissue while her husband spoke, "Miss Miller," he said, "there is no school of that kind nearby. It would be a terrible shock for Jeremy if we had to take him out of this school. We know he really likes it here."

Doris sat for a long time after they left, staring at the snow outside the window. Its coldness seemed to seep into her soul. She wanted to sympathize with the Forresters. But it wasn't fair to keep him in her class. She had 18 other youngsters to teach and Jeremy was a distraction. Furthermore, he would never learn to read or write. Why waste anymore time trying? As she pondered the situation, guilt washed over her. "Oh God," she said aloud, "here I am complaining when my problems are nothing compared to that poor family! Please help me to be more patient with Jeremy."

From that day on, she tried hard to ignore Jeremy's noises and blank stares. Then one day he limped to her desk, dragging his bad leg behind him. "I love you, Miss Miller," he exclaimed, loudly enough for the whole class to hear. The other children snickered, and Doris' face turned red.

She stammered, "Wh-why, that's very nice, Jeremy. Now please take your seat."

Spring came, and the children talked excitedly about the coming of Easter. Doris told them the story of Jesus, and then to emphasize the idea of new life springing forth, she gave each of the children a large plastic egg. "Now," she said to them, "I want you to

take this home and bring it back tomorrow with something inside that shows new life. Do you understand?"

"Yes, Miss Miller!" the children responded enthusiastically – all except Jeremy. He just listened intently, his eyes never left her face. He did not even make his usual noises. Had he understood what she said about Jesus' death and resurrection? Did he understand the assignment? Perhaps she should call his parents and explain the project to them. That evening, Doris' kitchen sink stopped up. She called the landlord and waited an hour for him to come by and unclog it. After that, she still had to stop for groceries, iron a blouse and prepare a vocabulary test for next day. She completely forgot to phone Jeremy's parents.

The next morning, 19 children came to school laughing and talking as they placed their eggs in the large wicker basket on Miss Miller's desk. After they completed their math lesson, it was time to open the eggs. In the first egg, Doris found a flower, "Oh yes, a flower is certainly a sign of new life" she said, "When plants peek through the ground, we know that spring is here." A small girl in the first row waved her arms, "That's my egg, Miss Miller" she called out.

The next egg contained a plastic butterfly which looked very real. Doris held it up. "We all know that a caterpillar changes and grows into a beautiful butterfly. Yes, that is new life, too." Little Judy smiled proudly and said, "Miss Miller, that one is mine."

Next Doris found a rock with moss on it. She explained that the moss too, showed life. Billy spoke up from the back of the classroom. "My dad helped me," he said.

Then Doris opened the fourth egg. She gasped. The egg was empty! Surely it must be Jeremy's, she thought, and of course, he did not understand her instructions. If only she hadn't forgotten her parents. Because she did not want to embarrass him, she quietly set the egg aside and reached for another. Suddenly, Jeremy spoke up, "Miss Miller, aren't you going to talk about my egg?" Flustered Doris replied, "But Jeremy, your egg is empty!" He looked into her eyes and said softly, "Yes, but Jesus' tomb is empty too!"

Time stopped. When she could speak again, Doris asked, "Do you know why the tomb was empty?"

"Oh yes,!!" Jeremy exclaimed, "Jesus was killed and put in there. Then His Father raised Him up!" The recess bell rang. While the children excitedly ran out of the school, Doris cried.

Three months later, Jeremy died. Those who paid their respects at the mortuary were surprised to see 19 eggs on top of the casket, all of them empty.

