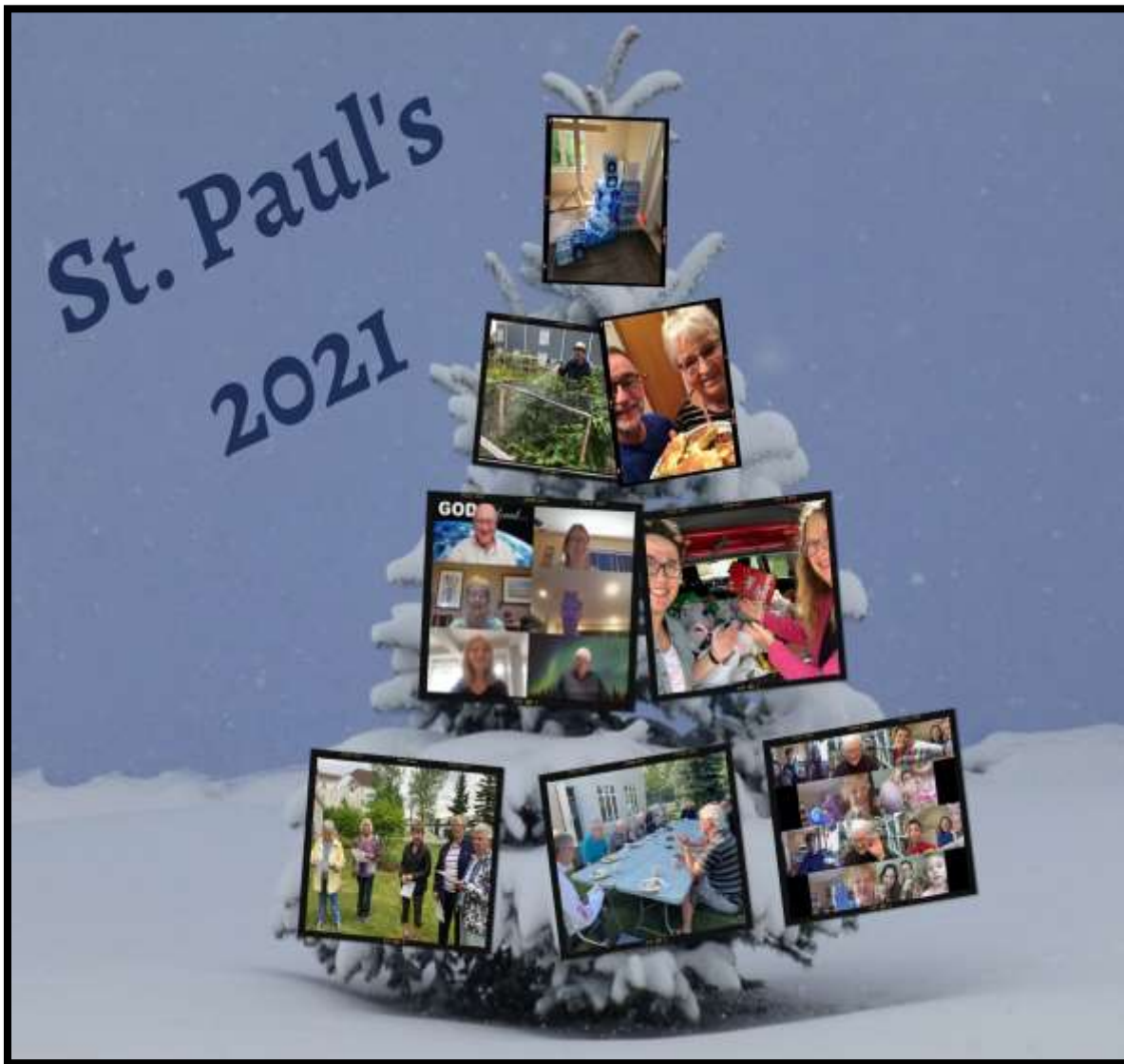


Living Waters

December 2021/ January 2022



**Drop-Off Day
Page 8**



**Secret
Friends
Page 9**



**Christmas Eve
Services**



**The Season of
Epiphany
Page 28**

Traditional Land Acknowledgement: *Creator, you made all people of every land. In the spirit of respect and truth, we honour the traditional Treaty 7 territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy, including the Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani Nations, the Stoney Nakoda, including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley Nations, and the Tsuu T'ina Nation. We acknowledge the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region Three. In the spirit of reconciliation and because we are all treaty people, we also acknowledge all people who make their homes in the traditional Treaty 7 territory of Southern Alberta.*



