

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 15, 2019

*Our King and Saviour Draws Near!
O Come, Let us Worship!*

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalms 11 & 12 | Isaiah 28:9-22 | Revelation 3:7-end

9:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit: Psalm 33:1-6: *page 367*
The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: *please see the bulletin insert*
The Gloria is omitted during Advent
The Collect: *page 99*
The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 35:1-10*
Psalm 119 part 19: *page 494*
The Epistle: *page 99*
Gradual Psalm 80:1-7: *page 433*
The Holy Gospel: *page 99*
The Creed: *page 71*
The Homily
The Prayers of the People: *L: Lord, in your mercy*
C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration: *page 82*
Post-Communion Prayer: *page 85*

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School: Parish Hall
Time with Fr. Stockall

10:30 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN: **62** (Veni Emmanuel)
The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: *please see the bulletin insert*
The Gloria is omitted during Advent
The Collect: *page 99*
The Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 35:1-10*
♪ PSALM: *please see the bulletin insert*
The Epistle: *page 99*
♪ GRADUAL HYMN: **Prepare the Way, O Zion**
please see the bulletin insert
The Holy Gospel: *page 99*
♪ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Taize)
Prepare the way of the Lord; Prepare the way of the Lord;
And all people will see the salvation of our God.
The Creed: *page 71*
The Homily
♪ OFFERTORY HYMN: **293** (Ascension)
The Prayers of the People: *L: Lord, in your mercy*
C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration: *page 82*
♪ HYMN DURING COMMUNION: **247** (Eisenach)
Post-Communion Prayer: *page 85*
♪ RECESSIONAL HYMN: **67** (Winchester New)

✧

*Please join us in the Parish Hall
following the 10:30 Celebration for
Coffee & Conversation.*

From the Rector

You may have noticed that we seldom see St. John the Baptist on Advent calendars or Christmas cards, and we can be very sure that he won't show up in any store displays at this time of year; and, yet, he is the pre-eminent figure of all of our Advent preparations: in a sense, he is the Patron Saint of our four-week Advent journey. Perhaps he's just a little too odd for us to be comfortable in his presence; or perhaps, if we're really going to be honest, we're a little worried that he may be asking more of us than we're prepared to give. And yet, like John, we are called to be Advent people; a people praying and preparing for the coming of the Lord; and in a world largely divided between repressive brutality and self-indulgent pleasure, John the Baptist walks us through the weeks of Advent to show us where we are called to stand, not just in Advent but every day of our lives.

All four New Testament evangelists agree that there is no Good News, no Gospel of Jesus Christ, without John the Baptist. His whole life was lived with just one purpose. He was born to declare the imminent arrival of the Christ. With relentless single-mindedness, he pursued this mission even to his death; for as much as John may have feared being a failure, as we perhaps see in this morning's Gospel, he feared no man or woman: not Herod the king or Herod's wife. Which brings us back to what it means us to be Advent people: a fearless people preparing for the coming of the Lord. So, whenever we speak a word of hope, even when faced with opposition, we are Advent people. Whenever we stand for justice for the vulnerable and weak, we are Advent people. Whenever we tackle the challenges of life without surrendering to the destructive negativity that the world employs, we are Advent people. Whenever we refuse to return anger for anger and hatred for hatred, we are Advent people. Whenever we allow trust to overcome fear, then we are Advent people. That's what John shows us in our Advent journey.



No Scents Makes Good Senses!

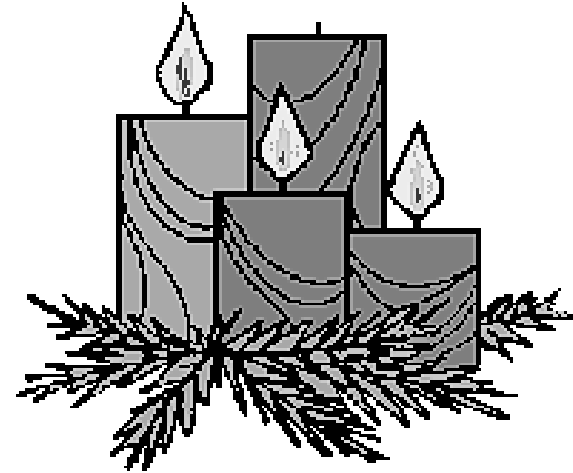
Perfume, cologne, and other scented products can trigger asthma, migraines, COPD, and multiple chemical sensitivity. Please help us to keep the air we share here at St. Mary's healthy and fragrance-free.



