

**Coop's Scoops: # 95 Thursday, September 3, 2020**

Beautiful sunshine pouring down as I write this at 4:30pm! After a few cloudy days, it is even more beautiful than usual. Warm, too. Let's concentrate today on a lighthearted Scoops, just to take our minds to places we can pause and marvel.

First a few pictures! Have you figured out that I love to do photography? Amateur only, but most enjoyable to do. Hope you enjoy.....



Now for one taken by Todd Jones, and then scripted by myself... the detail of the mother bird feeding her babes is awesome. He's a pro!

If you have a magnifying glass you can even see the "cricket" about to fill two tinny tummies.

I am attempting to attach the Messy Church Video for you all to enjoy posted this past weekend. It is also on Deanery of Muskoka Facebook Page if my attachment doesn't work.

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

On Sunday, September 6 just three days from now, many of our Muskoka deanery and Diocesan churches are re-opening for public worship. Although others, including ourselves, are not opening until Thanksgiving, I am inviting anyone who would like to participate to meet with me outside the Church at 10am on Sunday morning to offer prayers for those who **are** opening. We will stay six feet apart and will be wearing masks. We will pray in solidarity with those who are moving ahead, and ask their prayers for ourselves as we continue to minister in various ways over the coming weeks. This will not take more than fifteen minutes. If it is raining, we will distance on the ramp, or under the overhang at the Reynolds parking lot.

St. Thomas Parish Council meets this Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in Browning Hall....wear your mask! Wardens Meeting at St. Ambrose is pending date availability.

### **Some lighthearted fun:**

**Q: Did you hear about the racing snail who got rid of his shell? A: He thought it would make him faster, but it just made him sluggish.**

**Did you hear about the monkeys who shared an Amazon account? They were Prime mates.**

Scene: A sports store. Customer: Do you have jogging shorts? Me: We have running shorts. How fast were you planning on going? —Stephanie Chapman

Got any good jokes? My well is running dry.....send them along when you can, thanks!

Scripture for the day: Isaiah 55: 10-13

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the  
eater,

<sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me  
empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose it and succeed in the thing  
for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup> For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come  
up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign  
that shall not be cut off.

Homily: Isaiah was writing to the people of Israel as they waited to be delivered from captivity in Babylon. He is speaking the words of “the Lord” to encourage and to bless the hearts of those who were and who had suffered much. It would be really good to read the whole chapter... “Ho...everyone who thirst...Come buy wine and milk with no money, at no price.” Love and mercy are just flowing free and full and wide.

Rather than thinking about this as a history lesson, or trying to tease out esoteric meanings, all I ask of you today is to simply revel in it. Whatever your lot may be today, whatever griefs or joys you carry, whatever hopes or fears inhabit your heart, take it all to Jesus. Then claim the promise of God in Isaiah that there will come a time when you will be led out of distress into joy, be led back to the streams of living water in peace; that you will once again sing for joy because of the marvels of mountains and fields and cypress growing where thorns once flourished, where myrtle perfumes the air and briars don't poke through your socks or your souls. These are the blessings that

**memorialize the character of our God, who in His times makes all things not only well, but glorious. That's it for today ... but wait til you see the length of the Sunday sermon!!!!**

**Prayer for today:**

Accept our praise and thanks this day, O Lord, for what You have already done in our lives, what You are doing now, and what You will do for all your children in Your time, and for their joy. We are thankful, and we will follow. Amen.

**BE BLESSED! AND BE A BLESSING!**

- Judie+

