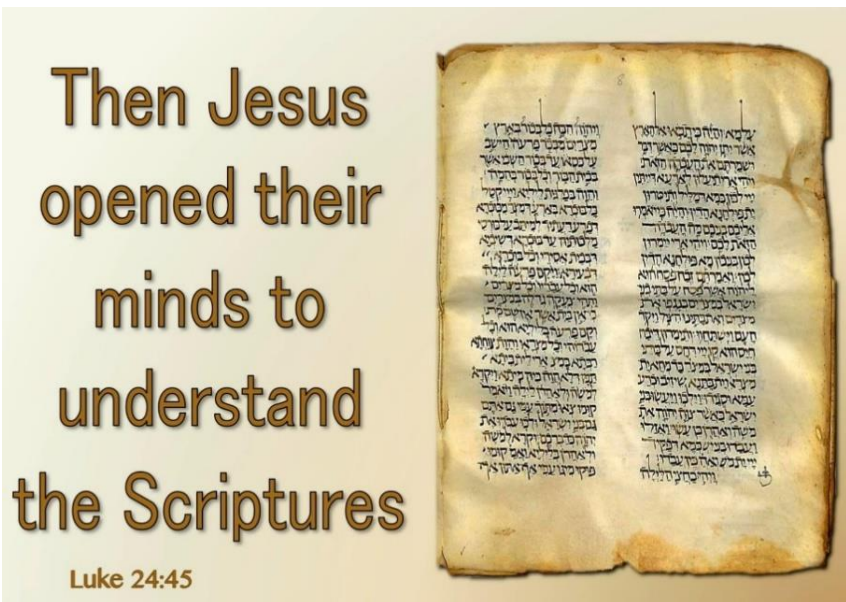


# EPIPHANY THIS WEEK

April 12 – 18, 2024

Church of the Epiphany ~ 85 Larch St. Sudbury, Ontario ~ P3E 1B8

[www.epiphanysudbury.org](http://www.epiphanysudbury.org) 705-675-2279 [info@epiphanysudbury.org](mailto:info@epiphanysudbury.org)



## WORSHIP FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER WITH ARCHBISHOP ANNE GERMOND AND THE REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

**8:30am – Please Note** That there will not be an 8:30am Service this Sunday. We gather together again on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**10:30am – Main Worship Service** with music and Holy Eucharist and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows (BAS).

**READINGS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER:** Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48

**SUMMARY OF READINGS:** In today’s story from Acts, a man is healed because the name of Jesus exercises power in the post-Easter church as if Jesus himself were still present—a testimony to the living presence of Jesus within the early Christian community. And among other things, Psalm 4 offers the reassuring message that the Lord hears us when we call. The First Letter of John explores what it means to be children of God, but not in sentimental, soft terms; rather it issues a call for children of God to be open-eyed with respect to sin and lawlessness. The Gospel story tells of the disciples as they are confronted by the reality of the risen Lord and subsequently charged to be his witnesses to all the world.

**QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:** When Jesus appeared to the disciples, “he opened their minds to understand the scriptures” (Luke 24:45). What is it to “understand” God’s word? How does understanding feed our faith? In the coming week, take note of one new understanding that comes to you from something you hear or read or realize through another person.

**AT HOME PRAYERS: Morning** – Holy God of surprising revelations, I thank you for rest and renewal. I thank you that when you come to your people, you speak peace and invite faith in you. Make this new day a time when I will give more thanks for life than I did yesterday. Give me ears to hear your will for me, hands that are open to others, and eyes to see the beauty in your world; I pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Evening** – Loving God, I give you thanks for all that has happened this day. Even for the obstacles I faced, I thank you. Especially when I wobbled in doubt, I thank you because I did not fall. You came to hold me strong and to help me take the next step. Now give me rest, secure in your never-failing arms. Let my dream revolve around what is pleasing and good, bringing me to a new day with zeal for all your good and many gifts. In the love of Christ, I pray. Amen.



