



Easter 2020

Our Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you in this Holy time.

Last year at this time, I wrote of the benefits of being together for our worship, especially during Holy Week. As I said then, “**We** are the risen Lord, gathered together in prayer, praise, and service to God, to each other, and the world.”

How different it is this year! Keeping our social distance, self-isolating, we will not be able to gather together as we have always done. Each of us will need to celebrate the paschal mystery in our own way, in our own homes. It is a sacrifice indeed. I know that I will greatly miss our worship from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday. For me, it is the most wonderful time of the

year. Even more so as it starts of the season of Easter. New life in all its abundance!

These are real sacrifices for us, and for some there is very real suffering at this time. Fear, loneliness, uncertainty, all due to this scary virus. These sacrifices also occur for another reason, I believe – love. It is a gift of love on our parts to protect our friends and family, to protect our communities. And it is ok to say that we do it to protect ourselves. Perhaps we can identify with our Lord this Holy Week, as he suffers and sacrifices for us and the whole Cosmos.

Where do we put our faith in these trying times? We are blessed with a faith in God, as revealed in Jesus. We place our faith in the empty cross, exemplifying Christ’s defeat of death. We place our faith in the risen Lord, raised to new life this Easter Sunday. And, I hope, we place our faith in the Body of Christ, the Church, as we continue to support each other through prayer, phone calls, errands run for those who cannot get outside.

This year, we will not gather for our liturgical celebrations. We will not gather as family and friends for our feasts. But we can still be connected with each other. Our worship continues online through Facebook and YouTube (see information below), offered by our regional churches, Fr. Robert and myself, and by our Diocese.

A couple of things to remember, please.

First, please contact myself or Fr. Robert if you are in need of prayer, or simply a phone conversation. Please let us know if you hear of someone who is sick, for whom a call would be helpful. In extreme cases, the bishop has given us permission to visit.

Second, please continue to offer your financial support for the work of your church. Our expenses still continue, and your assistance is essential. Below are a number of ways that you can make a gift to Christ’s work in our area.

We are entering the season of Easter – a season of joy and wonder. I pray that this note finds you and your loved ones in good health – physically and spiritually. I hope too that it finds you ready to call out with the heavenly host:

**Alleluia! Christ is risen!
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Rev. Andrew Wilson
Incumbent
Anglican Churches of Grenville North

Fr. Robert Porter
Associate Priest
Anglican Churches of Grenville North

Ways to Support Your Church

Mail in a cheque

St. Anne's, Oxford Station

c/o Lilian Hamilton
11 Albert St. Johnstown
ON K0E 1T1

St. Andrew's Garretton

c/o Angie Dikelow
5774 McCully Road
RR#4 Prescott
Ontario K0E 1T0

St. Peter's, North Augusta

c/o Sheila McKay
P.O. Box 85
North Augusta ON K0G 1R0

St. James, Kemptville

PO BOX 74
35 Clothier St.
Kemptville ON K0G 1J0

Parish of Merrickville

P.O. Box 104
Merrickville, ON K0G 1N0

E-Transfer (direct deposit into the church's account)

Christ Church, Burritt's Rapids ccburrित्रapids@gmail.com

Holy Trinity, Merrickville htmerrickville@gmail.com

Canada Helps – Donations for St. James', Kemptville

You can find the link on the St. James' Facebook Page
or click on this link <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47308>

How to Connect Online

YouTube

go to "Anglican Churches of Grenville North"

Be sure to subscribe and to click the notifications button to stay up to date

Facebook Pages

Parish of Merrickville
St. James, Kemptville
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