|  |
| --- |
| ***Sunday / Christmas Worship Calendar***  **Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday in Advent, 10:30 a.m.** (Blue) **Advent Procession & Holy Eucharist** (AG Team 3) (EA – Gail Trewhitt)  Genesis 2: 4b – 9, 15 – 25 (Sandra Squires) Genesis 3: 1 – 15 (Shirley Butt) Exodus 3: 1 – 6 (Louise Smith) Isaiah 11; 1 – 10 (Sharon Smith) Micah 5: 2 -4 (Donald Sparkes) Isaiah 7: 10 – 15 (Rosalind Sparkes) Luke 1: 26 – 38  **Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday in Advent, 10:30 a.m.** (Blue) **Holy Baptism & Holy Eucharist** (AG Team 1) (EA – Donald Sparkes)  **Sunday, December 22, Fourth Sunday in Advent, 10:30 a.m.** (Blue) **Candles in Memory with Carols** (AG Team 2)  Ecclesiastes 3: 1 – 8, 11 (Robert Dawe) Philippians 1: 3 – 11 (Donna Dawe) Luke 1: 38 – 45  **Tuesday, December 24,** **Christmas Eve** (White) (AG Team 3) \*  **11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist** (EA – Gail Trewhitt)  Isaiah 9:2-7 Gail Trewhitt Ps. 98 Titus 3: 4-7 Betty Hiscock Luke 2:1-20  **4:00 p.m. Blessing of the Creche & Holy Eucharist** (Ukulele Ministry) (EA – Iain Hollett)  Isaiah 9:2-7 Sandra Squires Ps. 98 Titus 3: 4-7 Luke 2:1-20  **7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist** (EA – Donald Sparkes)  Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Jn 1: 1-14 |

**A Note from the Treasurer:** Please ensure your **NAME & ENVELOPE NUMBER** are onall financial **correspondence** so that we can credit your account for income tax purposes.

**Regular Parish Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

***Service Roster:*** Sidespersons Sound Room

December 15th Ken C. Philip G.

December 22nd David M. Jim S.

December 24th . Robert D./Jim S./ Philip G.

December 29th Andrew B.

|  |
| --- |
| Bishop: The Right Dr. Reverend Samuel Rose  Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor  Rector: The Reverend Canon Josiah “Jotie” Noel, T.S.S.F. (Third Order, Society of St. Francis)  Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox  Organists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell  Parish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Donald Sparkes  Office Administrator: David Kelland |

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

**December 8, 2024**

**Second Sunday of Advent**



www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Office email: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Office phone number: 709 834-2336

Rector Email: jotienoel@gmail.com

Cell: 709 325-2366

***Our Parish Mission Statement***

***We believe in nurturing a community of faith dedicated to inclusion, support and sharing the story of God's love with all people regardless of the stage of their spiritual journey***

The Parish live-streams our regular Sunday Services and posts to Facebook

Welcome as we gather to celebrate the Second Sunday in Advent! I am grateful to have the opportunity to extend a warm welcome to you as you attend our Advent Procession & Holy Eucharist. Constant movement by the sanctuary Party dictates hybrid resources – a paper Ordo with the Lessons and Hymns on the screen.

‘Advent’ means ‘coming’. For centuries, Christians have observed a season of preparation for Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus. This has varied in length but has been set at four weeks for around the last 1,400 years.

This service is designed to reflect one of the major themes of the season — that we await the light of Jesus to enter the darkness overshadowing humanity. This darkness is the way we — both individually and corporately — are separated from God by the choices we make and the impact they have on ourselves and on others.

The light of Jesus, coming into the world at Christmas, dispels this darkness. The service is based upon the great Antiphons of Advent, ancient prayers which date from the 8th century. Each begins with an Old Testament name or attribution for God, and ends with an invocation to the coming Saviour.

Each antiphon inspires us to use words from the Bible to explore a different aspect of the hope we place in our God, revealed in Jesus.

The 7 Great O Antiphons of Advent symbolize the Church’s longing for the Saviour. Beginning in the remote darkness of eternal wisdom, continuing through Moses and the Law, remembering David’s promised descendant who would rule Israel gloriously, the Babylonian captivity and the insight of the prophets that the messiah would be more than an earthly king, declaring that he would be king and Savior of all people and proclaiming him as Emmanuel, God with us, they proceed on an ascending scale of expectation to usher in the joy of the nativity.

Traditionally sung in the week before Christmas, they are used today to preface each station of the Advent Procession.

The service begins at the Center, Liturgical West End, Main Entrance

Peace be with you,

Canon Jotie, TSSF

**We invite prayers for those who are sick**: Patricia B. Elaine M., Benjamin C., Doug T., Tammy H., Jeanette P., Wally H., Trudy T., Ruby H., Kelly R., Phyllis H., Eva B., Hayden P., Cynthia W., Scott S.