## DEATH: WHAT A WONDERFUL WAY TO EXPLAIN IT!!!!

**A sick man turned to his doctor, as he was preparing to leave the examination room and said, "Doctor, I am afraid to die. Tell me what lies on the other side. "Very quietly, the doctor said, "I don't know." "You don't know? You, a Christian man, do not know what is on the other side?" The doctor was holding the handle of the door; on the other side came a sound of scratching and whining, and as he opened the door, a dog sprang into the room and leaped on him with an eager show of gladness. Turning to the patient, the doctor said, "Did you notice my dog? He's never been in this room before. He didn't know what was inside. He knew nothing except that his master was here, and when the door opened, he sprang in without fear. I know little of what is on the other side of death, but I do know one thing... I know my Master is there and that is enough."**

*Incredible*

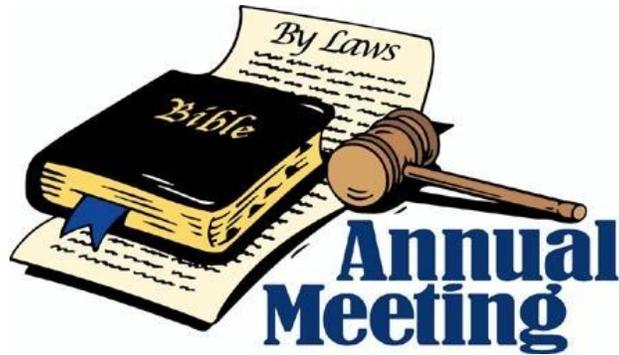
## **Palm Sunday**

It was Palm Sunday but because of a sore throat, 5 year old Sammy stayed home from church with a babysitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm fronds. Sammy inquired as to what they were for. 'People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by,' his father responded.

'Wouldn't you just know it?' Sammy complained, 'the one Sunday I don't go and he shows up.'

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*Church is not an organization you join. It is a family where you belong, a home where you are loved and a hospital where you find healing.*



## **It's Annual Meeting time again –**

**Colinton:** Rector's Warden ~ Henrik Asfeldt – 780-675-5248

People's Warden ~ Wendy Lawrence – 780-675-5541

Treasurer ~ Leroy Overacker – 780-675-3083

**Boyle:** Rector's Warden ~ Judy Flax – 780-689-3064

People's Warden ~ Donna Sodergren – 780-689-2472

Treasurer ~ Shirley Rauflaab – 780-519-7061

**Perryvale:** Rector's Warden ~ Pauline Morey – 780-698-2699

People's Warden ~ Bruno Wiskel – 780-689-2944

Treasurer ~ Joyce Wilson – 780-698-2620

**Wandering River:** Rector's Warden ~ Joyce Pusiarski – 780-771-2103

People's Warden – Kathy Hogarth – 780-771-2350

Treasurer ~ Shirley Rauflaab – 780-519-7061

**Parish of Northern Lights Annual Meeting: February 4<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am**

**St Paul's Church, Boyle – potluck with meeting following**

## Shrove Tuesday

**Shrove Tuesday** is the day in February or March immediately preceding Ash Wednesday which is celebrated in some countries by consuming pancakes. In others, especially those where it is called Mardi Gras or some translation thereof, this is a carnival day, and also the last day of "fat eating" or "gorging" before the fasting ...

*It was Shrove Tuesday and Mrs Thomas was making pancakes for her sons, Aaron 6 and Kelvin 8.*

*As usual, the brothers began to argue over who should get the first pancake. Their mother saw a wonderful opportunity for a moral lesson.*

*'If Jesus were sitting at the table, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake".'*

*Quick as a flash Kelvin turned to Aaron and said, 'Aaron, today you can be Jesus!'*



**February 12<sup>th</sup>** - Shrove Tuesday on Monday Pancake Supper – St Andrew's Zion Church Hall

5:00 – 7:00 – sponsored by St Thomas Church Perryvale & St Andrew's Zion Church Colinton

**February 13<sup>th</sup>** – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – St Paul's Church Lower level

5:00 – 7:00 – sponsored by St Paul's Church, Boyle

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## **OTHER HAPPENINGS !**

February 1<sup>st</sup> – Coffeetime at St Andrew's Zion church – 10:30 – 11:30 am

February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Prayer & Praise at the Boyle Gospel Chapel at 7:00 pm

There will be a music presentation featured.