



## The Prayer Book Society of Canada

*National Chairman - The Rev'd Canon Dr. Gordon R. Maitland*

Lent 2024

Dear friends and supporters of the Book of Common Prayer,

Lent is a time for introspection, self-examination, and meditation on the Word of God. To the latter end we have included in our newsletter a recent sermon by one of our PBSC National Vice-Chairmen, Fr. David Curry. Encouraging people to be conversant with Scripture is certainly an aim that the Prayer Book Society of Canada wants to promote, particularly since we are always at pains to point out that the Prayer Book itself is a model of Scripture arranged for worship. This is especially true for the offices of Morning and Evening Prayer, and we encourage both clergy and laity to make the discipline of saying the Divine Office a part of their prayer life.

Also included in the current newsletter is an article by yours truly about “The Holy Eucharist: A Form in the Language of the Book of Common Prayer 1962” found on p. 230 in the Book of Alternative Services. It may be asked, why is this rite included in the BAS at all? It is certainly *not* a substitute for the Eucharistic Rite found in the BCP. This short essay is an attempt to explain the true origins of this service in the BAS, and an evaluation of whether it fulfils the purpose for which it was intended.

Finally, you will also find in the newsletter a notice of the PBSC Annual General Meeting, which will be held via Zoom on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 p.m. While business meetings are rarely exciting, it is nevertheless important that we conduct the essential transactions of the Society so that we can remain a viable and productive organization for the good of the Church and the well-being of its members. Please consider taking part in our AGM on the above date.

Needless to say, none of our activities would be possible without your continued support. If you are able, please think about making a charitable donation to the Prayer Book Society of Canada. Since almsgiving is one of the traditional Lenten disciplines, a gift to the PBSC at this time would not only benefit the Society, but would also be a devout way to mark this holy season.

Finally, I urge you to uphold the Prayer Book Society in your prayers, that we may continue to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ and to be good stewards of the heritage bequeathed to us in the Book of Common Prayer. Let me also wish all of you a holy Lent and a joyful and blessed Easter.

Yours in Christ,