

2021 Church calendars are now available in the Entry. Cost is \$8.00

Offering envelopes for 2021 are now ready. Please pick up your box at the main entry to the church. **If you're not currently registered with offering envelopes** and would like envelopes for 2021 please contact Judy Kendall

The **Order for Compline** will be prayed by candlelight throughout the Sundays of Advent at 8:00 PM in the Chapel.

Monday to Friday through Advent we plan to **live-stream Mid-Day Prayers at 12 Noon**. This brief pause in the day is meant to help us pray for the world as we look Second Coming of our King and Saviour, and are found on pages 16-17 of the Prayer Book.

The **Greening of the Church** hopefully will be next **Sunday, December 20th**. We will begin to decorate after the 10am Eucharist.

There will be a **Drive-In Service** next Sunday, **the 20th** at 3:30pm in the Old Moncton High Parking lot.

Christmas Cards - the major fund-raiser for the **Karing Kitchen** - are available in the brochure rack at the main entrance. 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.

First Baptist will be **live streaming a Blue Christmas service**, for those who find this a very difficult season. It will be on December 21st at 6:30pm, please go to www.firstbaptist.com for the link.

The **Tai Chi group** on **Tuesday morning** has a couple spots open. If you are interested, please call the Office. There is no cost.



St. George's Church is a downtown spiritual center where traditional Anglican liturgy, parishioners and the needs of our community are valued.



St. George's Anglican Church

The Most Reverend David Edwards- Bishop

The Reverend Canon Chris VanBuskirk - Rector

51 Church Street Moncton NB E1C 4Z3 855-5209

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Jesus Christ the same, Yesterday, Today and Forever

Third Sunday in Advent

December 13, 2020



Parish Prayer Chain: To pass a message on to the Parish Prayer Chain, from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. please the Office. After Office Hours, please contact Cathie @ 855-7969 or cdingwell@gmail.com.

Wardens: Sheila Searle 856-9419

Kelly VanBuskirk

Associate Priest: Rev. Dr. Dan Goodwin (danielcorey.goodwin@gmail.com)

Deacon: Rev. Norm Dupuis 386-1324

Advent 3 - December 13, 2020

Our King and Saviour draweth Nigh: O Come Let us Worship!

8:00 A.M. - HOLY EUCHARIST

	p. 67
Introit Psalm: 33. 1-6	p. 367
Collect for the Day	p. 99
Collect for Advent	p. 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 25. 1-9	(Pew Bible page 581)
Second Lesson: Matthew 25. 1-30	(Pew Bible page 795)

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: shall keep your hearts and minds. Glory be....*

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Collect: *ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.*

Hymn: **66** “Creator of the Starry Height” (Eisenach)

Collects for the Day	pp. 99, 95
The Epistle	p. 99
The Holy Gospel	p. 99

Hymn: **63** “Lo He Comes” (Helmsley)

Homily

Offertory Hymn: **196** “Lo! From the Desert Homes” (Darwall - 375)

Confession, Absolution	p. 77
Thanksgiving and Consecration	p. 82
Communion Hymns 231 (St. Agnes - 232); 236 (Dolomite Chant)	

The Lord’s Prayer	p. 85
The Exhortation	p. 90
Final Hymn: 63 “Hark! A Herald Voice Is Sounding” (Stuttgart)	

There will be no Evening Prayer due to the Deanery Lessons & Carol Service at 4pm.

5:00 P.M. - EVENING PRAYER

Psalms: 13, 14	p. 343
First Lesson: Isaiah 26. 1-13	(Pew Bible page 581)
Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 1. 12 - 2.8	(Pew Bible page 961)

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

“Let us remember before God the faithful departed.”
Roy Boutilier, Mary Bartlett, Richard Osborne,
Thomas Bouré, Aaron Melville Gradon,

This Week in the Parish

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

Today	Deanery Lessons & Carols	4:00 p.m.
	Compline	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Bible Study (<i>Church</i>)	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bible Study (<i>Church</i>)	10:00 a.m.
	Holy Communion	5:00 p.m.
	Grief-Share	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	“Imitation of Christ”	7:00 a.m.
	Holy Communion	10:00 a.m.
Saturday	Community Breakfast	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	Greening of the Church	12:00 p.m.

“And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness. The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 29. 18,19

The Rector's Corner

Bairdsville is a tiny community in the Upper Saint John River Valley, about one hour and a half above Fredericton, just south of Perth Andover. There is a beautiful Anglican Church, visible from the highway, named after St. George. A fairly steep hill rises from the north side of the Church and runs approximately 250 meters behind it.

