



Rawdon-Mascouche-Kilkenny

Lent, Easter, and Pentecost 2026



Located in the traditional territories of the Haudenosaunee and Huron-Wendat people

To my dearly loved sisters and brothers of Christ Church, Grace Church, and St. John in the Wilderness:

I write to you after Candlemas [Feb 02] and before Transfiguration [Feb 15] as the season of Incarnation and Epiphany [which is the feast of the revelation to the Gentiles] draws to a close. Leaving Bethlehem, our eyes are set on **Ash Wednesday, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and Pentecost**.

Ash Wednesday will be observed on February the 18th with solemn liturgies in Mascouche @ 4PM and in Rawdon @ 7PM. As stated in our prayerbook [BAS p 282], *'We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, an ancient sign, speaking of the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and marking the penitence of the community as a whole.'* The celebrant continues, *'I invite you therefore, in the name of the Lord, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, and by reading and meditating on the word of God. Let us kneel before our Creator and Redeemer...'*

This year, **daily Lenten devotions** will be found via a click on the weekly worship notice. In addition to these devotions there will be an **on-line study** of the Gospel of John. These study sessions will be hosted @ 7PM on February 23, March 02, 09, 16, and 30. In these 5 study sessions we will discuss the Gospel of John from John 1:1 to John 11:57. Each week's readings will be announced in the FRIDAY Sunday worship notice; and each meeting shall use the same Zoom coordinates as are used to join us for Sunday worship. Reading John in this way will open the door to discussion of scripture; intercessions; and the exploration of the deeper meanings of parables and healing miracles. Discussion is open to all –please do join, even if only to listen and learn.

During Lent we will have a **Prayer Workshop** with the Rev. Maybee @ the Rectory [3365 3e ave] on February the 21st from 4-7:30PM; a Rawdon Youth Initiative event on Feb 28 from 2-4PM; and a White Cake and Sherry Party on March 21st from 2-4PM @ the Rectory to celebrate the **Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary** – to which women from our three-congregations + the WI + women from other denominations are invited.

The **World Day of Prayer** will be observed on Friday **March 6th**. This year, with the kindness of Tina Schmeller and the CIM, the World Day of Prayer will be held @ the CIM [3588 Metcalfe] following Friday Friends. *'The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. The 2026 World Day of Prayer materials are from women of Nigeria. The liturgy brings us a powerful invitation drawn from Matthew 11:28-30. At a time when many are carrying heavy burdens, our Nigerian sisters offer profound insights into finding rest in God'*. Everyone is invited to participate in the work of the World Day of Prayer.

During Lent we will have the great good blessing of Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson [retired] @ Christ Church on **Mothering Sunday**, March 15th. Bishop Mary will preach; will preside at Our Lord's table; and will lay hands on those who seek healing. Bishop Mary is a gifted intercessor, and many have found comfort in her prayers for healing. Do not be shy or hesitant: all who come forward will be blessed and anointed and prayed for. Bishop Mary will also walk with our congregation in the **St. Patrick's Day Parade** on the afternoon of March 15th, counting herself among the saints and souls of Christ Church. We will need four volunteers to carry flags, two to carry banners, and more to walk and use noisemakers. Let our walking with +Mary in the parade be a testament to the graces we have received and an opportunity to let ourselves be known in Rawdon as men and women and children of faith. Mascouche and Kilkenny are invited to join Christ Church for this healing liturgy, and to walk with Christ Church in the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Holy Week begins on Sunday March 29th with **Palm & Passion Sunday**. On Tuesday March 31st we will share a **Seder Supper** in the Christ Church Parish Hall beginning @ 5PM. We will sing ancient songs, read the Exodus story, and share a meal as Moses shared when Israel was still captive in Egypt. The meal will cost \$30/person, \$15 for kids 6-12, and will be free for those 5 and under. This is a chance to remember the story of God's purposeful action in human history, and an opportunity to root ourselves in the story and history of

salvation. We will observe **Tenebrae** – a service of approaching darkness – @ 7PM on Wednesday April 1st in Mascouche and @ 7PM on Maundy Thursday April 2nd in Rawdon. On Maundy Thursday **Stations of the Cross** will be observed @ Christ Church. On **Good Friday** morning people in Rawdon will walk in an ecumenical procession from Marie-Reine-du-Monde / St. Patrick's to Christ Church. Together, with our Roman, United, and Mennonite sisters and brothers, we will share in the recollection of Our Lord's death on a cross on Golgotha. Later in the day on Good Friday, we will gather in solemnity @ 2PM in Rawdon & @ 7PM in Mascouche to remember the verity of his death, and the grief which caused the hangings in the altar in Jerusalem to be torn in two from top to bottom. Sunday the 5th of April, **Easter Sunday**, we will greet the morning with hymn and song and choir and psalm. At Christ Church we will welcome four children into the family and household of God in baptism; and in Mascouche we will remember our baptism and renew our baptismal promises.

Through the weeks of Easter, which run from April 5th to May 24th, we will work, in Rawdon, on a collective art project to decorate Christ Church for **Pentecost Sunday** [May 24th]. On Pentecost Sunday we will sing Caribbean music and dress in bright colours and sing with heart and full voice and dance in our pews. The Ven. Deborah Meister, Vicar General of our Diocese, will be with us to preach and to preside at Eucharist. After worship we will share a potluck BBQ and then have WestCan Performing Company and the Haitian electric band Jab Djab to round out our Pentecost celebrations with Caribbean and Haitian music and the beat of West-African drums. On this feast day, Kilkenny and Mascouche are invited to join Christ Church.

Come and study and sing and worship and learn and grow and share with us, for the Kingdom of God is at hand in our community.

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Donate on-line at www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/70387

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Donate on-line at www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/st-margarets-anglican-church/

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