



"In his great mercy he has given us  
new birth into a living hope through the  
resurrection of Jesus Christ..."

1 Peter 1:3

## EASTER 2022

Dear Ambassadors,

We've come a long way since the pandemic was declared over 2 years ago. Two years without an Easter service of JOY and celebrating. The good news is that the wait is over. We can celebrate Easter with

song and in person. **Alleluia! Alleluia!** Of course we have maintained our livestream for you to watch the Easter service anytime! ([YouTube/St. Paul's Media](#))

I can't wait to break my Lenten fast of water (my only beverage) and to enjoy a cup of coffee. I can't wait to shout out "Alleluia!" This is the word that we put away during Lent. The children hide our 'Alleluia' banner in the church, and then find it on Easter Sunday. I can't wait to share the good news of our salvation.

All of our Easter hymns are filled with the hope and the reality of the resurrection of Christ. Each hymn is in the present as our living God, the risen Christ, is here with us today. We don't sing, "Jesus Christ **WAS** risen 2000 years ago." Instead we sing, "Jesus Christ **IS** risen today." This is a present and not a past reality. We don't sing, "love's redeeming work **WAS** done." Instead we sing, "love's redeeming work **IS** done." Yes, Jesus was crucified a long time ago, but you and I share today in the glory and in the wonder of his resurrection. The angels are singing today and so are we!

The power and the light of the risen Christ transcends time and space and brings us to new life today! The day of resurrection is ours for today. Death has been defeated and we have the promise of eternal life. That eternal life begins as soon as we bring the power of God into our lives and into our hearts. There is no more meaningful way to live. I could not do any of my ministry if I did not receive all my strength from the living God.

There is power in the present. Our journey as Christians is not a journey about the past but a journey about today, with our eyes focused forward. We still remember and learn from the legacy of the past but we know that our faith is a living faith and we are brought to newness today.

One of the many things that I cherish about St. Paul's is your ability to walk in newness of life. St. Paul said it best "**Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.**" (Romans 6:4) We are blessed with children and young people in this parish who have a thirst to know God. We have 9 children participating in 'Life In The Eucharist' (First Communion classes) and many children have returned to our Sunday morning service. We made a commitment to young families years ago, and my prayer is that every single person feels truly welcome when they worship with us.

We have much to celebrate and I am thankful for the goodness of God. I am blessed with outstanding clergy (Fr. Gordon, Deacon Anne, and Deacon Ann), and lay people who walk together to build this loving community. I am blessed to serve you and I thank you.

Alleluia! Christ **IS** risen!

**Deborah +**

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'The Happy Rector & Archdeacon'

see over for  
'Palm Sunday'  
& SPRING  
events! 

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 YouTube St. Paul's Media

 St Pauls Anglican Church

## 'Drive-By' Blessing! PALM SUNDAY April 10, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

Receive a **palm cross**, and a **palm branch** for your door so you can let the world know that you are a Christian household observing **Holy Week**.

Meet '**Ambassador Bunny**'!



## Rector's Sabbatical



I will be taking my first sabbatical in my ministry of 22 years this Spring 2022. I will be gone from the **end of April until the middle of June**. Our capable clergy team will preside at all the services and do pastoral care.

**Jouni and I** and parishioner **Daniel Klein** will be walking the **800 km. 'Camino'** in northern Spain. This is the path of St. James that pilgrims have travelled on foot for over 1000 years. Please keep us in your prayers. I will be sending back **weekly videos that will be shown during our Sunday morning livestream** and I will also be posting on our parish **Facebook** page.

## Join Our 'Mini-Camino' Walks

We are planning **8 weekly walks around Boulevard Lake, Mondays evenings at 7 pm**. We will meet in the main parking lot and from there walk the 5 km around the Lake. There will also be shorter walks. We encourage each walker to **raise \$100 over the 8 walks**. The money will be given directly on-line to the *Anglican Foundation* and the proceeds used for 5 bursaries for 5 graduating *Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School* students. The 5 recipients need to be heading to college or university.

### 8 Weekly Walks:

- Monday **April 25** ~ Jouni, Daniel, and I will be there for this first 'Mini-Camino' walk
- Monday **May 2**
- Monday **May 9**
- Monday **May 16**
- Monday **May 23** (\*optional as this is 'Victoria Day')
- Monday **May 30**
- Monday **June 6**
- Monday **June 13** ~ Jouni and I will be back for this final walk.

Children, dogs, family are all welcome!



**Busy Mondays? No problem!**  
**Walk whenever you are free.**

**We will also have alternate date for those who want to walk with a group.**  
**Watch for more info! ☺**

## Every Child Matters

As a sign of respect for our Indigenous brothers and sisters, I invite you to **plant orange flowers** in your gardens this summer. Orange is the colour associated with "**Orange Shirt Day**." This important day is September 30th, Canada's **National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**. Our church garden will be filled with orange flowers and as soon as I return from the Camino, I will be planting orange flowers at home and at camp.