**PLEASE REMEMBER** - If you are not feeling well, or have any ill symptoms such as coughing, fever, fatigue, or a sore throat, please stay home and join us for the worship services that will be offered online. We are delighted to welcome you online if you are not able to join us in person.



**WELCOME ARCHBISHOP ANNE GERMOND!**

As we all well know from the last time Archbishop Anne was with us in January, worship at Epiphany increases in love, beauty, joy and in glorious celebration, whenever Archbishop Anne leads us in our worship. Tomorrow, Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>, likewise promises to be such an occasion. I hope and pray that you will all come and join together as we welcome our beloved Archbishop and as we prayerfully celebrate with those who will be Reaffirming their Baptismal Vows. If you are able, please plan to stay for lunch following our worship. Thank you and Thanks be to God!



**OVERVIEW OF REV. ELIZABETH'S SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 14<sup>th</sup>:**

Rev. Elizabeth's schedule this week includes meetings, pastoral visiting and mornings in the church office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Please be assured that if you need to speak with Rev. Elizabeth or schedule a visit for any reason, please email her at [greenepiphanypriest@gmail.com](mailto:greenepiphanypriest@gmail.com) or leave a telephone message for her at the church office. Thank You.



**HELP!** A pot of soup is needed for our Lunch and Learn with Mayor Lefebvre next week. Is there anyone who will help with this? Please contact Mary at church or at [emerd79@hotmail.com](mailto:emerd79@hotmail.com) or the office. Any help is greatly appreciated.



**BALCONY VEGETABLE GARDEN:** Recently the Monday Women's Bible Study (WBS) group confirmed its interest in running the balcony garden again this summer. Last summer the WBS was able to give the Outreach Team about \$200 of net proceeds for the Sudbury Food Bank from the sale of produce.

Looking at the pros and cons of doing so it was determined that we would limit the plants to those which were a) able to grow best in the balcony environment, and b) were also those which parishioners bought readily. The top three plants meeting these criteria are green runner beans, cherry tomatoes and basil.

So for this year these will be the ones we concentrate on. But we need your help! We need bigger containers, that are suitable for:

- individual basil or cherry tomato plants, perhaps even 5-gallon containers and we'll make the holes for drainage!
- Window boxes of at least 3 feet in length or large round containers suitable for setting on the ground below the balcony for growing the runner beans
- Lumber (and labour?) to build a few long boxes for the runner beans.
- And cash donations are welcome to help offset the cost of soil and plants!



If you can help with any of these things, please contact these two WBS members soon. For container donations or queries – Barb Bolton – 705-674-1691 or [rbandbb2@gmail.com](mailto:rbandbb2@gmail.com). For cash donations Mary Donato will be pleased to receive these after church any Sunday! Thanks!



**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY:** If you wish to donate Memorial Flowers in memory of a loved one, or you would like to give flowers to mark a special occasion such as a wedding anniversary, the birth of a child, Father's Day, National Indigenous Day of Prayer, or another set day in the church year, please call the Church Office to arrange for your flower donation. Thank You.

## A NOTE FROM REV. ELIZABETH

### **The Letter to the Ephesians teaches that there is only one Baptism. What does it mean?**

The Letter to the ancient Church in Ephesus says, "There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, **one baptism**; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." Since there are different "baptisms" referred to in the Second Testament, it can be a bit confusing when we hear about "one baptism." The word *baptize* always means "to submerge or immerse." So, when baptism is discussed, it involves a person being totally submerged into something else. Baptism implies being "all in." It also implies that a change has taken place. Baptized people are changed people.



Generally speaking, there are two types of baptism: a physical (water) baptism and a spiritual baptism. One is done in water; the other is accomplished through the workings of the Holy Spirit.

Water baptism was commanded by Jesus for all of his followers. Paul's Letter to the Colossians says, "Having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead." Being baptized with water does not save us; faith in the finished work of Christ is what rescues us from sin and death. But water baptism is an outward indication of an inward change. It is a wonderful picture of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. Being immersed in water symbolizes the cleansing of our hearts and the washing away of our sin. Through water baptism, the faithful publicly proclaim their testimony that they have been born again by the grace of God.

