

From the Rector _____

A very young child sets out to take some of his or her very first steps. To you or me, the few feet that separates that child from their parent is little more than an arm's length but to that small child, unfamiliar with the simple process of walking, it might as well be the width of an ocean.

The child hangs on to the leg of a chair looking tentatively, longingly, at the floor and the parent, taking a few small half steps before drawing back. Then the parent reaches out with a hand, gently, lovingly, hopefully offering to guide the child; and, in an instant, completely trusting the love which that hand so firmly and tangibly represents, the small child reaches out and takes a hold; and abandons the chair for the freedom of walking: a world of new beginnings and new possibilities summed up in one tiny step.

I don't know what it may be that you will face with the same fear and anxiety with which that child faces the prospect of unfamiliar territory. For the past two years every day has come with unexpected surprises and changes. And even now we've can't really be sure what things are going to look like a month from now let alone a year. The impact of the Omicron variant is not yet to be fully understood; and how knows what Greek letters will be etched in our memory before all of this is over.

So, I don't know what fears and worries you are now facing or will yet have to face; and on this incredibly uncertain journey, I don't know what you will cling to for security in those moments of doubt. But whatever you chose to cling to, I suspect that, in the end, it may prove as unreliable and unstable as a chair leg.

But as this New Year unfolds; as each day brings with it new challenges and new fears, I hope that you will trust the hand that God holds out to you. The Good News of the birth of the Christ at Christmas reminds us that God reaches out to us even today in tangible ways; that he lives with us, and that changes everything.

I hope that living with that trust in God's Grace also changes the way that we live with each other. I hope that we're willing not just to trust but to be worthy of the trust of all those who know us.

Each person's life gives a message of one kind or another, a message about what kind of world this is. And as this New Year starts, perhaps one of the biggest questions each of us could ask is: "what message does my life give?" As Rowan Williams has suggested, we might want to ask ourselves some basic questions at this time of year, such as: Am I making

the world a place where trust makes sense? And, deeper still, am I confident that even in my failings and my betrayals I am loved and trusted?

May everything we do this year speak of the trust that we have in this incarnate Lord who lives each and every moment of each and every day with us; and may everything we do speak of our willingness to keep our promises and respect the trust that others place in us. Let us, this year, help to make this a world where others are able to take those first few steps over fear and doubt because they have seen and known, in our lives, the power of our Incarnate Saviour Jesus Christ to change everything.



OUR WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY resumes this coming Friday, January 7th, **from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Zoom**. For the next few weeks we'll be continuing with our look at the major festivals of the Jewish calendar. We've looked at Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Pesach, and Shavuot; and we're now turning our attention to some of the minor festivals such as Hanukkah and Purim. If you'd like to join us, even occasionally, please let the Rector know so that he can send the Zoom link to you.



BC: AD

U.A. Fanthorpe

This was the moment when Before
Turned into After, and the future's
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing
Happened. Only dull peace
Sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans
Could find nothing better to do
Than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect.
Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.

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.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

JANUARY 5: TWELFTH NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

JANUARY 6: THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

JANUARY 7: IN THE OCTAVE OF EPIPHANY

4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

JANUARY 8: FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist for the Nativity

JANUARY 9: FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

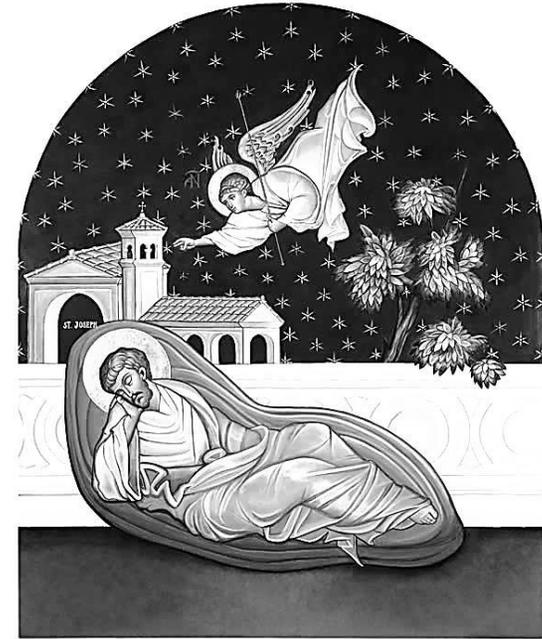
10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist



THE CORPORATION OF THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK, gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the Anglican Foundation of Canada for our Renewing St. Mary's Project.



The Anglican Church of Canada *The Diocese of Fredericton* **THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK**



Do you hear what the shipwrecked are saying? Let go of your paltry desires and expand your expectations. Christmas means that God has given us nothing less than himself and his name is Jesus Christ. Be unwilling next Christmas to settle for anything else. Don't order "just a piece of toast" when eggs Benedict are on the menu. Don't come with a thimble when God has nothing less to give you than the ocean of himself. Don't be contented with a "nice" Christmas when Jesus says, "it has pleased my Father to give you the Kingdom."

Brennan Manning

PRIEST AND RECTOR

The Venerable Kevin M. Stockall, B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

Rectory: 770 McEvoy Street, Fredericton NB E3A 3B7

454.0245 (rectory) | 472.4661 (office) | 461.7685 (cell) | kevin.stockall@bellaliant.net

Visit us at: <http://www.stmarysfredericton.ca/>

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 1, 2022

*Unto us a Child is born!
O come, let us worship!*

4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:

✠ Psalms 85, 113 | Deuteronomy 30 | Colossians 2:8-15

5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit Psalm 19:1-6:	<i>page 351</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 113</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Isaiah 62:10-12
Psalm 145:8-13:	<i>page 516</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 113</i>
Gradual Psalm 110:1-4:	<i>page 477</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 114</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post Communion Prayer:	<i>page 85</i>

So may I suggest, the secret of Christmas
It's not the things you do, at Christmas time
But the Christmas things you do all year
Ella Fitzgerald

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 2, 2022

*Unto us a Child is born!
O come, let us worship!*

9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalm 132 | Isaiah 41:21-end | 1 St. John 1:1-2:6

10:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit Psalm 19:1-6:	<i>page 351</i>
The Gloria:	<i>page 86</i>
The Collect:	<i>page 113</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Isaiah 62:10-12
Psalm 145:8-13:	<i>page 516</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 113</i>
Gradual Psalm 110:1-4:	<i>page 477</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 114</i>
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