

# 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

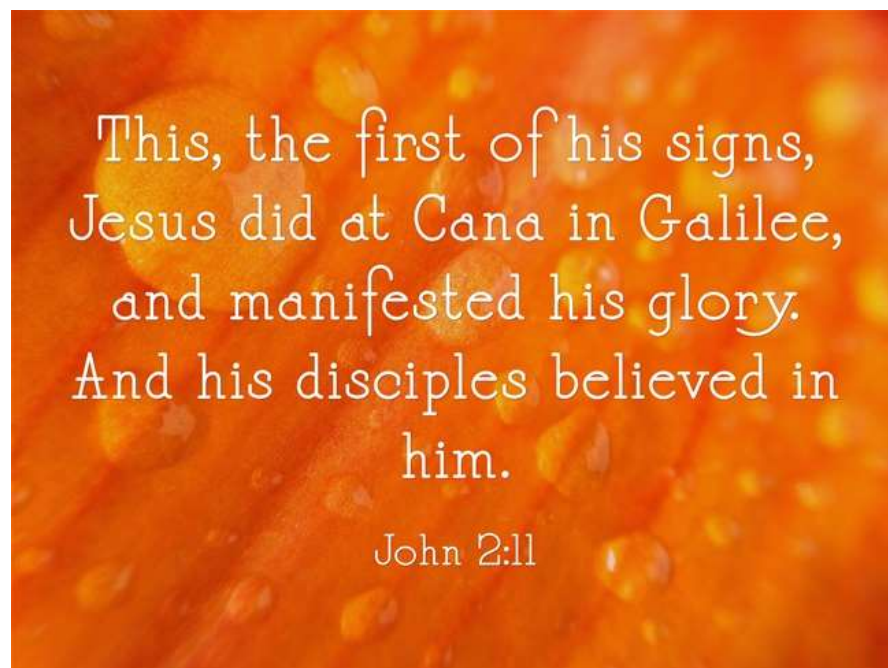
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*Jesus Christ the same, Yesterday, Today and Forever*

## Second Sunday After Epiphany

### January 17, 2021



The **Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>** after the 10am Holy Eucharist Service. The **snow date** will be Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>. All **reports** should be sent to the Office by **February 5<sup>th</sup>**.

**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 **Evening Bible Study** will be on **Mondays** starting tomorrow **January 18<sup>th</sup>**.

**Operation Livestream:** We are spreading the word to Nursing Homes, Special Care Homes and Seniors Residences -- and anyone else who is interested – about the 15 Services being livestreamed from St. George's each week. If you would like a pocket card with the pertinent information, there are some on the table in the main entry. May this capability be used for the glory of God!

**Volunteers to learn/operate our new livestream cameras** are needed, please. If you are interested, please tell the clergy or call Esther at the Church Office. Thanks!

**According to the provincial protocols** for the Orange Phase, "Entertainment venues such as casinos, amusement centres, bingo halls, arcades, cinemas and large live performance facilities may operate under a COVID-19 operational plan." To that end, a **'family bubble quartet'** will offer some hymns during the administration of the Holy Communion this morning at 10 AM. They will stand in the back row of the Choir and maintain a distance of six metres from others.



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



**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

## Second Sunday After Epiphany – January 17, 2021

### 8:00 A.M. - HOLY EUCHARIST

Introit Psalm: 66: 1-3	p. 408
Collect for Purity	p. 67
The Collect and Epistle	p. 124
Gradual Psalm: 107: 8-9	p. 472
The Holy Gospel	p. 125

### 9:15 A.M. – MORNING PRAYER

Psalm: 27	
First Lesson: Isaiah 43 : 14 - 44 :5	(Pew Bible page 595)
Second Lesson: Ephesians 1	(Pew Bible page 945)