**St. John the Evangelist Vestry Meeting** – Our Vestry Meeting for December is a Meet & Eat, starting at 6:00 p.m. Tracey Carter is coordinating the meal. Please contact her for information if necessary.

**Candles in Memory -** Our annual candles in memory service will take place on Sunday December 22nd at 10:30 a.m. To light a candle or have a candle lit in memory of a loved one please call the parish office at 709-834-2336 or email sjtetopsail@nfld.net **by Wednesday, December 18th.**

**Christmas Memorials -** The Parish office is now accepting Christmas Memorials. Because of the busyness of the office during the Advent and Christmas Season, any memorials received **after Thursday, December 19th at 1:00 p.m**. will be published in the January weekly bulletin.

**Parish Home Visits** – Reverend Jotie is ready, willing, and able to visit you in your home. Under the circumstances of time and place, this offer comes with the understanding that he will respond to invitations. Please call him to invite him to visit your home if you wish.

**Bible Study, New Year** – Our next Bible Study will be in January as we continue our study of Luke’s Gospel.

**Food Bank Christmas Hampers –** If you are interested in contributing to the Christmas hampers, please consider a monetary contribution; which would be greatly appreciated and are needed as soon as is possible. Cheques may be made out to the Paradise / CBS Food Bank or to the Parish of St. John the Evangelist with a notation directing the money to the food bank. Any questions please contact Gail Trewhitt at 709-834-3909

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*Today is the Second Sunday of Advent and we light The Candle of Peace. Last week we lit the first candle, The Candle of Hope, and reaffirmed our hope in Jesus Christ.*

***The first candle of the wreath is lit***

*Today, with The Candle of Peace, we reaffirm the importance of our being peace-makers in our world.*

***The second candle of the wreath is lit.***

**Candle Lighting Hymn**

**We light the Advent candles against the winter night**

**To welcome our Lord Jesus, who is the world’s true light.**

**To welcome our Lord Jesus, who is the world’s true light.**

**We light the second candle, and hear God’s holy word.**

**It tells us, cling to Jesus, prepare to meet your Lord.**

**It tells us, cling to Jesus, prepare to meet your Lord.**

*Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever. Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things.*

***Blessed be God for ever.***

*Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, so that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgment;*

*for you are our light and our salvation.*

***Blessed be God for ever.***

**November 28, 2024**

Dear Friends in Christ. 

I am writing today about an exciting new ministry initiative our Diocese is undertaking.

As we all remember, the winter of 2022 was harsh, with many homeless individuals seeking refuge on our streets and open spaces. The Cheers & Jeers section of *The Telegram* shed light on the absence of warming centres in our Province, particularly the City of St. John’s. This prompted me to send a simple yet urgent email to City clergy with one line: **“What can we do about this?”**

City clergy met to discuss this challenge. From that conversation came the idea of a mobile unit supporting marginalized populations and people experiencing homelessness. Since that time, there have been several developments. At our request, Metrobus agreed to donate a bus from its retiring fleet for this purpose. Multiple conversations have occurred with potential community partners who decided this is a much-needed asset complementing existing programming.

The **Mission Statement** for this endeavour is: *to provide compassion to street-involved individuals through a mobile wellness platform. We will form partnerships with other like-minded stakeholders and sponsors to provide integrated services. We aim to improve the well-being and quality of life of those in need, fostering a community where we respect the dignity of every human being.*

From our engagement with the community, we have determined that while homelessness is more visible in the downtown core, it is prevalent in every nook and cranny of our Province, and people come from outlying areas to access services in St. John’s. **There is no part of our Diocese that the homelessness crisis has not impacted.** This mobile wellness platform will help meet the needs of people from all our communities in Newfoundland & 2 Labrador. We hope to provide coffee & tea, a simple hot meal, basic health care services, housing support, hygiene products, basic clothing items, etc.

For this initiative to succeed, it requires the active participation and support of every parish in our Diocese. Whether knitting mittens, making soup or muffins, pouring coffee, driving the bus, or contributing to the operating costs, every Anglican has a role to play.

In Matthew Chapter 25, Jesus reminds us that serving the least of these is serving Christ Himself.

Our vision is a society where no individual is left behind or overlooked and where marginalized populations receive the care and support they deserve. Through our mobile wellness platform, we will strive to create a safe and welcoming space for street-involved individuals to access holistic services, build connections, and regain hope for a brighter future.

Together, we envision a community where wellness is inclusive and

where every person is valued and supported on their journey to health and healing.

For more information, please contact:

**The Ven. Amanda Taylor** - stmarksrector@bellaliant.com or phone: 726-3213

**The Rev. Canon Gail MacDonald** - reverendgail@nl.rogers.com or phone: 576-6632

**The Rev. Fred Marshall** - fredjmarshall@gmail.com or phone: 727-4346

In Christ’s love,



The Right Rev. Samuel Rose

Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador