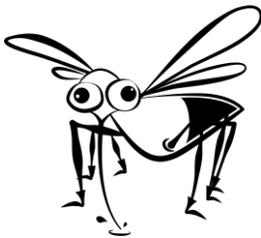


COOP'S SCOOPS #29, THURSDAY APRIL 29TH 2020

**I WENT OUTSIDE
TO CHECK MY PLANTS.**

**I FELT SOMETHING
COLD AND WET ON MY
HAND.**

**I LOOKED DOWN AND
SAW A MOSQUITO
USING A WET WIPE
BEFORE HE BIT ME!**



**Sent in by Georgia from
St. Ambrose thx!**

In just half an hour, the Messy Church team (downsized to four with masks and social distancing) are going to tape a puppet play to email out to all our Messy Church families. I think the kids will love seeing Molly and Scooter (the usual cast we use each month) again, and the message of the play is both funny and real and supportive of what they may be feeling and doing during this covid time. Archdeacon Kelly is going to put it on the Deanery Web page so everyone can see it. Check it out. Alva plays Mollie, Peter is Scooter, Paul is videotaping, Rob is singing and I'm in it too..Oops that's five.

**And we will of course be sanitizing everything,
including ourselves, before and after!**

**Doing this is a ray of sunshine for me and for all
involved today. Just wanted to share what we
are doing to brighten your day too. Only down
side is that I will be on a Deanery video with my
HAIR in the state it is now! Sigh.**

News:

Our Diocesan office staff are working heroically on our behalf these days.....many long hours and complicated issues. Treasurer Jane Mesich and Assistant treasure Jen Barron (no doubt Liz Hamel as well) have worked tirelessly to send the government information that our bookkeeper Meredith Hendy (with assistance from Shirley Burton) collected regarding our finances in the first three months of 2019 and 2020. (That may well be the longest and most convoluted sentence I have ever written). We may be eligible as a Diocese for a 75% wage subsidy for several months. That will mean a tremendous savings for St. Thomas and Lake of Bays and help to ensure we are on a good financial footing when we are able to

reopen. It is not yet certain that we are eligible, but everyone has done all the work to give us the best opportunity at success. Please pray for all the Diocesan staff and our Archbishop +Anne as they work from home, pray for us, and provide such inspired leadership, support and comfort.

Just one more note on finances. THANK YOU for continuing to make your offerings through EOP, by post and through the mail slot in the church door. You are doing really well! The heating bill is way down now, and hydro and water are reduced with the non-use of the building... so we will be fine. We remain considerably behind in past-due Diocesan apportionment and Stipend, although we were able to send our full invoice for the past month). Every single offering is being put to good use and we are cutting expenditures wherever that is possible. Some of the building work has been deferred until post-covid, but will be attended to at that time.

Well done, good and faithful servants!

Coping with Covid 19: a day by day journey.....

I've changed a few words so that not everything is alcoholic...a little coffee to be together with our AA brothers and sisters! Sent to us from Caroline!

Day 1 – I Can Do This!! Got enough food and wine to last a month!

Day 2 – Opening my 8th bottle of Wine. I fear wine supplies might not last

Day 3 – Strawberries: Some have 210 seeds, some have 235 seeds. Who Knew??

Day 4 - 8:00 pm Removed my Day Pajamas and put on my Night Pajamas.

Day 5 – Today, I tried to make Hand Sanitizer. It came out as Jello Shots!!

Day 6 – I get to take the Garbage out. I'm So excited, I can't decide what to wear.

Day 7 – Laughing way too much at my own jokes! My knee is bruised from all the slapping....I was hilarious!

Day 8 – Went to a new restaurant called “The Kitchen”. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have No clue how this place is still in business.

Day 9 – I put wine bottles in every room. Tonight, I’m getting all dressed up and going Bar hopping.

Day 10 – Struck up a conversation with a Spider today. Seems nice. He’s a Web Designer.

Day 11 – Isolation is hard. I swear my fridge just said, “What the hell do you want now?” I told it it’s services were not needed as I was wanting to drink coffee”

Day 12 – I realized why dogs get so excited about something moving outside, making shadows, crunching things.....yesterday I barked at a squirrel!

Day 13 – If you keep a cup of coffee in each hand, you can’t accidentally touch your face.

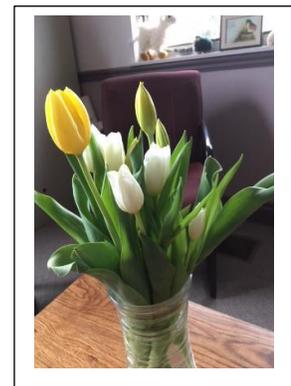
Day 14 – Watched the birds fight over a worm. The Cardinals led the Blue Jays 3–1.

Day 15 – Anybody else feel like they’ve cooked dinner about 395 times this month?

We could all work on updating this list. We are now on day 46 since shutdown and there are many wits humorists among us. You send’ em, I’ll add ‘em. Keep them nice!

Here’s to the kind woman who brought me flowers yesterday! And tulips at that. My heart sings....here’s a picture for you to enjoy as well.

Consider how the wild flowers grow
They do not toil or spin. Yet not even Solomon
in all his glory was clothed in splendour such as
theirs. Luke 12: 27



Your Scripture for Today:

John 6:16-21 “When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the water coming near the boat and they were terrified. But he said to them : “It is I. Do not be afraid”. Then they wanted to take Him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going”.

What I am about to write is an application of Holy Scripture to the sacred spaces of the time we are living through. It’s only me...



“ Time went on for humanity and darkness covered much of the world. Those who believed in Jesus tried to leave the darkness behind and go to a place of new light. They had the means of getting there....it was to live as Jesus lived, to be good stewards of the earth, to value human life above commerce, to live in love. Storms conspired against them. Justice was often denied to the poor, the unvalued, the powerless, the “different”, the refugee, the young men and young women who had visions and the old men and women who dreamed dreams. The swirl of evil around them became as a plague, a destructive force threatening to swallow them into the depths. They became terrified for their children, their parents, their friends, their neighbourhoods, themselves. Then, in the midst of their distress, they saw Jesus walking in the middle of it all. He was coming closer and closer to them. They were terrified that should He rebuke them it would be too much, they would all surely die. But Jesus said “It is I! Do not be afraid” . Then they wanted Him completely and opened their arms to His presence. Immediately, they found the Light. They arrived in sacred space. It was Jesus who made all the difference, and spirited them into new light and new life.”

All analogies break down. This is not perfect. But in this rough sea of Covid-19, hearing Jesus say “It is I. Don’t be afraid” can carry us through. And teach us how to live in new ways for the glory of God and the good of all humanity. –Judie+

Prayers for Today:

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest; for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

Thou O Lord, art in the midst of us, and we are called by thy name. Leave us not, O Lord our God.

Preserve us, O Lord, waking and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen. BCP 731

Blessing:

Father in heaven! When the thought of Thee wakes your hearts let it not wake like a frightened bird that flies about in dismay, but like a child waking from sleep with a heavenly smile! - Soren Kierkegaard

And may the peace of God which passes all our understanding, keep your hearts and minds fixed on the love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always!

Last of all, your Joke:

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Momma, look what I found," the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked. With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: "I think it's Adam's suit!"

Kind of corny, but I hope it “suited” you!

Blessings Abundant! Judie+