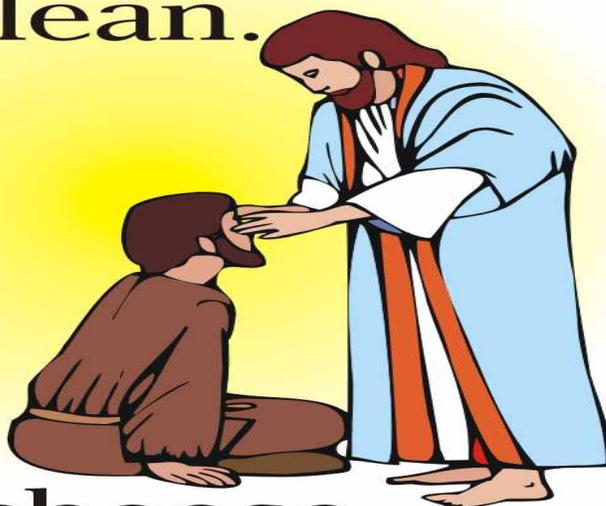


# St. Edward the Confessor

February 11, 2018

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**If you choose,  
you can make  
me clean.**



**I do choose.  
Be made clean!**

*Mark 1.40-41*

## **Thank You**

... very much for your support and generosity.



Last Sunday's collection amounted to \$835

## **Confirmation**

Anyone interested in confirmation this year should talk with Father Ernie. We are hoping to have enough candidates to celebrate confirmation this year.

## **In Memorial**

Rev. Birgit Neuschild's mother passed away on February 4<sup>th</sup> in Graasten, Denmark at the age of 83. Rev. Birgit (minister at St. John's) will hold a memorial service for her at St. John's on Saturday, February 17 at 2:00 pm. Our prayers go out to Birgit and her family during this difficult time.



Please join in with our Christian community of St Edward's and St John's on Tuesday, February 13 at 5:30 as we celebrate Shrove Tuesday with soup, pancakes and sausages. Please bring your own dishes and utensils. Following supper there will be a service of Blessing and Distribution of Ashes to celebrate Ash Wednesday.

## **CAC**

### **Christian Action Chretienne**

CAC is an ecumenical organization that provides food and food vouchers to residents in need in our community. The food that we present during the offertory is donated to CAC and next week's Helping Others collection will go to CAC.

## **Give it Up for Lent**

### **Give it Up for The Earth**

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, February 14 and the Lent fast lasts 40 days during which people traditionally give up something, perhaps certain foods or habits to improve their health or demonstrate self-restraint. This year we would like you to consider giving up something that would benefit our earth. The single biggest challenge our world faces today is climate change and green house gas emissions are the major cause for climate change. So this Lent consider what you can give up or what habit you can change that will help to improve our global environment. There are so many things we can do if we just think about it.

Come to our Pancake Tuesday dinner to hear more about this Parish Project.

## Valentine's Brunch



.Following Mass next Sunday, February 18, please stay and enjoy our traditional St John's and St Edward's Valentine's Day Sweet Heart Brunch in the south wing. Come and enjoy bagels, muffins, fruit salad, coffee and great conversation with our sisters and brothers from St John's



## REFLECTION

Leprosy – a word that struck fear in people centuries and millennia ago. No one knew what caused it until the late 19th and early 20th centuries. People deduced it was infectious, and so the societal intervention was simply to segregate the victims of the disease from the healthy population in the hopes of slowing its impact. In its advanced stages the disease is disfiguring, and so the victims were ostracized for their appearance. Since so little was known about the causes, even skin issues that we identify today as normal might have been classified as leprosy. We now know that the disease is much less infectious than was once believed, and there are treatment regimens that result in complete cures. Nonetheless, in some parts of the world victims still are treated by segregation and faced with shame.

Leviticus describes the Hebrew response to leprosy – first the diagnosis by the priest, and then the duty of the victim to self-segregate. Imagine yourself as the poor victim who has this incurable and disfiguring disease – society expected you to wander about announcing to all that you are unclean. Personal illness and self-proclaimed public shame – you are the lowest of the low.

Jesus doesn't follow the norm of avoiding this leper; instead He cures him. Jesus felt the pain of the leper – was moved with pity – and so He responded by easing the poor man's suffering. Jesus took the pain of the leper into His own heart, just as He took on the pain of our sins to His own heart and, as the psalmist states, took away his/our guilt.

Lord, give me the grace to imitate Jesus, to:

- Feel the pain of the leper as if it were my own;
- Console the hurting;
- Bring joy to the saddened;
- Create hope for the disconsolate;
- Give what is needed;
- Toil without counting my personal cost; and
- Do your will.