

## Coop's Scoops # 93 Tuesday September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020



Again, it's been a full and fulfilling weekend! On Saturday, the rain held off just long enough to do the wedding ceremony for Jodeine and Tim at Susan Hill's home off Fraserburg Road. The wedding party looked smashing...men in black tailored shorts and crisp white shirts and the Bride in a sumptuous white gown, her attendants in different tones of pinks. Grandmother of Tim, Eileen Hewitt, read the Corinthians reading on love, and I shared the miracle at the wedding in Cana ( my short version, promise!). There is something about an outdoor wedding in the midst of some of the most beautiful gardens I have ever seen, looking over the lake, from a tired deck that lifts the hearts of everyone.

Not even the clouds could mar the beauty of it. So please pray for Jodeine and Tim Hill as they begin their married life together.

Then on Sunday, I traveled to Dorset to participate in the de-consecration of St. Mary Magdalene Church. Archdeacon Kelly Baetz officiated on behalf of the Archbishop and read the deed of deconsecration.

Warden Joanne Krawczyk spoke about her time with the church over the past ten years. "St. Mary Mag's", as all affectionately call the church, blessed the community of Dorset for over a hundred years, proclaiming the Gospel, baptizing, confirming, marrying, and celebrating Christian burials which transformed countless lives. Add in the pot lucks, community dinners, ACW work, Bible studies and other countless activities



**Photo by Joanne Cunningham** WHO ARE THOSE MASKED PEOPLE? GUESS THEM ALL CORRECTLY AND YOU WILL WIN A **PRIZE**. EMAIL YOUR ENTRY!



and you get some measure of the legacy of the people and the priests and deacons. It is indeed a time for some fond tears, yet also a time of vibrant memories and blessings.

Final Blessing,

Rev. Judie+ ( photo by Joanne Cunningham

If anyone out there is in need of a church pew (great on decks or in hallways), an organ, or extra BAS or BCP books, please give me a call...it can be arranged. I give thanks to God for everyone who served for so many years within the congregation, including Warden Bill Johnson who was unable to attend and missed.

### **News from the Parishes:**

- Please pray for our Deacon Margaret Morrison+ and her dearly beloved husband David. David is in the last days of her earthly journey. Rev. Heather Manual who is near and dear to both of them will be celebrating a small family service and is ministering to them through this very tender time. Margaret+ is very appreciative of all the prayers that are being offered for David and herself, and is finding God's presence very real and precious at this time.
- Many of our Deanery Churches are opening to public worship this coming Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Others, like ourselves, are delaying until Thanksgiving or even later. I am asking that you pray this prayer throughout this week and on Sunday morning as our loving support to those will be re-gathering.

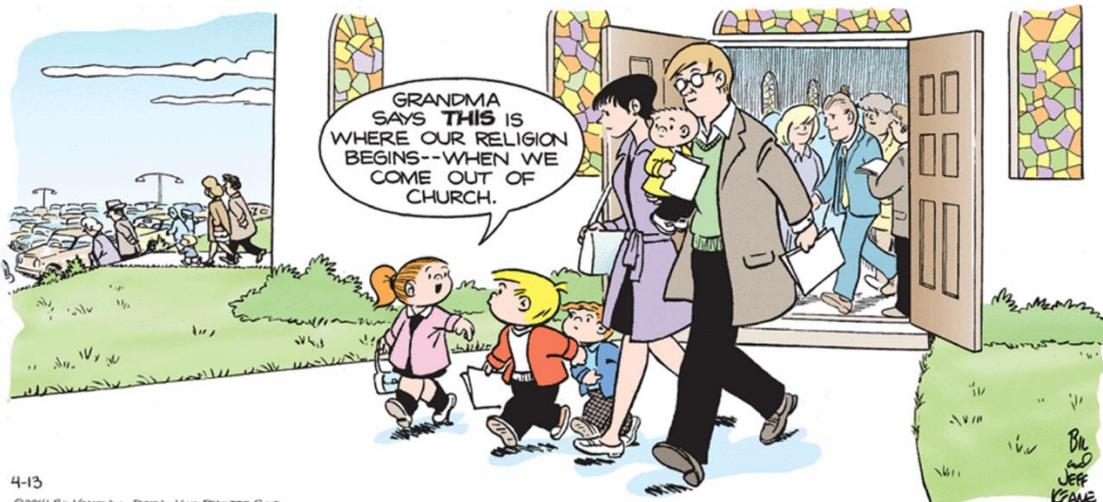


***“Heavenly Father, we ask Your blessing upon those who are preparing for public worship in safely opened churches across our Diocese and Deanery. Grant leaders wisdom as protocols are established and followed, grant congregants patience and love for one another as they do things differently, grant to all the Spirit of grace and thanksgiving***