St. Paul's

information



SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Services at 9:30 online go to Sermons on our website

1st & 3rd Week of each month (Wednesday or Thursday): 9:30 a.m. via Facebook and You tube

7 Sunmills Green S.E
Calgary, Alberta T2X 3P6
Phone (403)256-1428
Fax (403)256-1554

Email:
office@stpaulscalgary.ca
Website:
www.stpaulscalgary.ca

Incumbent

The Rev'd Fergus Tyson

Assistants

The Rev'd Cyril Haynes
The Rev'd Dr. Norman Knowles
The Rev'd Dr. Bob Mummery
The Rev'd Betty Nadurak

Parish Council 2021

Administration: Paul Bourgeois

Caring Contact: Fergus

Christian Education: Tosan Chigbo

Communications: Paul Bourgeois

Community Connection:

Muyi Ekomwenrenren

Hospitality: Steve Colle

Maintenance: Gerald de Vries

Incumbent's Warden: Ingrid Bolton

New Members: Julie Wilson

Pastoral Care: Nicola Peden

People's Warden: Cam Cline

Outreach: John L'Ecuyer

Stewardship: Laura Anne Fink

Sunday School: Shannon Colle

Worship: Fergus Tyson

Youth: Vacant

Ex Officio: The Rev'd Cyril Haynes

Synod Delegates

Cam Cline

Gloria Ford

Alternates: Parish Council

MCES Directors

Kerry Peters , Iona Shaw

Treasurer

Treasurer: Ingrid Bolton

Parish Ministries

Worship Ministries

Altar Guild - Robbie Coller
Sacramental Assistants – Ed Mullaney
10:00 am Music Group – Paul Bourgeois
Prayers of the People – Dinah Breu
Readers 10 am – Robbie Coller
Readers 8:30 am – Laura Anne Fink
Servers – Karla Manuel
Sidespeople – Suzanne Wray
Prayer Team – Dinah Breu
Envelope Secretary – Debra Brisbin
Counters— Roxie Hall

Fellowship Ministries

Greeters – Roxie Hall
Coffee Time – Hospitality
Ladies Potluck Luncheon
– Gloria Ford & Laura Anne Fink
Men's Breakfast
– Kerry Peters
Fellowship & Foods Group
– Doreen Peters
Secret Friends – Julie Wilson
Toddlers to Tweens
– Abby Ekomwenrenren
Youth Group – Keith Daye
Maintenance – Gerald de Vries

Christian Education

Nursery – Pamela Fleming
Youth – Keith Daye
Adult Education
Clergy & Lay
Stewardship – Laura Anne Fink
Library – Doreen & Kerry Peters
Anglican Fellowship of Prayer
– Dinah Breu
Sunday School Coordinator
– Shannon Colle

Pastoral Ministries

Hospital Visiting – Clergy
& Pastoral Care Team
Home Visiting – Clergy
& Pastoral Care Team
Caring Contact - Betty Nadurak
Casserole Ministry – Linda Hubert
(Contact Office)
Prayer Group – Dinah Breu
Prayer Chain – Dinah Breu
Card Ministry – Gail Munro
Pastoral Care Team – Nicola Peden
Grief Support Group
– Laura Anne Fink

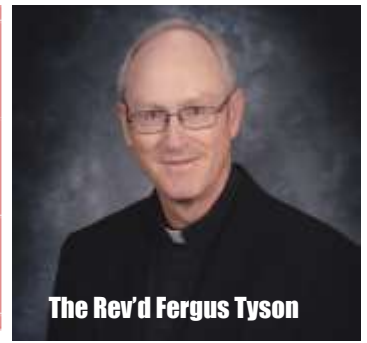
Outreach Ministries

Outreach Committee
– John L'Ecuyer
Father Lacombe Sunday Eucharist—
Kathleen Robinson
Father Lacombe Fridays –
Kerry Peters
AgeCare Seton — Fergus
NeST — Jennifer Solem
Food Bank, CAWST, Alpha House etc. –
shared through Outreach Committee
PWRDF — Doreen Peters
Quilt/Shawl Prayer Ministry
– Laura Anne Fink
Living Waters
– Laura Anne Fink



INCUMBENT'S MESSAGE

Having Hope in a Hurting World



The Rev'd Fergus Tyson

"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. Those who love me, my Father will love, and we will come to them and make our home with them." (John 14:2-3, 23)

