

There is a **Hymn Sing** tonight at **St. Andrew's** in Petitcodiac at **7pm**.

Make your own Nativity Set! On **December 2nd**, families are invited to come and help set up the large Nativity Set outside and to make their own toilet paper nativity set to take home. We will meet at 9am for a light breakfast.

1st Moncton-St. George's Scouting will be holding their annual **Dessert Party on December 2**, from 2-4pm. Come sample over 70 different desserts and help support Scouting at St. George's! Adults \$10.00, children under 12 \$5.00, pay at the door.

Back to Church Sunday is next Sunday, December 3rd, the First Sunday in Advent. Please note that **there will be a Parish Shared meal after the 10 am Service – please sign the sheet in the Entry.**

The **1st Sunday in Advent is on December 3rd**. It is the first Sunday of a new Church Year. It is also the day we are keeping as “Back to Church” Sunday! “**Advent**” means “**coming**”. It is the season we prepare for the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ as our King and Judge. We also prepare to celebrate His humble first coming as the Babe of Bethlehem in order to be our Saviour. To help mark the days of this special season, many Christians use an Advent Wreath. The **Advent Wreath Booklet is now available** in the Main Entry. It provides a history of the wreath; instructions for making an Advent Wreath; and daily devotions to use with the wreath. If you need assistance understanding the booklet, please speak to one of the Wardens or Clergy.

Our Deanery **Service of Advent Carols and Lessons** is scheduled to be held at St. George's, **December 3rd, at 4 pm**. Choir Practice will be on December 2nd at 10.00 am and will last for about 90 minutes with a final run through at 2.00 pm on December 3rd. Come and bring a friend!

Pajamas-Party and Frosty the Snowman! On **December 9th**, from 6-8 pm we will gather our children in the church hall for a pajama party. We will watch *Frosty the Snowman*, have popcorn, read some Christmas stories. Save the date, bring a friend, and bring a flash-light (we will have a flash-light tour up the bell tower!).

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

St. George's Anglican Church

Church Office: 855-5209 Fax: 388-4866

Email – office@stgeorgesmoncton.ca

Website: www.stgeorgesmoncton.ca

The Reverend Chris VanBuskirk - 389-3516

Sunday Next Before Advent November 26, 2017



“Behold the Lamb of God”

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)

Sunday Next Before Advent - November 26, 2017

8:00 A.M. - HOLY EUCHARIST

Introit Psalm: 85. 1-7	p. 438
Collect and The Epistle	p. 259
Gradual Psalm: 85. 8-13	p. 439
The Holy Gospel	p. 259

9:15 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER

Psalm: 80	p. 433
First Lesson: Ecclesiastes 11 and 12	(Pew Bible page 561)
Second Lesson: Hebrews 11. 1-16	(Pew Bible page 975)

10:00 A.M. – HOLY EUCHARIST

Introit Psalm (sung) *Thus saith the Lord, I know the thoughts that I think towards you, thoughts of peace, and not of affliction: ye shall call upon me, and I will hearken unto you, and will bring again your captivity from every nation. Lord thou art become gracious unto thy land: thou has turned away the captivity of Jacob. Glory be....*

Children's Talk	
The Litany	p. 30
Collect for Purity	p. 67
Kyrie	p. 70
Collect and The Epistle	p. 259
Gradual Psalm: 85. 8-13	p. 503
The Holy Gospel	p. 259
Hymn before the Homily: 554 (Franconia)	
The Homily	
Offertory Hymn: 384 (Richmond)	
The Intercession	p. 75
Confession, Absolution	p. 77
Thanksgiving and Consecration	p. 78
Hymns during Communion: 219 (Bread of Heaven); 468 (Arnsberg); 555 (Dennis)	
The Lord's Prayer	p. 85
The Gloria in Excelsis	p. 86
Recessional Hymn: 409 (Hermas)	

Please join us for refreshments in the hall.

