

# ***The Parish Light***

The Parish of the Northern Lights Newsletter ~ May 2018

*Every day God grants great blessings upon us and we should all feel grateful for them, but there is a very special blessing, the very first blessing of all, and is that we were given life that has given to us by a wonderful woman who has taken us under her wing and she has given us the best to become good people; we are talking about our mother.*



\*\*\*\*\*

It's really beautiful when someone prays for you without you even knowing,  
It's the highest form of respect and care.

~~~~~

## **A Mother's Beatitudes**

Blessed is the mother who understands her child, for she shall inherit a kingdom of memories.  
Blessed is the mother who knows how to comfort, for she shall possess a child's devotion.  
Blessed is the mother who guides by the path of righteousness for she shall be proud of her children.  
Blessed is the mother who is never shocked, for she shall receive and know confidence and security.  
Blessed is the mother who teaches respect, for she shall be respected.  
Blessed is the mother who emphasizes the good and minimizes the bad, for her children shall follow her example.  
Blessed is the mother who answers questions honestly, for she shall always be trusted.  
Blessed is the mother who treats her children as she would like to be treated, for her home shall always be filled with happiness.

## Judge Me by the Footprints I Leave Behind

A story is told about a soldier who was finally coming home after having fought in Vietnam.

He called his parents from San Francisco.

"Mom and Dad, I'm coming home, but I've got a favor to ask. I have a friend I'd like to bring with me."

"Sure," they replied, "we'd love to meet him."

"There's something you should know the son continued, "he was hurt pretty badly in the fighting. He stepped on a land mined and lost an arm and a leg. He has nowhere else to go, and I want him to come live with us."

"I'm sorry to hear that, son. Maybe we can help him find somewhere to live."

"No, Mom and Dad, I want him to live with us."

"Son," said the father, "you don't know what you're asking. Someone with such a handicap would be a terrible burden on us. We have our own lives to live, and we can't let something like this interfere with our lives. I think you should just come home and forget about this guy. He'll find a way to live on his own."

At that point, the son hung up the phone. The parents heard nothing more from him.

A few days later, however, they received a call from the San Francisco police. Their son had died after falling from a building, they were told. The police believed it was suicide. The grief-stricken parents flew to San Francisco and were taken to the city morgue to identify the body of their son. They recognized him, but to their horror they also discovered something they didn't know, their son had only one arm and one leg.

The parents in this story are like many of us. We find it easy to love those who are good-looking or fun to have around, but we don't like people who inconvenience us or make us feel uncomfortable. We would rather stay away from people who aren't as healthy, beautiful, or smart as we are.

Thankfully, there's someone who won't treat us that way. Someone who loves us with an unconditional love that welcomes us into the forever family, regardless of how messed up we are.

Tonight, before you tuck yourself in for the night, say a little prayer that God will give you the strength you need to accept people as they are, and to help us all be more understanding of those who are different from us!!!

There's a miracle called -Friendship- that dwells in the heart. You don't know how it happens or when it gets started. But you know the special lift it always brings and you realize that Friendship Is God's most precious gift!

Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. They lend an ear, they share a word of praise, and they always want to open their hearts to us.

\*\*\*\*\*



A young boy had just gotten his driving permit. He asked his father who was a minister, if they could discuss the use of the car. His father took him to his study and said to him, "I'll make a deal with you. You bring your grades up, study your bible a little and get your hair cut and we'll talk about it."

After about a month the boy came back and again asked his father if they could discuss use of the car. They again went to the father's study where his father said, "Son, I've been real proud of you. You have brought your grades up, you've studied your bible diligently, but you didn't get your hair cut."

The young man waited a moment and replied, "You know Dad, I've been thinking about that. You know, Samson had long hair, Moses had long hair, Noah had long hair, and even Jesus had long hair!", to which is father replied, "Yes, you're right, and they also WALKED everywhere they went!"

\*\*\*\*\*

## **God Knows**

When you are tired and discouraged from fruitless effort, God knows how hard you have tried.

When you've cried so long your heart is in anguish, God has counted your tears.

If you feel that your life is on hold and time has passed you by, God is waiting for you.

When nothing makes sense and you are confused or frustrated, God has the answer.

If suddenly your outlook is brighter and you find traces of hope, God has whispered to you.

When things are going well and you have much to be thankful for, God has blessed you.

When something joyful happens and you are filled with awe, God has smiled on you.

Remember that wherever you are or whatever you are feeling, God knows.

- Author Unknown -

\*\*\*\*\*

How cool it is that the same God who created mountains and oceans and galaxies looked at you and thought the world needed one of you too.

# The Color of Friendship

Once upon a time the colors of the world started to quarrel. All claimed that they were the best. The most important. The most useful. The favorite.

Green said:

"Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and of hope. I was chosen for grass, trees and leaves. Without me, all animals would die. Look over the countryside and you will see that I am in the majority."

Blue interrupted:

"You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and the sea. It is the water that is the basis of life and drawn up by the clouds from the deep sea. The sky gives space and peace and serenity. Without my peace, you would all be nothing."

Yellow chuckled:

"You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, and the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower, the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun."

Orange started next to blow her trumpet:

"I am the color of health and strength. I may be scarce, but I am precious, for I serve the needs of human life. I carry the most important vitamins. Think of carrots, pumpkins, oranges, mangoes and papayas. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you."

Red could stand it no longer. He shouted out:

"I am the ruler of all of you. I am blood - life's blood! I am the color of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire into the blood. Without me, the earth would be as empty as the moon. I am the color of passion and of love, the red rose, the poinsettia and the poppy."

Purple rose up to his full height. He was very tall and spoke with great pomp:

"I am the color of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs and bishops have always chosen me, for I am the sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me! They listen and obey."

Finally Indigo spoke, much more quietly than all the others, but with just as much determination:

"Think of me. I am the color of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep water. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace."

And so the colors went on boasting, each convinced of his or her own superiority. Their quarreling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a startling flash of bright lightening. Thunder rolled and boomed. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The colors crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

In the midst of the clamor, rain began to speak:

"You foolish colors, fighting amongst yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Don't you know that you were each made for a special purpose, unique and different? Join hands with one another and come to me."

Doing as they were told, the colors united and joined hands.

The rain continued:

"From now on, when it rains, each of you will stretch across the sky in a great bow of color as a reminder that you can all live in peace. The Rainbow is a sign of hope for tomorrow."

And so, whenever a good rain washes the world, and a Rainbow appears in the sky, let us remember to appreciate one another.

- Author Unknown -



### **Mother's Day Tea and Bake Sale – St Andrew's Church Hall**

Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> – 10 am – 2 pm

Sponsored by St Thomas, Perryvale and St Andrew's Zion, Colinton

### **Garden & Green Sale & BBQ – St Andrew's Zion, Colinton**

Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Sponsored by St Thomas, Perryvale & St Andrew's Zion

Get your bedding out plants here - BBQ to help support our Youth Group

### **Coffeetime - St Andrew's Church Hall - **YOU** are welcome !! 10 am to 11:30 am**

First and Third Thursday of every month – Drop in for coffee and some fellowship!

## **Youth Group News**



Safe to Say Spring is here.....I hope!

Below are the planned upcoming dates for youth group, mark your calendars, book off work and plan to join us. If you need a ride let us know. Let me know if you can provide snack.

Upcoming youth group dates (we start at about 12:30 pm):

May 6 2018

May 27 2018

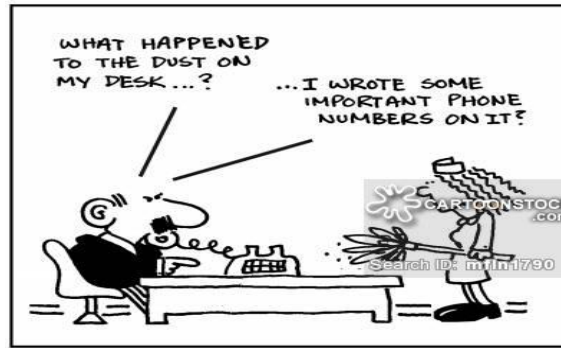
June 3 2018

Also we would like to do a wind-up before summer. Cathie I will share more information once we have it planned.

June 2 is the Garden and Greens Sale in Colinton and the YOUTH GROUP is taking care of the BBQ. We will need some youth and adults to help, please let Joanna know if you are able to help and you don't have to be part of the youth group to help anyone who can help us is welcome!

If you have any questions or need more information please contact Cathie  
([cathie.mmaestro@gmail.com](mailto:cathie.mmaestro@gmail.com)) or Joanna ([joannamuzyka@hotmail.com](mailto:joannamuzyka@hotmail.com))

All youth grade 7 and up (Age 12+) are welcome so grab a friend and join us!



**Rev. Andrew Hoyte..... 780-213-4044**

**Rev. Bill Creaser..... 780-213-0094**

**Phil Sedgwick..... 780-689-7024**

**Mike Griffin..... 780-675-5514**

**Joanna Muzyka..... 780-689-8053**

**St Andrew's Zion Church... 780-675-9750**

**St Paul's, Boyle..... 780-689-3014**

### **The Daffodils**

I wandered lonely as a cloud that floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees, fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine and twinkle in the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending line along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance, tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they outdid the sparkling waves in glee;  
A poet could not but be gay, in such a jocund company;  
I gazed – and gazed – but little thought what wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie in vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills, and dances with the daffodils.

*William Wordsworth*