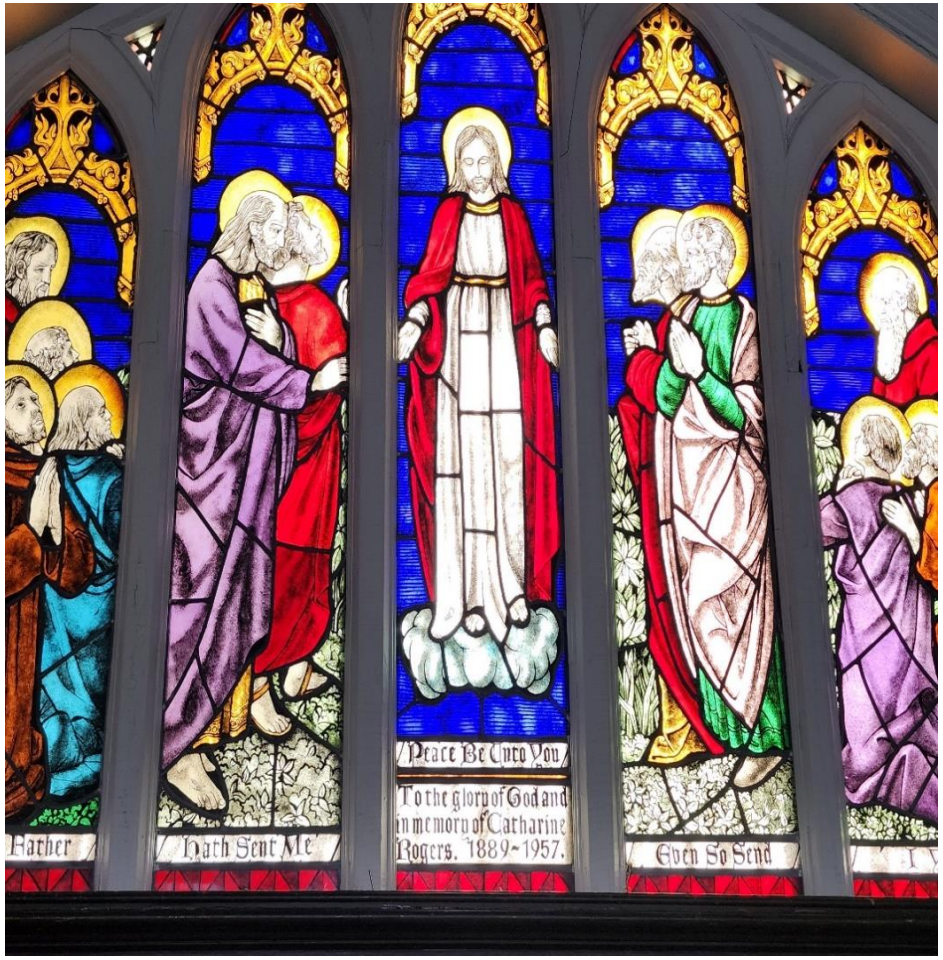

Peace Be Unto You
St. Mark's Church

ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

Anglican Priest and Rector: The Reverend Shirley J. Cole
Parish Office: 56 Woodleigh Drive, P. O. Box 760, Kensington
Office phone: 902-836-3303
Office email: nlparish@eastlink.ca
Website: www.nlparish.org

March 8, 2026 – 3rd Sunday in Lent

Worship on March 8
10 am – St. Mark's HE

Today's Readings
Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
~ Sydney Mines/Baddeck
~ Neil's Harbour with Ingonish, Cape Breton

Provincial Prayer Care
Diocese of Central Newfoundland, Bishop John Watton

DCS Cycle of Prayer - St. Luke's, O'Leary

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside
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March 15: 4th Sunday in Lent (violet)
Worship Time: 10 am – St. Mark's MP
Readings: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41
Readers: Marie M, Barb C
Prayers of the People: Doris M

~**REMINDER:** All Worship Services in March will take place at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mark's Church. Everyone is welcome to attend!

~**The first Parish Council meeting** for the new Council will be held on Monday, March 9, 7 p.m. at St. Mark's.

***Please note** that the Parish Service for 5th Sunday in the month – March 29 - will be held at **St. Stephen's at 10 am.** This more equitably spreads out the Holy Week Services amongst the Churches.

***Please note** that the Service at St. Thomas' on Easter Sunday will be 8 am Holy Eucharist with Baptism. Breakfast together will follow the Service. **Note change of time from 7 am to 8 am.** Other Services will remain the same.

The Bishop Visits PEI

The Rt. Rev. Sandra Fyfe will be on PEI March 26 and 27.

*** A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Renewal of Vows**

March 26 at 7:00 pm, St. Paul's Church, Charlottetown.
This will be an opportunity for clergy (priests and deacons) to renew their ordination vows. Licensed Lay Ministers will have a chance to renew their commitment to their ministry. And while we are at it, everyone will have an opportunity to renew their Baptismal Vows. Oil stocks will be blessed, too. Clergy and LLMs are invited to vest, and the liturgical colour will be purple.

