

THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT

November 24, 2019

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

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalm 80 | Ecclesiastes 11 & 12 | Hebrews 11:1-16

9:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit: Psalm 82:1-4:	<i>page 435</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 259</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	<i>page 259</i>
Psalm 85:1-7:	<i>page 438</i>
The Epistle:	Colossians 1.13-20
Gradual Psalm 85:8-13:	<i>page 439</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 259</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post-Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>

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

10:30 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♪ PROCESSIONAL HYMN:	1 (Nicaea)
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 259</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	<i>page 259</i>
♪ PSALM:	<i>please see the bulletin insert</i>
The Epistle:	Colossians 1.13-20
♪ GRADUAL HYMN:	Let all the World in Every Corner Sing <i>please see the bulletin insert</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 259</i>
♪ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
♪ OFFERTORY HYMN:	284 (Moscow)
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
♪ HYMN DURING COMMUNION:	803 (Gwalchmai)
Post-Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>
♪ RECESSIONAL HYMN:	335 (Battle Hymn - Red Book 156)

✧

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

From the Rector _____

Memory is a tricky thing and we can so easily let nostalgia fool us: the happy moments of our past seem that much happier when time filters out the rough edges; and the good old days weren't likely as good as we remember them. The place of memory is at the centre of this morning Old Testament lesson. The prophet Jeremiah writes of a people living in devastating times. Their nation has been destroyed. The Babylonian army has overwhelmed the capital city: it's walls have been torn down; it's political and religious elites have been carried off into exile; and the heart of their national and spiritual life, their beautiful Temple, has been completely destroyed. And in the face of all of this devastation, as we can imagine, it seems that the only thing that the people can do is look back to better times: to those days, centuries before, when God had once rescued his people from slavery in Egypt and had brought them in triumph to a land, as it was said, that was flowing with milk and honey. All that is gone and the only good thing that they have to cling to is the memory of those better days.

But in that context of national and political and spiritual devastation Jeremiah has a very different message. He tells them that a day will come when they will no longer just look back to the great and mighty things that God had once done for them, to that day when God had led them from Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land, because God had something even greater in store for them. That a day will come, Jeremiah promises, when God will call back to him all those who have been scattered; when the lost and displaced will find a new place, and a new and even better home, in him.

But nostalgia can distort not just our vision but our hope. We can look back and think of how good things were then, and, in the process, blind ourselves to the great things that God is doing in our lives right now, as well as the hope that better days are promised. This Sunday is called 'Stir Up' Sunday, because of the opening words of this morning Collect: *Stir up, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people.* At the most obvious level, we pray that God might stir up our wills because we've just come through the long season of Trinity: six months in all doing much the same thing each week; perhaps growing a little unfocussed in our thoughts and prayers. So we've prayed that God might stir up our thoughts and prayers at the start of a new Church Year. But we also prayed that God might stir up our hope. We all have those things which we've prayed about over and over again, without apparent answer; those things close to our heart for which we prayed without ever knowing whether God has heard us or not. And when the answer hasn't come, or came in a form we didn't ask for, sometimes we begin to doubt. Sometimes maybe even thinking that God isn't listening; that he isn't really going to help us. So we just give us praying, because there doesn't really seem to be any point at all. That's why we prayed God that God might stir up hope. Because the Christ who came as a small child, and who has promised to come again as Lord and King, also promised to be with us forever, even to the end of the age. That's what Jeremiah was talking about so long ago. That's the Christ who comes to us every day; who hears our every prayer; who knows our every fear; and heals every wound, that we might never lose hope.

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

SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT

I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. Jeremiah 23:5



STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The best way to prepare for the coming of Christ is never to forget the presence of Christ.

William Barclay, *The Letters of John and Jude*

PRIEST AND RECTOR

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

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Parish Notices and Updates

ST. MARY'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY is held each *Friday* at 10:00 a.m. at the Rectory. We're looking at the Gospel according to St. Luke. Everyone is warmly invited; and if your schedule only permits you to attend occasionally, please plan to join us when you can.

PLEASE JOIN US THIS COMING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30th for our annual **Chicken Pattie Tea & Bazaar** from **11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** The cost of the Tea is \$10.00; and tickets can be purchased at the door.

* The organisers are asking for your donations of items for the Food Table, Craft Table (knitting, etc.), Silent Auction (items to make up baskets e.g. soaps, candles; or any **new items you would like to give** (e.g. sheets, towels, a sweater, pictures, decorations, gift certificates, etc.. Everything is welcome.

* They're also calling for volunteers to help with the serving, as well as in the operation of all aspects of the event.

Please speak to the Rector if you have any questions.

PLEASE JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST, following the 10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, for our monthly *Shared Meal*. Members of all three congregations are encouraged to gather with their sisters and brothers in Christ as we share the peace and joy which are have in Christ.

THE COMBINED CHOIRS of Holy Trinity, New Maryland, Christ Church (Parish Church), St. Peter's, and St. Mary's will be offering a Service of Advent Lessons and Carols on *Sunday, December 8th* at 4:00 p.m. at St. Peter's Anglican Church, 2365 Woodstock Rd. This lovely service is a great way to set the right tone for the Season, so plan to join them on the 8th!

ALLAN AGNEW, OUR PARISH TREASURER, is preparing the 2020 offering envelopes, which should be available on December 15th. Current envelope holders will be 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.

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.

CHURCH CALENDARS FOR 2020 ARE NOW AVAILABLE on the table in the Narthex for a very reasonable \$7.00. These lovely calendars are an ideal way of keeping track of the Church Year and are excellent small gifts for friends at Christmas. Please speak to the Rector if you can't locate them.



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

NOVEMBER 27: ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE, (Transferred)

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

NOVEMBER 28: TRINITY FERIA

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

Followed by time for personal prayer in the Church

NOVEMBER 30: THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

DECEMBER 1: THE FIRST 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 a Shared Meal in the Parish Hall