If you've not yet picked up your copy of this year's Christmas Letter, with the Schedule of Services for Christmas Eve and Day, please locate your copy on the table in the Narthex. And if there are any that you can deliver to someone else this week, please pick those up as well.



The Anglican Church of Canada The Diocese of Fredericton THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK



When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, to heal the broken,
To feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations, to bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman (1899-1981), *The Mood of Christmas*

PRIEST AND RECTOR

The Revd. Canon Kevin M. Stockall, B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

Rectory: 770 McEvoy Street, Fredericton NB E3A 3B7

454.0245 (rectory) | 472.4661 (office) | 461.7685 (cell) | kevin.stockall@bellaliant.net

Visit us at: <http://www.stmarysfredericton.ca/>

Parish Notices and Updates

THE ST. MARY'S PARISH FAMILY wishes to offer sincere congratulations to Fr. Lee and Alice Whitney on the official launch of their new book, *Knowing by Heart: A Tribute to a Kennebecasis Valley Homestead Farm*. This lovely volume, published by Chapel Street Editions, is a re-gathering of some of Fr. Lee's weekly columns, written under the pseudonym Jacob Erdman, in the *King's County Record* over more than 30 years; and highlights the gracious wisdom, gentle wit, and spiritual insight which filled those columns, including some of the trials of adjusting to farm life after giving up a career as an academic in the big city. ***We're very pleased that the people of St. Mary's will have a chance to hear some excerpts from the book at our very own Launch this morning during Coffee and Conversation.*** We hope that you'll join us then.

WE ALSO WANT TO OFFER FR. LEE our equally sincere best wishes on the 40th anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate, which took place on December 16, 1979. The ministry of deacons in the Church goes back to the earliest days of the Church's life; and deacons such as Fr. Whitney remind us of the servant ministry to which we are all called in the Body of Christ. Congratulations, Fr. Lee, on a long and deeply faithful ministry as a Deacon.

ALLAN AGNEW, OUR PARISH TREASURER, has prepared the 2020 offering envelopes, which should be available in the Parish Hall Current envelope holders have been assigned their current numbers. If you're not currently using envelopes and would like a box for next year, please let Allan know. And if you're not currently using e-offering and would like to join that very convenient programme, please pick up a copy of the application form from the table in the Narthex.

ST. MARY'S BRANCH OF ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN will be meeting on **Monday, December 16th**, in the Parish Hall, beginning with their annual Christmas Luncheon at 12:00 noon. The women of St. Mary's are warmly invited to join them. For more information please speak to Shirley Hupman.

FLOWERS AT CHRISTMAS: Those who wish to place memorial flowers may do so by including a donation through the collection plate. Please ensure that your donation includes the names of those in whose memory the flowers are being placed, as well as complete information regarding the donor(s); **and to help us to include that information in the Christmas bulletin, we'll need to know by Thursday, December 19th.** For more information, please speak to the Rector.

ST. MARY'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY has concluded for its annual Christmas break. We'll resume in January; please join us then.



We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Wəlastəkwiik (Wolastoqiyik), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiik (Wolastoqiyik) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

DECEMBER 18: ADVENT EMBER DAY

2:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist, *Paradise Villa*

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 21: THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 22: THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

9:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

9:45 a.m. – Sunday School for All Ages!

10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

Followed by Coffee and Conversation in the Parish Hall

DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

6:00 p.m. – Family Eucharist of the Nativity

With our annual Pop-UP! Pageant

9:30 p.m. – Carol Sing

10:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist of the Nativity

DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist on the Morning of the Nativity