

The Parish of Saint John the Divine

301 Main St. E, North Bay, ON, P1B 1B3

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Our primary purpose as the Church of St. John the Divine in downtown North Bay is to be a welcoming, nurturing and worshipping community which demonstrates by word and deed the love of Jesus Christ for all creation.

The First Day of Lent – Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2012 ✠ 11:00 a.m.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE & ANTE-COMMUNION (BCP)

Officiant & Preacher: *The Rev. Fr. A. E. Nussey, Rector*

The Ministers and Clerks shall enter the Church in silence

Sentences.....page 611

Hymn: “Just As I Am”#615

Exhortation.....page 611

Lesson: Joel 2. 12-18

Psalm 51.....page 394

The Blessing & Imposition of Ashes

V. The Lord be with you; **R. And with thy Spirit.** V. Let us pray.

Priest. O God, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather than he should turn from his sin and be saved: mercifully look upon the frailty of our mortal nature, and of thy goodness vouchsafe to bless these ashes now to be set upon our heads in token of humility and to obtain thy pardon; that we, knowing we are but dust, and that for our unworthiness unto dust shall we return, may through thy mercy be found meet to receive forgiveness of all our sins, and those good things which thou hast promised to the penitent. Through Christ our Lord. **R. Amen.**

*Every person present is invited to come to the altar rail for the imposition of ashes.
As ashes are imposed on the forehead, the priest shall say:*

Remember, O man, that dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou return.

Prayers.....	page 612
Hymn: “The Glory of These Forty Days”	# 170
The Ten Commandments.....	page 68
Collect.....	138
Epistle: St. James 4. 6.....	139
Psalm 103. 8-14.....	460
Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 6. 16.....	139
Sermon	
Offering Hymn: “Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”	# 614
Biddings & Prayers of the People.....	page 74
Intercession.....	75
Concluding Devotions.....	614
Recessional Hymn: “O Jesus I Have Promised”	# 438
Dismissal	



During the forty days of Lent the Church prepares to keep the feast of Christ’s Resurrection by the disciplines of repentance and amendment of life, especially prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (St. Matthew 6). See the *Rule of Life* found in the *Book of Common Prayer* on page 555.

The Prayer Book appoints Ash Wednesday and Good Friday as fast days. Except for small children, the elderly, and those whose health requires, Christians are called to fast until evening, when the fast is broken with a simple meal of plain food.

The other forty weekdays of Lent are to be observed with ‘some measure of abstinence’ and additional ‘exercise of devotion.’ Sundays are not observed as days of fasting or abstinence. ✠