

LENTEN LETTER February 28, 2011

“Our God, who is also the Lord of Nature, is always making all things new – new days, new weeks, new seasons, new eggs, new lambs, new fruit on the trees.” These words of William Barclay appear in his commentary on the Psalms, Volume 2, page 112.

I quote them because we tend to take this seasonal renewal of life for granted. Even in the grips of a winter storm or blizzard, we dream of gardens filled with crocuses, daffodils, and tulips, and we know that before long, this dream of ours will be a reality.

The Church in her wisdom knows that these same cyclical changes of Nature occur in our spiritual lives as well. Lent is given to us as the season to intentionally pause from the business of life to nurture our spiritual growth through prayer, Bible Study, and more careful attention to worship and also to charitable acts. It is through these Lenten Practices that we draw closer to God and allow his Spirit to prepare us for the renewal of life that Easter brings. I therefore invite you to participate as fully as you are able, in the Lenten Program offered at Trinity this year. The details of the various services and programs during Lent and Holy week are outlined on a separate enclosure in this Newsletter. For now, I would just like to remind you to mark March 9th on your Calendar as that is Ash Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. There will be two services on that day: Holy Communion at 10:30 am; and the imposition of Ashes with Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m. Also don't forget the Pancake Supper at 5:30 p.m. on Shrove Tuesday, March 8th. I hope you will support this annual event which is hosted by the 12th Barrie Scouting Association, an organization co- sponsored by Trinity's Scouts.

One final request: please remember to pray regularly for your Wardens and staff, your clergy, and all those who hold leadership roles in this wonderful Church. The interim period can bring extra challenges, and so they all need your full support and cooperation, which indeed, is already being generously given.

The Reverend Janet Mitchell joins me in wishing each of you a blessed Lenten journey and the joy of a life strengthened and renewed by the Risen Christ.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Rev. Elizabeth +

The Rev. Elizabeth Morley Interim-Priest-in-Charge

“I am persuaded that the One who began a good work in you will go on completing it until the day Jesus Christ comes.”

Philippians 1:6