

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*Unto us a child is born;
O come let us worship!*

CHRISTMAS EVE

*6:00 p.m. – Family Eucharist of the Nativity
With the Blessing of the Christmas Crèche*

♫ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	75 verses 1-5 (Adestes Fideles)
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 107</i>
The Lesson:	<i>Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7</i>
♫ GRADUAL HYMN:	734 (Cradle Song)
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 107</i>
♫ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (refrain only):	747 (Iris)
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Blessing of the Christmas Crèche	
♫ OFFERTORY HYMN:	76 (Winchester Old)
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
♫ HYMN DURING COMMUNION:	739 (Silent Night)
♫ RECESSIONAL HYMN:	361 (Antioch: AT No. 27)



As Christians we have a...wonderful story of a divine border crossing at the heart of our faith. In the great mystery of the Incarnation, God does not merely bring fire to earth to ease the cold and dark of mortal life, but sacrificially gives the divine Life itself, that we may live with God forever... . God chooses not only to save the world, but to do so by becoming one of us, by becoming human.

Deborah Smith Douglas, "Border Crossings" in *Weavings*



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

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

DECEMBER 26: ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 27: ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 28: THE HOLY INNOCENTS

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 29: THE SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 30: THE SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

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 & Conversation in the Hall

MEMBERS OF ALL THREE CONGREGATIONS ARE INVITED TO A PRESENTATION regarding the proposed entrance and kitchen renovation on *Sunday, January 6th*, following Coffee & Conversation. Come join us as we review the design concept and see how proposed plan can serve as a solution to several building issues that we wrestled with in recent years. For more information please speak to one of the wardens, James & Thomas, or the Rector.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Everyone is warmly invited to join us for a *Parish Breakfast* on *Sunday, January 13th* between our two Sunday morning Celebrations. It's our hope that members of both congregations will gather together as members of one Parish Family. The breakfast will start at approximately 9:45 a.m. and run to about 10:30. We'll be looking for some members of the 10:30 congregation who will work during the first service to prepare a delicious, as well as members of the 9:00 a.m. congregation who will help with clean up during the second service. You'll hear more over the next couple of weeks but, in the meantime, please mark your calendars so that you'll be sure to join us on the 13th!

The Song of the Shepherds

Richard Bauckham

We were familiar with the night.
We knew its favourite colours,
its sullen silence
and its small, disturbing sounds,
its unprovoked rages,
its savage dreams.

We slept by turns,
attentive to the flock.

We said little.
Night after night, there was little to
say.
But sometimes one of us,
skilled in that way,
would pipe a tune of how things were
for us.

They say that once, almost before time,
the stars with shining voices
serenaded
the new born world.
The night could not contain their
boundless praise.

We thought that just a poem —
until the night
a song of solar glory,
unutterable, unearthly,
eclipsed the luminaries of the night,
as though the world were exorcised
of dark
and, coming to itself, began again.

Later we returned to the flock.
The night was ominously black.
The stars were silent as the sheep.
Nights pass, year on year.
We clutch our meagre cloaks against
the cold.
Our aging piper's fumbling fingers
play,
night after night,
an earthly echo of the song that
banished dark.
It has stayed with us.

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



The frightened shepherds became God's messengers. They organize, make haste, find others, and speak with them. Do we not all want to become shepherds and catch sight of the angel? I think so. Without the perspective of the poor, we see nothing, not even an angel. When we approach the poor, our values and goals change. The child appears in many other children. Mary also seeks sanctuary among us. Because the angels sing, the shepherds rise, leave their fears behind, and set out for Bethlehem, wherever it is situated these days.

Dorothee Soelle

Priest and Rector

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

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

*The Flowers this Christmastide are
given to the Glory of God and in
loving memory of:*

	<i>by</i>
Charles & Laura Murray	The Family
Donald D. Murray	The Family
Lucy Haines	The Family
Beverly Wetmore	Mary Wetmore & Family
Douglas Wetmore	Mary Wetmore & Family
Jon Wetmore	Mary Wetmore & Family
Jon Noble	Mary Wetmore & Family
Edgar Sprague	Daughter Linda Thornton & Grandsons
Jim Thornton	Wife Linda & Family
Allen & Kay Ward	Raymond & Donna Ward
Balfour & Mavis Bailey	The Family
Byron Lawrence	Wife Doreen Lawrence
Colby Darren Stewart	Grandmother Doreen Lawrence
Morgan Elizabeth Staples	Grandmother Doreen Lawrence
Donald Parke-Taylor	Wife Joyce & Family
Jack H. McGee	The Family
Wendy McGee	The Family
Edward & Evelyn Crockett	Shirley Hupman & Holly Crockett
Lin Hupman	Shirley Hupman & Holly Crockett
Jeremie Dube	Peter & Noella Pike
Kenneth & Margaret Pike	Peter & Noella Pike

Katherine Elaine Amos	The Amos Family
Anne Williams	Sandra Bolster
Roland Rickard	Sandra Bolster
William & Gladys Bolster	Sandra Bolster
Les Boulter	Wife Bettie-Anne & Family
Mildred Irwin	Bettie-Anne Boulter & Family
Bob Corbett	Bob & Janet Garland
Wayne McKay	Wife Karen & Family
Harry & Ruby White	Jim & Sharon McElman; Sara & Leanne; Jennie & Neil
Charles & Jessie McElman	Jim & Sharon McElman; Sara & Leanne; Jennie & Neil
Ken Fitch	Jim & Sharon McElman; Sara & Leanne; Jennie & Neil
Charles R. Brown	Madelene & Family

*In addition, a donation has been made to St. Mary's
Cemetery Fund this Christmastide in memory of:*

Elizabeth Gill	Husband Lloyd & the Gill Family
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*Rest eternal grant unto them,
O Lord, and let light
perpetual shine upon them.*

