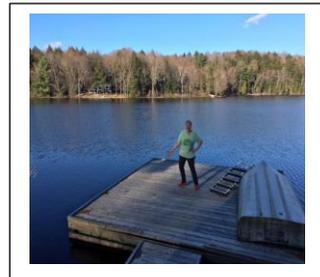


Coop's Scoops #10:



Surely the May flowers will come given the amount of showers we had on Sunday! They may well be more beautiful this year in many parts of the world. During this time, the planet is actually getting a break from pollution. The jet fuel isn't being used, the ships aren't cruising (or shouldn't be), smog is reduced or gone as industrial emissions are lower than they've been perhaps in centuries. A young woman in Hong Kong writes that for the first time in her entire life, she was walking outside her towering apartment complex and saw a clear sky above her full of STARS. She had seen pictures of stars, but never actually a real one because of pollution. Now would be a good time to start some seeds indoors to prepare for a bumper crop down the road.

I find that picturing myself with the grandkids jumping off the dock into deep and clear Frau Lake come summer makes



me smile. Even if its late summer, it will be great. Is there something like that on your horizon? Thinking about it can build some optimism. Sitting down with a sketch pad and drawing it, or digging out some pictures from last year would be good. Especially if you have someone to look at them with you. If not, maybe a telephone call to describe them could help. You could call me! 705 205 0549. I am available and happy to be called by anyone, just for a chat, or for a Bell Tel prayer time, or to hear about some way I could help you.

This being Lent, should you need to make confession and receive an absolution, that too is perfectly appropriate over the phone line. And that as always will remain totally confidential.

That being said, I have a confession to make. My heart moved faster than my head when I announced we would be bringing palm crosses out to everyone. I

spoke with the Simcoe/Muskoka Health Unit this morning, and a wonderful nurse told me that we should not be doing that. She provided many reasons, all of which made perfect sense, and I have made the decision that we will not be making the crosses or distributing them. Thank you to all who offered to help- it made my heart glad to hear your desires for outreach and kindness. If you really want to know all the reasons, you can call me...it's just more than I can handle listing it at this time.

Smiles for the Day

Saw a young couple pushing a baby carriage yesterday. I couldn't see the baby from my distance of about 20yards, but I could see the message attached to the hood, words painted on a piece of white sheeting. There's new life in here – arrow pointing down into the carriage – and new life is coming soon to you!



I drove around to the Pines and McVittie Place this morning

so I could pray for them, while watching where they live, and remembering all the nooks and crannies and rooms, all the staff, and so many many faces of people attending the Chapel Services over the years. I unexpectedly found myself awash in tears. Their loneliness just overcame my heart. Then I spied a dear woman watching from a window and waving. I crossed myself and put my arm up to do a blessing for her. Big smile and more waving. It can take so little to bring some joy – in both directions. Heading off to do the same outside Castle Peak this afternoon and Autumn Leaves in Baysville. Will bring my Kleenex.

Have had the joy of receiving calls from some of YOU, letting me know what you are doing to show love and kindness to others during this time...some LITTLE things and some BIG things.....both are treasured by our Lord. You honour Him with all your kindness. In fact, what you do for others in need, you do also for Him. (See Matthew 25: 34-40)

Scripture for the Day: Psalm 27 (read the whole thing, but write this on the tablet of your heart, or on a piece of paper under a fridge magnet!)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid? ... O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure, be strong, and He shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the Lord.

(vs. 1 and 18)

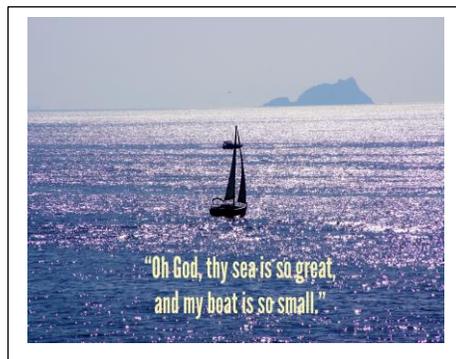
Prayer for the Day:

#2 676 BAS : Draw your Church together, O Lord, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving Him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to His love on every continent and island. We ask this in His name and for His sake. Amen.

#21 680 BAS: O Lord our creator, by your holy prophet you taught your ancient people to seek the welfare of the cities in which they lived. We commend our neighbourhood to your care, that it might be kept free from social strife and decay. Give us strength of purpose and concern for others, that we may create here a community of justice and peace where your will may be done; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From a Breton Fisherman, for times when we may feel “awash”:

“O God, this sea is so big, and my boat is very small!”



Blessings from Judie+