

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

Maybe you know someone who hangs onto things long after you think that they should be thrown away; who tucks things into cupboards and closets just in case there may be a use for those things one day. Anyone who has recently moved into a smaller home or gone through the process of radical downsizing likely realises that we can all be guilty of that. But perhaps you're also aware that hoarding is a genuine disorder; and it can be an incredibly serious problem. As the professionals at the Mayo Clinic tell us, it arises whenever a person has "a persistent difficulty discarding or parting with possessions because of a perceived need to save them"; when a person "experiences distress at the thought of getting rid of the items", regardless of their actual value. And in spite of the obvious financial and sanitary risks, people with compulsive hoarding disorder often don't see it as a problem, which, of course, makes treatment even more challenging.

Perhaps we can imagine the scene: newspapers and magazines and shopping bags; shoe boxes and parcels and books; everything piled up; mountains and mountains and mountains of stuff. But for all the accumulated stuff, hoarders find very little piece of mind; having lots creates the desire for more; and, sadly, things of great value get lost beneath all of that junk.

The Season of Advent gives us a chance to clear away the clutter of our lives. I'm not talking about the clutter that we may find at home but the clutter that just as easily accumulates in our hearts. I'm not talking about storage units but the things stored in our souls. Like the piles of insults we've stacked carefully in one corner; and all the rejections we've ever experienced accumulated in another. Or the images of unkind people that we have hanging on the wall; or the accumulated rude remarks that litter the floor. Or a display case filled with every knife that's ever stabbed us in the back. And a cabinet for all the wounds inflicted by people that we thought were our friends.

Isn't it time that we throw out the trash that's cluttering up our lives; and maybe, in the process, rediscover some of the priceless things that have gone missing beneath all of that stuff?

Unfortunately, when we start hoarding those kinds of negative treasures, it become hard to give them up. And some can make a career out of hating others, even when they don't want to admit it. As we are being constantly reminded, people can, for example, create a vocation out of despising a certain race or class of people.

When we get to this point, what can we do? Well, the first thing that we can do is start praying... praying for a king named Christ to barge into the temple of our souls, to clear out the trash and sweep the place clean, as we see in the Gospel passage read every year on the First Sunday in Advent. Maybe if we're willing to work with God to declutter our lives maybe we'll be able to see the things of great value that we've lost in all the disorder. Maybe this Advent will be a time of preparation for the coming of Christ; a time to regain a sense of urgency about our faith; a time to pray more often, to read Holy Scripture daily, to find ways to share our faith with others, and, of course, remember the poor. Make this season of Advent more than just a countdown to Christmas. If we do this, we'll be better prepared to receive the Christ when he comes again to judge the living and the dead, even as we prepare to celebrate on the 25<sup>th</sup> his first coming as well.



## *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 enrich and inform your Advent journey.

**SOME OF YOU MAY BE AWARE OF *THE ADVENT CONSPIRACY***, which is an effort by Christians around the world to be more intentional in their Christmas preparations. The four tenets of the 'Conspiracy' are: Worship Fully; Spend Less; Give More; and Love All; which together serve to put the focus of this joyful time more fully on Christ and how Christ calls us to share the Good News of His birth with our families, friends, and neighbours. Go to their website for more information about how this encouraging programme can help you and your family to celebrate Christmas more joyfully: [www.adventconspiracy.org](http://www.adventconspiracy.org)

**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. All are welcome! 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.