### 10:00 A.M. –HOLY EUCHARIST

#### Introit Psalm – sung

*All the earth shall worship thee, O God, and sing of thee: they shall sing praise to thy Name, O most Highest. O be joyful in God, all ye lands: sing praises unto the honour of his Name; make his praise to be glorious. Glory be...*

Children’s Talk	
The Ten Commandments	
Kyrie	p. 70
The Collect and the Epistle	p. 124
Gradual Psalm: 107: 8-9	p. 472
The Holy Gospel	p. 125
The Nicene Creed	p. 71
Homily	
Intercession	p. 75
Confession and Absolution	p. 77
Thanksgiving and Consecration	pp.78-82
The Lord’s Prayer	p. 85
Gloria in Excelsis	p. 86

### 5:00- P.M. EVENING PRAYER

Psalm 34	
First Lesson: Isaiah 44: 6-23	(Pew Bible page 595)
Second Lesson: Mark 1: 35- end	(Pew Bible page 801)

*The flowers on the Altar have been placed to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Terry Underhill from Lydia, Catherine, Brent, and Ramona.*

*The Sanctuary Candle burns this week to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of Andrea Saucedo, Kyle Dingwell, George & Dorothy Thomas, Terry Underhill, Lillian Spinney, Helen Chapman*

*“Let us remember before God the faithful departed.”  
Andrea Saucedo, Joan Robinson*

### 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>Monday</b>	Bible Study (Church)	7:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	Deanery Meeting	1:30 p.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Bible Study (Church)	10:00 a.m.
	Grief-Share	7:00 p.m.
<b>Thursday</b>	“Imitation of Christ”	7:00 a.m.
	<b>Holy Communion</b>	10:00 a.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Community Breakfast	9:00 a.m.

*“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”*  
Micah 6.8

#### Daily Bible Readings

*A modified schedule from the Prayer Book’s Table of Lessons*

Sunday	Isaiah 63:1-6	Matthew 17:1-23
Monday	Isaiah 63:7-end	Matthew 17:24-18:14
Tuesday	Isaiah 64	Matthew 18:15-end
Wednesday	Isaiah 65:1-16	Matthew 19:1-15
Thursday	Isaiah 65:17-end	Matthew 19:16-20:16
Friday	Isaiah 66:1-9	Matthew 20:17-end
Saturday	Isaiah 66:10-end	Matthew 21:1-22

## The Rector's Corner

The clergy meeting had ended and I decided to hang around to talk to the host. He seemed like a straight-talker who would give me an answer without beating around the bush. Eventually, the final goodbyes and best wishes were exchanged and it was my turn. "How do you handle all the information and requests that have been coming? There are so many special interest groups and they all want money or their own designated day in the Church Year." He smiled and spoke five words: "Get a big garbage bag".

The time I am referring to was just before email became the new way of communicating. It also preceded the telemarketing approach to fund-raising. As a fairly new priest, I was struggling with the onslaught of letters and appeals for a myriad of causes. The financial appeals were one thing, but the requests for bulletin space, and "air-time" during the Sunday Service were something else. I was trying to figure out my moral responsibility as a Christian leader and parish priest to these groups and to the Congregations in the parish.

By telling me "to get a big garbage bag" the older priest was actually encouraging me to focus on what is really important, such as the Sunday Eucharists; praying Morning and Evening Prayer every day; visiting the sick at home and in hospital; teaching the Faith in Bible Studies, sermons, and Confirmation classes; preparing couples for marriage and for the Baptism of their children; burying the dead; as well as connecting with the young people and working with the Church Wardens and Vestry on day to day business. There is only so many hours in a day and only so many pieces in a pie.

It was good advice and I was reflecting on it this past week in terms of last Sunday's Epistle. St. Paul told the Church in the city of Rome, "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you may judge what is God's will, what is good, pleasing and perfect". (12. 2) This point was illustrated by last week's Gospel with the young Jesus in the Temple. Of all the places a twelve year old could be, there He was "about His Father's business".

