

## *From the Rector* \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to use this week's column to let you know officially that, God willing, I expect to retire from full-time Parish ministry sometime during the summer of 2023. The precise date has not yet been set and is subject to a number of factors which remain undetermined; but at this time I am assuming that June 30<sup>th</sup> will be my last day working in the parishes where I am greatly blessed to serve.

The decision to retire comes after much thought and prayer because ordained ministry has been for me an immense privilege and honour; well and truly above my deserving. As you know, we do not just decide to become a deacon or a priest in Christ's Church; ministry is a vocation, literally a life to which we are called by God. Over the past 34 years I have been reminded every day that being called to such a life is not contingent on my skills or abilities, limited and frail as they are. God offers us the grace required for the ministry to which he calls us; and our only responsibility is to acknowledge and accept that grace; and to use it, our weaknesses notwithstanding, to God's glory and praise.

What makes the decision to retire especially difficult is the great love and respect that I have received from you; equally above my deserving. Ministry in these parishes has been a deep joy for me, from the first day until now. We have struggled through challenging times together, whether the challenges of personal loss and sorrow or the collective challenges of the pandemic; but we have also shared many joys and celebrations; and there has been much laughter along the way. Every day I have seen glimpses of God's amazing grace and love in each one of you; and I continue to be inspired by your faith and courage and perseverance, just as I have been greatly dependant on your patience. You have been, and continue to be, a rich and generous blessing to me; and for that I offer my very sincere thanks. Words fail.

As many of you already know, Janice has been working and living full-time in Sackville since September where she serves as the Head of Access Services and Interlibrary Loans at Mount Allison University's Ralph Pickard Bell Library. We are blessed to have a home there; and we are looking forward to being able to live together full-time once I retire. I'm also looking forward to being better positioned to support my parents, who continue to live in their own home in Moncton; as well as the opportunity to see Elizabeth and Catherine, who live in Halifax, more often than the distance to and from Fredericton, and the responsibilities of full-time ministry, have allowed.

One significant factor that makes the decision to retire much easier is the knowledge that it is Archbishop Edwards' intention to appoint Deacon Nicholas as Priest in Charge of these parishes following his ordination and my retirement; to complete his two-year appointment prior to returning to the Canadian Armed Forces in 2024. That means that he should have approximately a full year to work in these parishes following my retirement, strengthening the pastoral relationships which he has been forging with God's help. This will ensure good stable leadership during a time of transition; and will give the people of these parishes time to discern where and how God is calling them to serve his Church and care for his world as you prepare for the appointment of a new incumbent. I am increasingly convinced that the future of these parishes is a shared future and I hope that it will be possible to build that future together.

I will have opportunity to say much more before next summer but, in the meantime, I hope that you will pray for me just as I can assure you that I will be praying for you.



## *Parish Notices and Updates* \_\_\_\_\_

**HELPFUL ADVENT READING:** A generous donor has made available several copies of '**The Little Blue Book**' a small booklet of 6-minute reflections for each day through Advent and Christmas. Please pick up a copy of the booklet on the table in the narthex and allow this exercise to

**ST. MARY'S BRANCH OF THE MOTHERS' UNION** will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** beginning with a Celebration of the Holy Eucharist, followed by a meeting in the Hall. They invite you to join with them. For more information please speak to Shirley Hupman.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND** the Advent Talks at Christ Church (Parish Church) with Bishop Bill Hockin on the theme *December: Month of Miracles*; with music by Alice Boyd & Friends; from 12:15 to 1:00 p.m. The schedule is as follows: December 7<sup>th</sup>: A Friend Who Changes Everything; and December 14<sup>th</sup>: Miracles on the Margins.

**ST. MARY'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY** continues each Friday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Church. We're working through a series called "Matriarchs & Patriarchs; Prophets & Papyri: the great stories of the Old Testament and how they point us to Jesus." Please feel free to come along whenever you can!

**DIOCESAN ADVENT RETREAT DAY: Journeys in the Desert.** More than ever, we need spaces and times to nourish and refresh our souls. We need to find and create these spaces that will allow us to deepen our faith

and give us the ability to connect with Jesus and learn to hear the voice of His Spirit. On Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church, the Rev. Paul Ranson will lead a day with reflection and prayer for the Advent journey preparing for the celebration of the birth of the Messiah. The cost is \$20/person (lunch and refreshments provided). Pre-registration is required at: <https://nb.anglican.ca/events/journeys-in-the-desert/2022-12-10>

**FLOWERS AT CHRISTMAS:** Those who wish to place memorial flowers may do so by including a donation through the collection plate. Please ensure that your donation includes the names of those in whose memory the flowers are being placed, as well as complete information regarding the donor(s); **and to help us to include that information in the Christmas bulletin, we'll need to know by Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.** For more information, please speak to the Rector.