5:00 P.M. EVENING PRAYER

Psalms: 81, 82	p. 434
First Lesson: Malachi 3. 13 – 4. end	(Pew Bible page 767)
Second Lesson: Hebrews 11. 17 – 12. 2	(Pew Bible page 976)

The Sanctuary Lamp burns today to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Lorraine Arbeau, James D. Ross

*“Let us remember before God the faithful departed.”
Muriel Taylor, Laura Campbell, Doris Downing, Reg Webber,
Roy Thompson*

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:

Monday	Scouts	7:00 pm
Tuesday	Bible Study (<i>The Rectory</i>)	10:00 am
	Beavers	6:30 pm
Wednesday	Holy Communion (<i>Spencers</i>)	10:00 am
	ReConnect Drop-In	1:00 pm
	Cubs	6:30 pm
	Grief-Share	7:00 pm
	Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Thursday	Holy Communion (<i>Chapel</i>)	10:00 am
Saturday	Deanery Lessons and Carols Practice	10:00 am
	Scout Dessert Party	1:00 pm
Sunday	Back to Church Sunday	10:00 am
	Deanery Carols & Lessons	4:00 pm

Vestry – Linus Coady Greeters – Bernice Coady & Betty Lou Wilbur

The Advent letter is available for pick-up in the Entry.

Following the 10am Service, the **Laying on of Hands and Anointing with Oil** will be offered in the Chapel.

"All died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth." Hebrews 11.13

The Rector's Corner How Advent (almost) got Erased.

According to the dictionary, a conspiracy is a secret plan, plot or scheme. For example, take the plot of the Jewish leaders to kill Jesus: "The chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill Him, for they said, 'Not during the feast (of Unleavened Bread), lest there be an uproar from the people'" (St. Mark 14.1-2) Currently, the news continues to probe the possibility of a Russian conspiracy to influence the last American election.

Sometimes conspiracies are real; but sometimes they are not. While driving the other day, I heard Bob MacDonald of CBC's Quirks and Quarks interviewing a social psychologist on this very topic. The psychologist made this simple point: whenever we are afraid, or exhausted, or whenever we feel that we are not in control, we tend to see patterns in circumstances and behaviours. We are more prone to believe a conspiracy is at work, "I'm not in control here because someone has secretly plotted against me."

Personally, I have often wondered what happened to Advent. Was there an actual, secret plan to get rid of it? If so, how come I haven't heard about it? Undeniably something is going on – there's no doubt about that. For instance, consider how early the malls play Christmas music; and how quickly after November 11th people begin to wish one another Merry Christmas. Somehow, in the span of 35-40 years, without any public meetings, speeches or legislation, our society erased the Season of Advent and grossly extended the twelve days of Christmas.

In his little book, 25 Days, 26 Ways to Make This Your Best Christmas Ever, (Zondervan, 2009), Ace Collins helps us understand how we got off the track. During the Second World War, the President of the United States, Franklin Roosevelt, asked people to prepare their parcels early for the American troops overseas, so that they would receive them in time for Christmas Day. That meant, of course, that the stores had to order their inventory much earlier; and the shipping, railway and trucking companies had to adjust their schedules. The whole system was activated in this massive effort of support and good will. And, although it was only meant to be a temporary, informal war measure, it stuck.

The next year and the year after, and the year after that, the great commercial machine was activated early.

It was hardly a conspiracy to get rid of Advent, but definitely a major, spiritual loss. Yet the Season of Advent has not been exterminated entirely. The Church calls us to observe these four, holy weeks. How? With the Advent Scripture Lessons and hymns that are distinctly about Christ's return as our eternal King and Judge. The Church calls us with purple, the colour of penitence and preparation; rather than with white, the colour of festivity. The Church calls us by keeping the twelve days of Christmas from December 25th until January 6th and the Advent Wreath keeps us honest as we count down the weeks.