A number of years ago, I attended a funeral there and the burial which followed in the Church yard. The grave was half way up the hill and we had a beautiful view of the river. At the end of the Committal prayers, there was silence. Not an awkward silence, but a lovely, peaceful silence, and gradually people began to make their way down to their vehicles. In the midst of that time of recollection, a lady said to me, "This will be a beautiful place from which to be raised up when Christ returns".

I was thinking about that comment the other day when we were at Gray's Island Cemetery for the Committal of Roy Boutilier's ashes. After we were finished I visited Debbie Ritchie's grave. As many of you know, Debbie was the Secretary at St. George's for many years, until her death in 2010. She is buried with her son, Robert. Beside her grave is Kathleen Balsers. They were neighbours in Stony Creek and died in the same year – Debbie at 52 years of age, and Kathleen in her early 60's. To the far left, near the tree line, I visited the grave of Ralph Black, friend of many, and long-time leader in our Congregation. Beside him, are the graves of his friends Vaughn and Doris Downing.

As I walked amongst the grave markers in the crisp stillness of the afternoon, reading names and epitaphs, these words of LCol John McCrae's 'In Flanders Fields' came to mind:

"We are the dead. Short time ago we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, loved and were loved, and now we lie in Flanders fields".

But then a phrase from the last Committal prayer (page 603, BCP) presented itself: "*who also hath taught us (by His holy Apostle Saint Paul) not to be sorry, as men without hope, for them that sleep in Jesus*". St. Paul refers to death as 'a sleep' for those who are in Christ. The early Christians were so convinced of this, having witnessed

Jesus' Resurrection, they began to call their burial places, '*sleeping places*' – or '*cemeteries*' (from the Greek word '*koimeterion*').

WOW! Very interesting! As those early Christians believed, *we* have great hope because of our Lord's Resurrection, and so do those whose graves I was visiting – the hope and promise of Everlasting Life through Jesus Christ our King and Saviour. The passage quoted in that Committal prayer is from 1 Thessalonians 4:

"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words." (1 Thess. 4. 13-18, ESV)

According to St. Paul, there will be an order of rising when Christ returns: the dead in Christ (i.e. 'those who sleep in Jesus') will rise first; then those who are left (i.e. as the Nicene Creed says, 'the quick' – those who are alive on earth when Jesus comes again).

With faith in Christ, a walk in a cemetery can be a hopeful outing. Yes, it will be a time for reflection; and it will be sobering as well. But think of what St. Paul says, "*The dead in Christ will rise first*". The best is yet to come! So let us pray, "*Marantha! Come Lord Jesus, come quickly!*"



Happy 9th Birthday Eden!

December 2020 Vestry Meeting Briefs

- The December Vestry Meeting was held in the Church Hall with members sitting at their own table and practicing social distancing.
- The Finance Committee reported that revenue from January 1 to November 30, 2020 was \$229,073 with expenses totalling \$219,129. Vestry is thankful to all parishioners who have continued with their weekly donations during the pandemic.
- The Finance Committee presented the 2021 Budget. It was approved by Vestry to be presented at the AGM in February.
- The AGM will be held on Sunday February 21, 2021 (noon hour) with a storm date of Sunday February 28, 2021
- The Group Committee reported that registrations are down due to Covid and that leaders are at a minimum.
- The Property Committee reported on building projects for 2021. They include completing the masonry work on the Bell Tower, some repointing on other areas of the exterior, repairs on the bell tower louvers, and the painting of the foundation. There are also some repairs required at the Rectory.
- The Ministry of Presence with local churches continues. There appears to be more cooperation among the downtown churches to help our community friends.
- Vestry continued its discussion on a “Green Space” for our side lawn.
- The Rector announced that there will be an Eastertide Series for five weeks beginning April Wednesday April 21/21, for five weeks. Bishop David and Bishop MacDonald will speak on Forgiveness and Reconciliation via Zoom. More info to follow.
- The January Vestry Meeting will be on Monday January 11, 2021 at 7pm.

Daily Bible Readings

A modified schedule from the Prayer Book's Table of Lessons

Sunday	Isaiah 19:18-end	Mark 8: 11- 9: 1
Monday	Isaiah 21:1-12	Mark 9: 2-32
Tuesday	Isaiah 22:1-14	Mark 9: 33-end
Wednesday	Isaiah 24	Mark 10: 1-31
Thursday	Isaiah 28:1-8	Mark 10: 32-end
Friday	Isaiah 29:1-14	Mark 11: 1-26
Saturday	Isaiah 29:15-end	Mark 11: 27- 12: 12

*What did you go
out into the
wilderness to
see? A man
dressed in soft
clothing?*