**COPIES OF THE 2023 CHURCH CALENDARS**, prepared by our friends at St. Peter Publications in Charlottetown, are now available. **The cost is \$8.00.** These lovely calendars are a great way to keep track of the Church Year as we try to grow in grace. We would be very happy to drop off copies to those who are not able to pick one up. Please let the Rector or Assistant Curate know how many copies you would like.

**THE PARISH TREASURER, ALLAN AGNEW**, has prepared the 2023 Church Offering envelopes, which are available for pick up in the Narthex. If you would like to have your offering envelopes dropped off at your home, please let Allan or the Rector know and they will arrange to deliver them. Those who have arranged for our automated e-Offering programme have been assigned a box of envelopes as well. E-Offering users who do not wish a box of envelopes are asked to let Allan know so that the box can be reassigned. And, if you're not currently using regular envelopes, Allan would be pleased to help set that up.



We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyyik (Wolastoqiyik) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.



*The Anglican Church of Canada*  
*The Diocese of Fredericton*

THE PARISH OF  
ST. MARY, YORK



The uniqueness of Advent is that it really forces us more than any other season, even more than Lent, to look deeply into *what is wrong* in the world, and why the best-laid plans don't work out the way we meant them to, and why our greatest hopes are so often confounded, and why things happen the way they do, and why sometimes it is so difficult to see where God is acting. Every year Advent begins in the dark...

Fleming Rutledge

# THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*December 3, 2022*

*Our King and Saviour draws near!  
O come, let us worship!*

**4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:**

✠ Psalm 18 part 2 | Isaiah 19:1-17 | Revelation 11

**5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

Introit Psalm 80:1-7: *page 433*

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: *please see the bulletin insert*  
*The Gloria is omitted during Advent*

The Collect: *page 97*

The Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 22:8-10, 23:1-3

Psalm 119 part 17: *page 493*

The Epistle: *page 97*

Gradual Psalm 50:1-6: *page 392*

The Holy Gospel: *page 98*

The Creed: *page 71*

The Homily

The Prayers of the People: L: Lord, in your mercy

**C: Hear our prayer**

The Consecration: *page 82*

Post Communion Prayers: *page 85*

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**DECEMBER 5: CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA**, transferred

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

**DECEMBER 6: ST. NICHOLAS**, Bishop of Myra, 342

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

*Followed by a Meeting of St. Mary's Mothers' Union*

**DECEMBER 7: ADVENT FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

**DECEMBER 8: CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

**DECEMBER 9: ADVENT FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

**DECEMBER 10: THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

**DECEMBER 11: THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer



### PRIEST & RECTOR

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# THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*December 4, 2022*

*Our King and Saviour draws near!  
O come, let us worship!*

**9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:**

✠ Psalm 119 parts 11 & 12 | Isaiah 5:1-16 | St. Matthew 24:29-end

**10:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** **61** (ST. THOMAS)

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: *please see the bulletin insert*

*The Gloria is omitted during Advent*

The Collect: *page 97*

The Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 22:8-10, 23:1-3

♪ **PSALM:** *please see the bulletin insert*

The Epistle: *page 97*

♪ **GRADUAL HYMN:** **65** (BRISTOL)

The Holy Gospel: *page 98*

♪ **Gospel Acclamation:** **Alleluia**

The Creed: *page 71*

The Homily

♪ **OFFERTORY HYMN:** **60** (HELMSLEY)

The Prayers of the People: L: Lord, in your mercy

**C: Hear our prayer**

The Consecration: *page 82*

Post Communion Prayer: *page 85*

♪ **RECESSIONAL HYMN:** **All My Hope on God is Founded**

*please see the bulletin insert*

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*The Candles of Advent*  
**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE**

Officiant: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,

**All: And ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

Reader: Today is the Second Sunday of Advent - the Sunday of Peace.

Reader: Whatever things were written in former days

**All: Were written for our learning;**

Reader: That we through patience and the comfort of the Scriptures;

**All: Might have hope.**

*The Lighting of the Second Candle*

Reader: Heaven and earth shall pass away;

**All: But my words shall not pass away.**

Officiant: As we stand, let us pray.

**All: 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.**

**A Candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

"A Candle is Burning" is by Sandra Dean, 1986. Music is "Cradle Song" [Hymn Book 734] by W. J. Kirkpatrick.

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