I know that the toothpaste can't be put back in the tube. The great commercial machine will continue to fire up its engines every year between Halloween and Remembrance Day. We cannot change that; but neither can the world stop us from observing Advent. Next Sunday we shall begin. We shall begin to hear the prophecies of Jesus' imminent return in glory; of His perfect and righteous judgement of evil; and of His loving desire for us to be ready for Him.

With tongue in cheek, a movement called the Advent Conspiracy began eleven years ago. Its aim is encourage people to find their way back to Christ, the real reason for the Christmas Season. It underlines these four tenets: WORSHIP FULLY, SPEND LESS, GIVE MORE, LOVE ALL. (Google it to learn more.) So, onward we go!Have you dug out your Advent Wreath yet?

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The **Sunday School Play is set for Sunday, December 31st** at 10 am during the Christmas Carols and Lessons Service. **Practices** will begin next **Sunday at 10 AM** and continue at the same time **on December 10th and 17th**; and even on the morning of **December 24th** for those who are available.

The **Order for Compline** will be prayed in the Chapel on **Sunday evenings** through Advent at **8:00 pm, beginning on December 3rd**. In monasteries, it is the final Service of the day, and is 20 minutes long.

St. George's Tour Books and **Lapel Pins** are available for purchase. Please speak to one of the Wardens: Sheila or Stan.

If you enjoy singing the Choir would love to have you join them! Please speak to a member of the Choir or to Toto, the organist.

Central United Church presents the movie “Zootopia”, in the Community Peace Centre Forum, **Thursday, December 7th @ 7:00pm.** Movie and snacks are free of charge. Come and bring family and friends.

Small print **Our Daily Bread** for December/January/February is available in the Entry.

God willing, **Falen McNulty** will be ordained to the priesthood on **November 30th at 7pm** at All Saints Cathedral in Halifax, NS.

Christmas Cards - the major fund-raiser for the Karing Kitchen - are available Entry. These cards allow donors to share their blessings with the less fortunate in our downtown community. Each dollar donated represents a full single meal serving at the Kitchen. 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 information.

Our **Christmas Outreach Program** is now under way. The Willing Workers are already at work buying gifts for parish shut-ins and for our community friends – this involves **more than 70 recipients**. We are also working with some community sponsors to help a few families for Christmas. Please note that our Charlie Brown Christmas tree will soon be put in the Church entry. It will be decorated with paper stockings, on which are the addresses of our parish shut-ins. This is where we will need your help! **Volunteers will be needed to pick a stocking or two and deliver the gifts to our shut-ins.** Stay tuned for more details.

THE METROTONES POP CHORUS present their annual Christmas charity concert – IT’S CHRISTMAS! - on Friday, **December 15th at 7:30pm** at the Moncton Wesleyan Centre. All proceeds go to The Food Depot Alimentaire with assistance to The Karing Kitchen and The Ray of Hope Needy Kitchen. Tickets \$10.00 plus food items available at all five Jean Coutus; Read’s Newsstands (Mountain Rd. and Riverview); Peoples Park Tower; Sobeys (Vaughan Harvey Blvd.); Hospice Shoppe or a chorus member. For more information: 384-0225 or www.metrotones.org

H₂Oh! – As a Christmas Outreach project, the Primates’ World Relief and Development Fund is inviting parishes to donate towards drilling wells in Tanzania. Incredibly, Global Affairs Canada will match every dollar with six Canadian dollars. So, \$ 2000.00 will be multiplied to become \$14,000! This has just come to our attention in the past week. For more information, please see the elevator or Hall bulletin board. If you would like to Donate, please mark the amount on your offering envelope for ‘PWRDF WELLS’.

Advent Prayer

Father, all powerful and every-living God,
We do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

When He humbled Himself to come among us,
He fulfilled the plan you formed long ago and opened
for us the way to salvation.

Now we watch for the day, hoping that the
Salvation promised us will be ours when Christ
Will come again in glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven
We proclaim your glory and join in their
Unending hymn of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of Your Glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the Highest.

Amen.