

Bible Study at the Rectory: this Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.. The Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 9:00 a.m.. All welcome!

Our Service next Sunday: 10:30 am at the Nashwaak Villa.

Shrove Tuesday is on Feb. 17th. A free, parish Pancake Supper (pancakes, sausages, beans) is set for Tuesday, Feb. 17th from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at the Rectory. Come and bring a friend! Please bring in your palm branches or palm crosses. They will be burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday (Feb. 18th) is designated as a Major Fast Day in the Church (see page xiii, BCP). It marks the beginning of Lent -- the Season of preparation for Easter. To that end, a Service is scheduled for 7:00 pm at St. Thomas' Church.

A series of four Ecumenical Services for the Lenten Season is set for Mondays in March (11:30 am to 12:10 pm) with a light lunch and time of fellowship to follow. Please see the poster.

The 99th World Day of Prayer Service: Friday, March 6th at 7:00 pm at St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in Stanley. (The storm date is Sunday, March 8th at 2:00 pm.) This year's worship is from the women of Nigeria with the theme: "I will give you rest: come". (Matt. 11:28-30). Women from all the churches will participate, and everyone is welcome! Refreshments and fellowship will follow the Service.

The Parish Annual Meeting: Sunday, March 8th, following the 10:00 a.m. Service. Annual reports to me, please, by Monday, Feb. 23rd, to chrisvanbuskirk2909@gmail.com. Thank you!

Nursing Home Without Walls (NHW): Seniors, community members, caregivers, and families are invited to participate in a 'Community Needs Assessment' for the NHW program. Let's learn, ask questions and share ideas on Feb. 12th from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Stanley Mutual Bldg (32 Irishtown Rd). Your input will help this program reflect real local needs.

The Parish of Stanley
Sexagesima Sunday
February 8th, 2026



The Parable of The Sower and the Seed

Priest-in-Charge: Chris VanBuskirk 506-367-2013

Parish Lay Visitor: Eva Morton 506-262-3328

Wardens: Paul Humble 506- 367-3222

Art Logan 506-367-2052

Website and Face Book: go to Anglican Parish of Stanley

SPOTLIGHT on SCRIPTURE'

'O how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day.'

Psalm 119.97

DAILY BIBLE READING

A modified table of daily Bible Readings from the Prayer Book:

Sunday	Genesis 8. 15 – 9.17	Matthew 19. 16 - 20.16
Monday	Genesis 11. 1-9 and 11. 27 – 12.10	Matt. 20.17-end
Tuesday	Genesis 13	Matt. 21. 1 - 22
Wednesday	Genesis 14	Matt. 21. 23-end
Thursday	Genesis 15	Matt. 22. 1- 33
Friday	Genesis 16	Matt. 22.34-23.12
Saturday	Genesis 17. 1-22	Matt. 23. 13-end

At home, let us pray for a Bible, visible and read daily, in every home in our community. Abroad, let us pray for the Canadian Bible Society's work in China.

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Twoonies for the Anglican Diocese of Jamaica: At its meeting in January, our Vestry voted to support the Church in Jamaica (approx. 30,000 members) as it continues to recover from Hurricane Melissa (Category 5) on Oct. 28th. Fifty churches were either destroyed or seriously damaged. Paper plates, with spots for twoonies, will be available for those who wish to use them. Let us pray for Bishop Garth Minott and the Jamaican people.



Stations of the Cross, a meditation on Jesus' way to the Cross, is set to be prayed on Fridays through Lent, beginning on Feb. 20th from 12 Noon to 12:30 pm, at the Rectory. Everyone is welcome to attend. You may also join in by ZOOM. Please let me know. CVB +

The Olympics are here with 16 sports and some interesting story-lines. For example: Curler Marc Kennedy is competing in his fourth Olympics; figure skater Deanna Stellato-Dudek, at 42, is the oldest woman to compete in her event since 1928. Kelsey Mitchell, a gold-medalist track cyclist (2020 Tokyo), is a dual-sport athlete competing in bobsleigh, becoming one of only 14 Canadians on that list; and, there are four sets of siblings on Team Canada.

Beyond these notable, individual themes, we know that there is much common ground, including the sacrifices made during years of training, too numerous to mention. The blood, sweat and tears shed in pursuit of excellence are all part of the elite world of athletics.

And yet in last week's Epistle, St. Paul used athletic discipline and sacrifice to help us understand our Christian calling. Specifically, he underlined the virtue of temperance or self-control: *"Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable."* (1 Corinthians 9.25)

By an 'imperishable wreath' Paul means God's gift of everlasting Life. And, he is reminding us that self-control is as vital in our Christian walk as it is in athletic sport. To faithfully follow the Lord Jesus, we must be intentional and disciplined. Each year on Ash Wednesday this message is set out for us in the Exhortation (see pages 611-612, BCP). The Priest says, "I invite you, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance, by prayer, fasting, and self-denial, and by reading and meditation upon God's holy Word."

God loves us perfectly. He has given His only-begotten Son to die for us. In thanksgiving, we offer Him our love and our lives. Fr. Robert Crouse put it this way: "The season of Lent is a time for putting aside our (many) distractions; a time for looking at what we are and what we do; a time to realize that the charity of God for us, and within us, and among us, is all that finally counts."