In his Letter to the ancient Church in Rome, Paul speaks of a spiritual baptism: "Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" This spiritual baptism "into Christ" is performed by the Holy Spirit the moment a repentant sinner accepts the gift of salvation and is reborn from above. By this "baptism", we are identified with the death and resurrection of Jesus; from then on, we consider ourselves "crucified with Christ" (Galatians 2:20); and we choose to lose ourselves and be immersed into Christ's body. (Matthew 16:24). The Holy Spirit makes this happen.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit was promised by John the Baptist, who said that Jesus "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." No one understood what John meant until after Jesus had ascended back into heaven. Jesus had promised the disciples that he would send "the Comforter". His followers were to wait in Jerusalem until the "promise from the Father". That promise came in Acts 2. The Holy Spirit was poured out on the disciples, and they were never the same again. They were bold in their witness, empowered to perform miracles, willing to endure persecution, and all but one died a martyr's death. The church had begun. Throughout the *Acts of the Apostles*, baptism by the Holy Spirit was repeated as people came to know Jesus, both Jew and Gentile, and served to unify the church as the Jewish believers realized that the Holy Spirit was poured out on their Gentile brothers and sisters as well.


When Paul, (or one of Paul's students) wrote to the Ephesians about "one baptism," he was reminding them that, regardless of their background or nationality, they all served the same Lord, shared the same faith, and had experienced the same baptism. He could be referring to water baptism; i.e., all faithful believers have the same testimony of salvation and have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Or he could be referring to Spirit baptism; i.e., all faithful believers have been placed into the Body of Christ through the Spirit's power. Either way, the emphasis is on **unity among all Christians**. The letter says, "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." The Holy Spirit works to unify us and provides assurance that we are **all** children of God. By reminding the early church, and by extension the Church of the Epiphany in Sudbury, that we all had a similar testimony and that we are all partakers in the same Holy Spirit, we are encouraged to work together for the cause of Christ so that the message of Christ's love, peace, unity and redemption will continue to spread throughout the world. To God be the Glory. Thanks be to God.

Yours in Christ,  
Elizabeth+

**HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK IN THE DIOCESE OF ALGOMA:** Archbishop Anne, along with the Social Justice Committee for the Diocese of Algoma, are pleased to present for the first time in the life of our diocese, *Homelessness Awareness Week*. Please mark your calendars and be sure to participate in this important webinar being offered on Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Registration is now open and it is free!. If you would like to register, please email Social Justice Committee member, Jane Cox at [Jane.e.cox1@gmail.com](mailto:Jane.e.cox1@gmail.com). If you have questions or would like more information, please be sure to speak with Rev. Elizabeth or with Terry Kett. Thank You!

Join the  
"Panel Discussion Event"  
moderated by  
Abp. Anne Germond  
on Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
7-8:30pm

**HOMELESSNESS  
WEEK**



Visit the Diocese of Algoma website for Homelessness Week reflections, prayers, and parish resources.

Send questions and register at [Jane.e.cox1@gmail.com](mailto:Jane.e.cox1@gmail.com).

Registrants will receive the webinar link 3 days before the panel discussion on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**LET US PRAY**

**FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY:** Barb Bolton; Pat Ecclestone; Jane Kivisto; Bill and Darlene McKetsy; Sandra Mark; Tom and Sue Moland; Tom Newburn.

**FOR THOSE IN NEED:** Sheila; William; Tim; Jean; Pat; Nick and Ellen; John and Judith; Karen and Corrine; Della and Sandra; Frances; Monique; Carol, Bob and Riley; Maybourne.



**Watch us LIVE** on Sunday Mornings at 10:30 at [www.epiphanysudbury.org/our-services](http://www.epiphanysudbury.org/our-services)

**Announcements for ETW** should be sent to [etw@epiphanysudbury.org](mailto:etw@epiphanysudbury.org) by NOON each Thursday.

**Donate Online:** You can make a donation to the Epiphany, via PayPal, by clicking the "Donate Now" button at the top or bottom of each page on our website.