

# St. George's Anglican Church

51 Church Street, Moncton, N.B. E1C 4Z3

Church Office: 855-5209 Fax: 388-4866

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Website: www.stgeorgesmoncton.ca

The Reverend Chris VanBuskirk - 389-3516

## Third Sunday in Advent December 17, 2017

Please note that the **greening of the Church** is this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. Following our work, there will be Evening Prayer at 5 p.m. and Supper. Then we will head out to go caroling in the neighborhood. Please come and join in for as much as you can! Supper will be provided, free of charge.

**Compline** will be prayed by candlelight at 8 p.m. in the Chapel tonight.

**2018 Envelopes** – If you don't have offering envelopes and would like some for next year or would like to enrol in P.A.R. (Pre-Authorized Remittance), please contact David Black at 388-1480 or email stgeorgesenvelope@gmail.com

**Christmas Cards** - the major fund-raiser for the Karing Kitchen - are available in the brochure rack at the Church entry. Christmas donations may be made in the names of family or friends and income tax receipts will be issued, upon request, for donations of \$10 or more. Please call Marion Bembridge at 384-1200 for more info or to receive cards.

**2018 Calendars** are needed for Westmorland Institution. Please drop them off at the Office. Thank you.

**The Advent Ember Days** (the Wednesday, Friday and Saturday after the Third Sunday in Advent), are designated by the Church as Days of Solemn Prayer for the Ministry of the Church. To this end, on Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at Camden/PPT at 10:00 am and on Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 am in the Chapel.

The **Sunday School Play** is set for **Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>** at 10 am during the Christmas Carols and Lessons Service. There will be a practice next Sunday morning and on the morning of December 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Youth are invited to a **cookie making** event on **January 4<sup>th</sup>**. We will make cookies and take them to some of our seniors! We will start at 1pm.

**Church Calendars** are available in the Entry. Cost is \$7. Don't forget to check out the beautiful centerfold.

**10 people** are needed for clean-up for the **Community Breakfast** on Saturday **December 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please sign the sheet in the Entry.



**Parish Prayer Chain:** To pass a message on to the Parish Prayer Chain, from Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. please call Esther @ 855-5209; after Office Hours, please call Cathie @ 384-6327.

Wardens:	Stan Balch	854-4054
	Sheila Searle	856-9419
Associate Priest:	Rev. Dr. Dan Goodwin (danielcorey.goodwin@gmail.com)	
Deacon:	Rev. Norm Dupuis	386-1324
Outreach:	Klaudia Ross	(outreachmoncton@gmail.com)

**Third Sunday in Advent                      December 17, 2017**

*The Gloria in Excelsis is not used during the Season of Advent*

**8:00 A.M. - HOLY EUCHARIST**                      p. 67  
Introit Psalm: 33. 1-6                                      p. 367  
Ten Commandments                                      p. 68  
Collects for the Day                                      pp. 99, 95  
The Epistle    p. 99  
Gradual Psalm: 80. 1-3                                      p. 433  
The Holy Gospel    p. 99

**9:15 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER**

Psalms: 11, 12    p. 341  
First Lesson: Isaiah 28. 9-22                              (Pew Bible page 583)  
Second Lesson: Revelations 3. 7-end                      (Pew Bible page 995)

**10:00 A.M. – HOLY EUCHARIST**

Introit Psalm: (sung) *Rejoice ye in the Lord, and again I say, rejoice ye; let your moderation be known unto all men, the Lord is at hand: be careful for nothing, nor troubled; but in all things, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving; let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding; Glory be....*

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Collect: *O Lord, we beseech Thee, incline Thine ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of thy visitation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Hymn: **63** (Stuggart)  
Collect for Purity    p. 67  
The Ten Commandments                                      p. 68  
Collects for the Day                                      pp. 99, 95  
The Epistle    p. 99  
The Canticle: **Benedicite, Omnia Opera**                      p. 26  
The Holy Gospel    p. 99  
Nicene Creed    p. 71

Homily  
Offertory Hymn: **196** (Darwall - 375)  
Confession, Absolution                                      p. 77  
Thanksgiving and Consecration                              p. 82  
Hymns during Communion: **231** (St. Agnes - 232), **236** (Dolomite Chant)  
The Lord's Prayer and Blessing                              p. 85  
Exhortation    p. 90

Final Hymn: **60** (Helmsley)

*Note: During Advent the Choir will exit in silence.*

*Please join us for coffee and tea in hall.*

**5:00 P.M.                      EVENING PRAYER**

Psalms: 13, 14    p. 343  
First Lesson: Isaiah 32. 1-18                              (Pew Bible page 586)  
Second Lesson: Matthew 3.                              (Pew Bible page 772 )

*The Sanctuary Lamp burns today to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Pat Crossman, Dorothy Branscombe, J.A. Godfrey, Hon G.F.G. Brydges*