As we begin the second half of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is, in my opinion, a need for us to dig deep and to re-focus. It is not always

helpful to look way down the road. I'm not suggesting that we should bury our heads in the sand; nor am I advocating that we

abandon foresight and good planning. However, we must be careful not to get overwhelmed. It is easy to lose sight of what is essential. Sometimes, we must simply do the next thing.

There may be a connection between doing the next thing and what Wendell Berry, the farmer and poet from Kentucky, calls "thinking little". In his essay 'Think Little' he says, "For most of the history of this country (the USA), our motto, implied or spoken, has been 'Think Big'. I have come to believe that a better motto, and an essential one now, is 'Think Little'. That implies the necessary change of thinking and feeling, and suggests the necessary work. ... We need better government, no doubt about it. But we also need better minds, better friendships, better marriages, better communities. We need persons and households that do not have to wait upon organizations, but can make necessary changes in themselves, on their own."

Think little – how refreshing! And, it fits with what Paul is talking about in the Epistle in terms of being transformed by the renewal of our mind. How? To 'think little' is rooted in a humble, reverent heart. It is to take personal responsibility rather than to sit back and blame the problem on someone else. Thinking little encourages simplicity and integrity – it is a mindset that supports the sober judgement which St. Paul describes, rather than the worldly attitudes of pride and entitlement.

Even though the Lord Jesus manifested forth His glory by 'wowing' the doctors of the Jewish Law with His Wisdom, and by changing water into wine, He emphasized the importance of children – the smallest among us. Jesus said, "*Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.*" (Matthew 19.14)

The Lord God Almighty is in control. Our job is to trust Him and to be faithful. The starting point is 'the next thing'. Refocus. Dig deep. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Seek His will above all things. Remember: Christ has died; Christ is risen; and Christ will come again! Remember that God loves you and that you belong to Him. Love your neighbour. Be filled with the Spirit. Pray without ceasing. Think little.

### January 2021 Vestry Meeting Briefs

- The January Vestry Meeting was held in the Church Hall and by Zoom. Those attending in person adhered to Covid Protocols.
- The Finance Committee reported that revenue from January 1 to December 31, 2020 was \$269,049 with expenses totalling \$228,444. Vestry is thankful to all parishioners who have continued with their weekly donations during the pandemic.
- The AGM will be held on Sunday February 21, 2021 (noon hour) in the main Church (keeping with Social Distancing regulations) with a storm date of Sunday February 28, 2021. The 2021 Budget is approved and ready to be presented.
- The Group Committee reported that registrations are down due to Covid. Being in Orange once again, meetings must be held outdoors. To facilitate activities, there has been some linking of the three groups.
- Vestry held its last discussion on expending the garden with raised beds on the side lawn of the Church. The following four motions were approved:
  1. That Vestry approved the concept of raised beds.
  2. That the Church seek the approval of the City before proceeding.
  3. That an Ad Hoc Garden Committee be struck (vestry, parishioners, interested parties) to develop an implementation plan.
  4. That the budget for the first year be set at \$3,000.
- Vestry also held a discussion on how parishioners can maintain contact with those who cannot attend church. More details to follow.
- The February Vestry Meeting will be held following the AGM.
- The March Vestry Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 9, 2021.

## *Operation Sunny Day! (Make a St. George's Shut-in smile)*



### *1. The Mission:*

*Send cards to every shut-in from St. George's for:*

- *Valentine's Day (Feb 14<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Mothering Sunday (March 14<sup>th</sup>)*
- *Easter Sunday (April 4<sup>th</sup>)*
- *St. George's Day (April 23<sup>rd</sup>)*

### *2. Execution:*

- Please contact the Church Office to obtain names and addresses of shut-ins; and*
- Write a brief note or greeting and send the cards.*

### *3. The Telephone Option:*

*In addition to (or instead of) sending greeting cards, contact the office and arrange to become a 'phone friend'.*

