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| ***Sunday / Christmas Worship Calendar*****Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday in Advent, 10:30 a.m.** (Blue) **Holy Baptism & Holy Eucharist** (AG Team 1) (EA – Donald Sparkes)Zephaniah 3: 14-20 (Gail Trewhitt) Canticle 3 Philippians 4: 4-7 (Sandra Squires) Luke 3:7-18**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**Sunday, December 29, Sunday after Christmas**  10:30 a.m.(White) **Christmas Lessons & Carols** (AG Team 1**)****Sunday, January 5, The Epiphany of the Lord** (AG Team 2) (EA – Iain Hollett) 10:30 a.m. (White) **Family Eucharist**Followed by a Cup O’Tea in the Parish HallIsaiah 60: 1-6 (Shirley Butt) Ps.72:1-7, 10-14 Ephesians 3: 1-12 (Stephanie Gavell) Mt.2: 1-12 |

**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.

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| Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel RoseDiocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene TaylorRector: The Reverend Canon Josiah “Jotie” Noel, T.S.S.F. (Third Order, Society of St. Francis)Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa CoxOrganists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-LedwellParish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Leanne SquireOffice Administrator: David Kelland |

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

**December 15, 2024**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

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This Bulletin is given in Joy and in Thanksgiving to Almighty God

for the recent Birth of Ayvie,

our third granddaughter.

by

Ron & Donna Smith

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Rector Email: jotienoel@gmail.com

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***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

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?” Luke 3. 7

**How John collides with what we have done to Christmas, and ourselves!**

John’s gaunt figure at Yuletide is striking contrast to the obese saint of fulfillment and desire; the jolly elf in a red plush suit, bag full of gifts for those who have too much already.
How many Christmas cards have you received depicting John the Baptist?

“Greetings from our house to yours. Our thoughts of you at this time of the year are best expressed in the words of John the Baptist, ‘You brood of vipers!’

The axe is laid to the root of the trees, and every tree that does not bear good fruit will be thrown to the fire.” Merry Christmas, signed, The Noel’s.

“The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand,” says John. Good, we say. At last God has come to give us what we deserve, set us up, treat us right, soothe our pain, take our side. After all, isn’t that the purpose of religion, to make us feel better about ourselves?
**“Therefore, repent,” says John. Do what? Repent, turn around, let go.**

 *Peace be with you, Canon Jotie, T.S.S.F.*

*Hymns for Today*

Processional 102 CP Prepare Thy Way, O Zion

Gradual 439 CP Blest Are the Pure in Heart

Baptism Choir Anthem Here At This Font

Offertory 527 CP How Firm a Foundation

Communion Archdeacon Greg Mercer

Mission 350 CP Stand Up and Bless the Lord

**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.

**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.

**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.

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

**The ACW sends a big thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s Holly Tea a great success! It was a delightful afternoon of good food, fellowship and fun! We are indeed grateful to each and everyone and send our best wishes to all for a very Blessed Christmas and New Year**

**2025 Envelopes -** If you need a new box of envelopes for 2025 please contact the parish office by email sjtetopsail@nfld.net or call 709 834-2336. We also have the option of Pre-Authorized payment or e-transfer. To learn more about these options please call the Parish Office.



Parish Office Christmas Hours

In keeping with the Diocesan Synod Office Christmas hours, The Parish Office will be **closed** from Tuesday**, December 24th to Thursday, December 26th inclusive.**

We will open on **Monday, December 30th**, for year- end counting and deposit

The office will be **closed** from **Tuesday,** **December 31st 2024 to Thursday, January 2nd 2025**

Regular office hours (9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.) will resume on **Monday, January 6th, 2025**

A locked mail drop box is available at the office entrance for your convenience.

If you have an **emergency** during the Christmas season, please contact: Reverend Jotie at 709 325-2366

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

*Today is the Third Sunday of Advent and we light The Candle of Love.*

*First, we lit The Candle of Hope, and reaffirmed our hope in Jesus Christ.* ***The first candle of the wreath is lit***

*Then we lit the second, The Candle of Peace, and we reaffirmed the importance of our being peace-makers in our world*

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

*Today, we light The Candle of Love, and reaffirm the importance of sharing the love we have in Christ Jesus.*

**The third 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.**

**Three candles now are gleaming and show us the true way.**

**Rejoice, the Baptist cries out: Your Lord has come today!**

**Rejoice, the Baptist cries out: Your Lord has come today!**

*Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:*

*to you be praise and glory for ever.*

*Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth*

*as a burning and shining light.*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*May we your servants rejoice in his light,*

*and so be led to witness to him*

*who is the Lord of our coming Kingdom,*

*Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

***St. John the Evangelist Vestry Update***

***December 8, 2024***

**Monthly Financials for Current Month & Year**

Monthly Finance Update for the month of October 2024 (November Vestry Meeting)

Revenue $18,838

Expenses $16, 612

Net Income $2,226

Year to Date Financial Update – January 1 – October 31 (November Vestry Meeting)

Revenue $175,800

Expenses $198,958

Net Income $ (23,158)

The Vestry is grateful that October numbers show a net balance of $2,226. Unfortunately, our Year to Date show a deficit of $23,158.

**Vestry Planning and Visioning Update**

Following up on our Parish Letter to our 150 Regular contributors in November we would like to keep you apprised of developments regarding our Pastoral and Administrative goals and objectives for 2025.

At our November Meeting our Treasurer, Ken Carter, presented a Financial Projection for 2025 with three options:

* Continuing as is without any adjustment to Pastoral & Administrative expenses we will need to withdraw $72,200 from our investment in 2025 to balance our budget.
* If we reduced our full-time priest to half time for 12 months, we will need to withdraw $24,100 from our investments to balance our budget.
* If we move from full-time to part-time Parish Priest on July 1, 2025, we will need to withdraw $48,150 from our investments to balance our budget.

The Vestry is preparing to make a Pastoral and Administrative decision in our January meeting. Given that Canon Jotie has recused himself from further discussion at this point because of a ‘conflict of interest,’ as the decision to address Pastoral Ministry directly affects him as a full-time Rector, Bishop Sam and Archdeacon Charlene will facilitate the Vestry Meeting in January.

Please keep the Vestry and our Bishop in your prayers as we make decisions to affirm and launch a ministry model that responsibly reflects our pastoral and administrative reality.