

April 1st and an Update from All Saints' Email to the Parish from The Venerable Christopher Dunn

1 April 2020

It was a rather quiet April Fools Day today; one source said that this year we had to change the name of the day to **March 32nd**. The sad part of that is that the way many of us cope with stress and worry is through a bit of humour. While humour at some points is inappropriate, a smile in a difficult time can come as a relief.

Mary, on her Facebook page today, posted a Time magazine article that showed a sign outside of a Church. The sign read, "**Had not planned on giving up quite this much for Lent.**" How true—now that sentiment brought a smile to my face. I am almost ready to go back to eating chocolate!!

Many thanks to all of you who responded to last night's email in order to tell me that you are praying for **the Parishioner who has tested COVID-positive**. I spoke to a family member this evening and they were quite touched to hear that so many are praying for the individual. There was a small sign of improvement again today.

On another note, many of you may be wondering how our Diocesan **Community Ministries** are doing amidst this crisis. I know that Jarrett is continuing to work out of **St. Luke's Table** and helps with food deliveries. Tomorrow, Blanche will be delivering a number of medical gowns and masks to one of the staff of **Cornerstone**. Here is a PDF report on what is happening in all the ministries:

<https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Community-Ministries-info-March-31-2020.pdf>.

And here is a letter from our Primate, Linda Nicholls, and from Archbishop Mark MacDonald, our National Anglican Indigenous Archbishop, updating us on the challenges that those living on **Indigenous Reserves** across the country are facing right now:

<https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-19-letter-from-Primate-and-Archbishop-Mark-MacDonald.pdf> I share this letter with you, asking for you to help spread understanding for the difficult challenges this population is facing.

So, a prayer for this evening from the Church of England:

*Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen***

Have a quiet and peaceful evening.

Chris