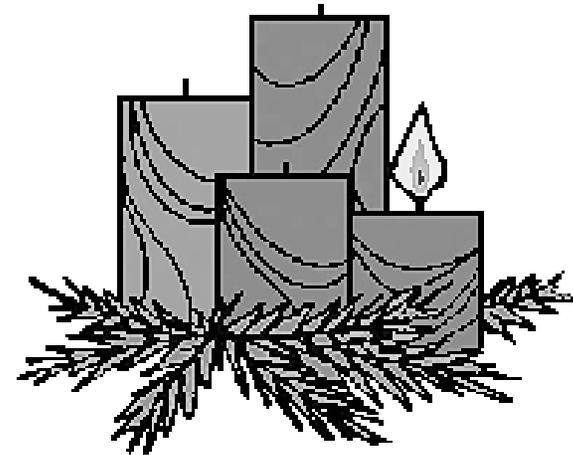


We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wəlastəkwiyik (Wolastoqiyik) Peoples. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Wəlastəkwiyik (Wolastoqiyik), Mi'kmaq, and Passamaquoddy Peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1726. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wəlastəkwiyik (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



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Our lifelong nostalgia, our longing to be reunited with something in the universe from which we now feel cut off, to be on the inside of some door which we have always seen from the outside, is no mere neurotic fancy, but the truest index of our real situation. And to be at last summoned inside would be both the glory and honor beyond all our merits and also the healing of that old ache.

C. S. Lewis, "The Weight of Glory"  
*The Weight of Glory, and other addresses, 1949*

# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*November 26, 2022*

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

## **4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer:**

✠ Psalm 119 parts 17 & 18 | Wisdom 12:12-21 | Revelation 5

## **5:00 p.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

Introit Psalm 50:1-6:	<i>page 392</i>
The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:	<i>please see the bulletin insert</i>
The Ten Commandments:	<i>page 68</i>
<i>The Gloria is omitted during Advent</i>	
The Collect:	<i>page 95</i>
The Old Testament Reading:	Genesis 45:1-7, 15
Psalm 25:1-7:	<i>page 358</i>
The Epistle:	<i>page 95</i>
Gradual Psalm 85:4-7:	<i>page 438</i>
The Holy Gospel:	<i>page 96</i>
The Creed:	<i>page 71</i>
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy C: <b>Hear our prayer</b>
The Consecration:	<i>page 82</i>
Post Communion Prayers:	<i>page 85</i>

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### **NOVEMBER 28: ADVENT FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

### **NOVEMBER 29: ADVENT FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*

### **NOVEMBER 30: ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer  
7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

### **DECEMBER 1: ADVENT FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer, *All Saints, Marysville*  
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

### **DECEMBER 2: ADVENT FERIA**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
4:00 p.m. – Evening Prayer (Zoom)

### **DECEMBER 3: THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer  
4:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer  
5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

### **DECEMBER 4: THE SECOND 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 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

*November 27, 2022*

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

**9:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:**

✠ Psalm 9 | Isaiah 1:1-20 | St. Matthew 24:1-28

**10:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist**

- ♪ **PROCESSIONAL HYMN:** **59** (ST. THOMAS)  
The Lighting of the Advent Wreath: *please see the bulletin insert*  
The Ten Commandments: *page 68*  
*The Gloria is omitted during Advent*  
The Collect: *page 95*  
The Old Testament Reading: Genesis 45:1-7, 15
- ♪ **PSALM:** *please see the bulletin insert*  
The Epistle: *page 95*
- ♪ **GRADUAL HYMN:** **548** (STUTTGART)  
The Holy Gospel: *page 96*
- ♪ **Gospel Acclamation:** **Alleluia**  
The Creed: *page 71*  
The Homily
- ♪ **OFFERTORY HYMN:** **73** (IRISH)  
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:** **Herald Sound the Note of Judgement**  
*please see the bulletin insert*

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*The Candles of Advent*  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: HOPE**

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 first Sunday of Advent - the Sunday of Hope.

Reader: The night is far gone,

**All: The day is at hand;**

Reader: Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness,

**All: And let us put on the armour of light.**

*The Lighting of the First Candle*

Reader: Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord;

**All: Hosanna in the Highest!**

Officiant: As we stand, let us pray.

**All: Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of thee be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**A Candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in December's dark night.  
While angels sing blessing from heaven's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus in nigh.**

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

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