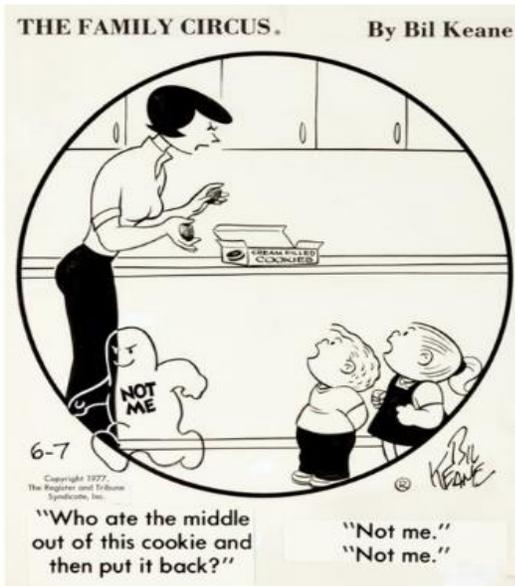
*as they worship. May we grow in our capacity to serve our communities and help one another during this time of pandemic. We commit each other to Your tender mercies through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

Pray also for children and for teachers, attendants, bus drivers, and all staff across the Province, and especially in our Deanery communities, as they re-establish in-class learning at our schools. Pray that everything that can be done WILL be done, and be done well, that work's for their safety and protection. We pray also for those who will continue to provide in-home learning for their children. We also continue to pray for all those still suffering, or newly infected or mourning the loss of loved ones due to this awful virus.

Some "feel goods" for our hearts!



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"Who ate the middle out of this cookie and then put it back?"

"Not me."  
"Not me."

Remember the "Not Me!" ghost series in Family Circus? One of my favs as my children actually did this!

For those like me who can hardly see the words, it says...

**Mom: “Who ate the middle of this cookie out and then put it back in the box?”**

**Kids: “Not me, Not me!”**

**( and the little not me ghost is seen running from the room).**

### **Scripture for Today: Acts 9:32-35**

**Now as Peter went here and there among all the believers,<sup>[a]</sup> he came down also to the saints living in Lydda. <sup>33</sup> There he found a man named Aeneas, who had been bedridden for eight years, for he was paralyzed. <sup>34</sup> Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and make your bed!” And immediately he got up. <sup>35</sup> And all the residents of Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.**

### **Homily:**

We read today about Peter and his mission travels in the very days of the Church. Philip was also off preaching in Samaria. Peter went to Lydda. That town exists today with a population of about 75,000 south of Tel Aviv in Central Israel. Here are some ruins from ancient times, much as they could have appeared when



Peter arrived. Many believe that this was the second time that Peter had come.....the first time in approx. 33ad when a home church was founded, and a building project begun, and the second time in 35ad which is the time of today’s event. There were believers there, and also a man named Aeneas. He was paralysed, bedridden for eight years. On this visit, Peter told him in Jesus name to get up and make his bed. And he did. And that is wonderful but not the real message of this passage. The important part is THIS: “And all the residents of Lydda and nearby Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.” In the early church, disciples were often gifted with healing powers, and the point of it was not to make them “rock star” preachers, but rather to convince people to turn to Jesus.

The point of it was also to stop the suffering of the healed person of course, yet the conversion of the gentiles was at the root of all the suffering endured by disciples in all their travels to so many places and people was that people would **TURN TO JESUS.**

I have not in my lifetime seen a miraculous instant healing of paralysis or cancer or any other dire physical disease. I have however been emotionally healed in one simple prayer session and have been blessed to bring that to others in my ministry from time to time, glory be to God. In third world countries, we often hear reports of Bible times types of miraculous healings. And so we wonder:

- Why are our heartfelt prayers for miraculous healings of those we loved so often without apparent effect?
- Do miraculous healings happen in our time?
- What is the difference between faith healers and God's healing?
- What about the televangelists who get people all heated up and slam their heads and push them down and then collect their crutches?
- Why have so many Christians been afflicted with covid and died, with so many others praying for them? Or Muslims, or Jews, or.....all people of faith?

Hmmmm. Here's the answer. I don't know why, how, or if people are instantly healed. But I do know what the result should look like.

It should look like humble folk joining a church, being baptized, studying the faith, living the faith out, and being transformed inch by inch to be more like Jesus. Like Jesus - who never set up billboards for healing crusades, or did mega broadcasting, or lived in mansions or drove golden Cadillacs bought with donations from thankful or perhaps financially abused people. That was not the way of Jesus. In fact, He most often told those whom He healed to tell no one but the priests, and to just give thanks to God, obey the commandments and live in love.

Whatever we do in Jesus name should be done with the deepest hope that people will see HIM and turn to Him as Lord.

And in the meantime, when we pray for those we know with serious, even terminal diseases, we can be utterly confident to ask that God touch their inner spirits, console and comfort them, give them peace and take them safely home at the right time. We can also absolutely HOPE that they will be cured and fully recover. Miracles do happen. We should never be afraid to ask. May we also remember that the final and greatest healing is the one that transports us from this world to His Kingdom, where Jesus has prepared the perfect place for us, at home in the heart of God. Praise the Lord, o my soul! Amen.

Blessings! Judie+

Prayer:

Remember Lord, your people bowed before you....Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, inspire the faint-hearted, and bring the wandering to your fold. Journey with the travellers, encourage the oppressed, defend the widows, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Strengthen all who are in tribulation, necessity, or distress. Remember for good those who love us, and those who hate us, and those who have asked us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. Remember especially, O Lord, those whom we have forgotten or who have no one to pray for them. For you are the helper of the helpless, the saviour of the lost, the refuge of the wanderer, the healer of the sick. You know the need of all and have heard each prayer; save us in your merciful loving-kindness and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ( Book of Alternative Services)

Blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour and grant you peace.  
Amen.