*“Let us remember before God the faithful departed.”*

*Jean Ann Hesse, Betty Mayo, Dr. Jose Bravo*

**This Week in the Parish**

The Daily Offices of **Morning and Evening Prayer** will be prayed in the Chapel at **8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday – Saturday**, respectively. In addition:

<b>Sunday</b>	Greening of the Church	3:00 pm
	Compline ( <i>Chapel</i> )	8:00 pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> ( <i>Camden Terrace</i> )	10:00 am
	Scouting Christmas Party	6:30 pm
	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> ( <i>Chapel</i> )	10:00 am
<b>Saturday</b>	Community Breakfast	9:00 am

Vestry – Linus Coady  
Greeters – Bernice Coady & Bob Searle

**The Service of Christmas Carols and Lessons** will be held on December 31<sup>st</sup>. **Readers are needed** and may sign for their Lesson in the main entry, please. Thank you!

**Christmas Memorials** – If you would like to have flowers placed in the Church for Christmas, or wish to make a donation to the Memorial Fund, or to the Community Meals in memory of a loved one, please call the Church Office 855-5209 by **Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**. If you wish to place your donation on the plate, please specify which fund the donation is for. Thank you.

*“It is required in stewards that a man be found faithful.”*

## The Rector's Corner

(by Cliff Reid)

Do you have a room for Jesus this Christmas?"

This is a legitimate question in these modern times.

We would like to believe that Christmas draws us closer to God, but in many cases Christmas draws people away from God! For many people, the Christmas season has been filled with rushing, baking, wrapping, and milling around the stores. Besides that, there are the preparations for the gatherings of family and friends; more cooking and extra meals as well as concerts, office and social parties to attend. Before we know it, Christmas has come and gone. Our hearts and thoughts have been so occupied with other things that needed to be attended to, that we simply have no room for Jesus.

There was no room for Jesus in the inn at Bethlehem on that first Christmas day. As St. Luke wrote, "there was no room for them in the Inn" (Luke 2. 7). One possible reason why there was no room for Jesus was lack of Biblical teaching. Perhaps the innkeeper did not know that the baby to be born of Mary was the Son of God. Mary and Joseph certainly knew. The shepherds, the wise men, and Elizabeth (Mary's cousin, the mother of John the Baptist) knew; but it seems that the innkeeper did not.

Lack of basic Biblical knowledge, could create a situation where there is no room for Jesus. Those who have not heard the Word of the Gospel have no room for Jesus. They are in a sad state and it should stir up in us pity for them.

But we can never plead that excuse! If we have no room for Jesus, it is not because we do not know the Bible.

Another possible reason that there was no room for Jesus was indifference. Imagine the innkeeper for a moment as these two weary travelers stand there at the door of his inn; obviously the woman is in the later stages of her pregnancy.

But he tells them that there is no room for them in the inn. He does not seem to care if the woman gives birth in the street, or in the field, or in a stable. He is indifferent to the situation that has been brought to his

attention. This might also be the reason why some people have no room for Jesus ... they are indifferent; they have no concern whatsoever. They are not ignorant of the Gospel; they could be Church-going but they are indifferent to the situation that is presented; the message of Jesus leaves them unconcerned, the Word of the Gospel does not move them; their conscience does not stir; and they have no concern for their spiritual well-being.

Or, perhaps there was no room for them because the innkeeper was just too involved. He was so busy at this season, he just did not have time, this was tax season. According to the decree of Caesar Augustus everyone in the Roman Empire had to return to their place of birth, to be registered for taxes. This brought many travelers from far and wide. This was good for the innkeeper. His rooms were being filled with guests, and his purse filled with gold. He could not let such an opportunity pass by, could he? Well, with all the busy-ness of the season he got himself too involved to have any room for Jesus.

This happens today, we are so involved in things that we have no room for Jesus. We are particularly vulnerable during the Christmas season. The season has evolved to make us too involved. So, as we get closer to Christmas, let's pause and make sure our hearts are open to Jesus. In Bethlehem, people could easily see what was in a stable. So, let our hearts be like the stable, open and transparent. As the Gospel has brought Him close, and the light of His presence falls upon our hearts, let us pray ... "Come into my heart, Lord Jesus!"

Yes, we have a room for YOU!!

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**Klaudia Ross our Outreach Co-ordinator**, is planning to visit some streets in our neighbourhood on **Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.** She will go door to door with information on St. George's and with cookies to make her visit memorable. If you have any leftover cookies you would like to contribute for that effort, please contact Klaudia at outreachmoncton@gmail.com or 855-5209.

**H<sub>2</sub>O!** – Wells for Tanzania - our goal is \$ 2000.00 The total to date is: **\$1,635.00. Global Affairs will match every dollar raised with \$6.**

**This is the final day to donate.**

**Thank you everyone!**