***A Quiet Day Rest for Your Soul:**
Journeying Towards Holy Week

March 27, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at St. Thomas' Church, Spring Brook.
The facilitator of the Quiet Day will be Bishop Sandra.
Please register by emailing: dcspeievents@gmail.com.
Lunch is included in this special gathering.

Items Needed for Local Outreach

There is a need at Kensington High School for items, both at the breakfast program and Student Services, where support is often offered to students who are hungry. Items are being collected by our local churches for KISH. If you can help out, please bring donations to St. Mark's Church during the month of March, and they will be delivered to the high school. Items needed are: granola bars (nut-free), Cheese Whiz, Rice Krispie squares (individually wrapped), KD Cups (individual servings), gold fish crackers (individual servings), Welch's fruit snacks, Mr. Noodles, pudding cups, fruit cups, apple sauce (individual servings), men's & women's deodorant (non-scented), disposable forks and spoons. Thank you for your generosity!

Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Simple taxes done for low to moderate income individuals & families.
When: Thursdays only, March 5th - April 30th
Where: St. Eleanor's Lions Club, 121 East Drive, Summerside
Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Eligibility: based on your income

1 person - $40,000
2 people - $55,000
3 people - $60,000
4 people - $65,000
5 people - $70,000
* $70,000 plus $5,000 for each additional person

Phone for Appointment: St. Eleanor's Lions Club (902-436-9380)

- Please leave a clear message stating your name and phone number. Someone will call you back within 2 days to book your appointment.

Hospice PEI Grief Support Group

Hospice PEI is offering an 8-week peer-to-peer support group.
The group meets Wednesdays in March from 1-3 at the St. Eleanor's Lions Club. For more information, and to register, please call Annie at 902-438-4231.

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life, may we always thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A READING FROM EXODUS 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

PSALM 95

Come, let us sing to the Lord;*
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving*
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,*
and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,*
and his hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,*
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.
They put me to the test,*
though they had seen my works.
Forty years long I detested that generation and said,*
"This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways."
So I swore in my wrath,*
"They shall not enter into my rest."

Creator of all, we give you thanks for a world full of wonder, but above all because you have called us into a holy fellowship with you and with each other. Guide us in the ways of this your new creation, rooted and grounded in Jesus Christ our Lord.

A READING FROM ROMANS 5:1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person - though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN 4:5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world."

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Spring of life and Source of goodness,
receive all we offer you this day,
and bring us to the living water,
Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage, we have found the living water.
Refresh and sustain us as we go forth on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Upcoming Services & Events

March – 10:00 a.m. – Services at St. Mark's

March 21 *– Morning (everyone welcome); Afternoon (Clergy only) Strategic Planning Day with Diocesan staff – Future-Focused Conversation at St. Paul's, Charlottetown*

March 26 *– 7 p.m. Regional Service with Bishop Sandra at St. Paul's, Charlottetown*

March 27 *– 10 a.m.-3 p.m. – Regional Quiet Day with Bishop Sandra at St. Thomas' Church*

***March 29** – 10 a.m. PARISH Service – 5th Sunday in month at St. Stephen's

***March 30-April 2** – Noon Ecumenical Holy Week Services at St. Mark's

***April 2** – 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service at St. Thomas'

***April 3** – Noon Good Friday Service at St. Mark's

***April 5** – Easter Sunday – 8 a.m. Service at St. Thomas' (includes Baptism); 9 a.m. Service at St. Stephen's; 11 a.m. Service at St. Mark's; 7 p.m. Service at St. Elizabeth's

Note: April on – as per other years, unless Rector away, or other issues arise – St. Stephen's HE 1st and 3rd Sunday, St. Thomas' 2nd and 4th Sunday, St. Mark's alternates.

April – July – October – 9 a.m. St. Stephen's, 11 a.m. St. Thomas' and St. Mark's

May – August – November – 9 a.m. St. Thomas', 11 a.m. St. Mark's and St. Stephen's

June – September – December – 9 a.m. St. Mark's, 11 a.m. St. Stephen's and St. Thomas'

***April 19** – 6 p.m. Fishers Service at St. Thomas'

***May 31** – 10 a.m. PARISH Service – 5th Sunday in month – St. Stephen's

*****June 7*** *– 3 p.m. – Confirmation Service – St. Thomas'*

*****June 26*** *– Ice Cream Social - St. Thomas'*

***June 28** – 11 a.m. Flower Service - St. Thomas'

***August 30** – 10 a.m. PARISH Service – 5th Sunday in month – and Parish Picnic St. Thomas'

***November 29** – 10 a.m. PARISH Service – 5th Sunday in month – St. Mark's