*Singers and dancers alike say,
"All my fountains are in You."* (Psalm 87:7)

As is our custom, we had a guest speaker with an outreach focus speak at the Sunday Service we shared to mark the Reign of Christ. This year, Christopher Kavanagh from The Calgary Drop-In Centre, came to our Service to tell us about the great need there is in our city, and how this Ministry attempts to address it, spreading Our Lord's reign of love. Calgary's unemployment rate has dropped to close to pre-Pandemic levels, but the October rate of 8.0% still remained among the highest of the 34 metropolitan areas surveyed by Statistics Canada, and well above the national average of 6.7%. Even if a person is employed, the cost of living makes it most difficult to live here. Many in our Parish can attest of this first-hand, which is why we have an "Inreach Fund," to help meet the financial needs of those who are a part of our Parish family.

But as challenging as it is for us to live in this city, it's actually a much better place in which to live than many, many others in our world. In fact, according to the website mercer.com, our cost of living index ranks 145th out of the 209 cities in the world they examined. The website numbeo.com says it's 47.1% more expensive to live in New York, and 13.5% more expensive in Toronto. COVID-19 is a reality we've all had to live with, particularly since March, 2020. There were times when Calgary was even one of the hotspots for COVID-19 in the world. But as hard hit as we've been, there are 68 countries in the world with a higher rate of per capita COVID-19 deaths than Canada, including the USA, the UK, Russia, France, Germany, and Sweden. And, of course, in Calgary, no one is bombing our buildings; no civil war is forcing us

Jesus poured himself out in love, from the stone of the manger to the stone of the tomb, so that we may have fellowship with him for ever.

from our homes; and we have safe water to drink.

So if it's hard to live in even one of the best places on earth, where does this leave us? Where is hope to be found in the midst of a world like this? The Seasons of Advent and Christmas answer these questions.

Advent begins by focussing on Jesus' second coming. The readings at Sunday Services remind us of what recent events have made so evident, that everything that can be shaken in this life will be shaken. They will remind us that our earthly lives themselves are not only frail, but also like the summer's flower that flourishes only for a time.

These messages may seem to some a strange way to begin a new Church year, but actually they are part of an essential first step out of darkness and despair into the light. Just as in Alcoholics Anonymous, the first step is to acknowledge that one has a problem that one is powerless to overcome, so too the first step towards hope is to acknowledge that we are powerless to supply it ourselves. Hope is not found in us.

William Willimon, in an article entitled, "Going Against the Stream," writes:

The hope for us, says the church in Advent, is that we are out of hope, and we know it. That's why the church generally refrains from singing Christmas carols during Advent. We dare not rush to greet the Redeemer prematurely until we pause here, in darkened church, to admit that we do need redemption. Nothing within us can save us. No thing can save us. We've tried that before. No president, no bomb, no new car, no bottle, no white Christmas can save.

No! to all false consolation, we say. No! to the empty, contrived merriment of a terminal world. Our hope

must be in someone out there who comes to us. We find our way only because One comes, takes our hand and leads us home.

No thank you, we shall wait here, in yearning and silence, in darkness and penitence, for that One.

So in Advent we wait - with longing hearts, in expectation - for a Saviour.

And then, after four weeks, we reach the Season of Christmas, and the message changes. Now the Good News proclaimed by angels and mortals is that this One whom we await has come, and continues to come into our lives.

The Creator of the Universe, Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient, became one of us, a vulnerable, frail, mortal human being. John 1:14 says, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us." The word "dwelt" translates literally "tabernacled." It alludes to the wanderings of the Israelites in the Wilderness, where the Shekinah glory of God was in the Tabernacle among the people as they wandered. The Word "made his home" among us - and the kind of home he made was a tent. He "pitched his tent" among us, travelling with us as our companion - indeed, as our brother - in our journey through the Wilderness.

Jesus came to the earth to be with us as our Emmanuel always. He poured himself out in love, from his placement in the stone of the manger at his birth to his placement in the stone of the tomb at his death, so that we may have fellowship with him for ever and ever. All our yearning is for him. He is our hope.

Beth Moore, in her book *The Beloved Disciple*, gives a beautiful paraphrase of the words of Jesus to his disciples in John 14 quoted at the beginning of this December/January message:

I am going to leave you so that I can prepare rooms for you where you will one day dwell and indeed make yourself at home where I live in heaven. Until then, I have built a room in each of you where I can make myself at home with you. This way I am at home with you in Spirit until you are at home with me in heaven.

Jesus came so that we could have this kind of relationship with him.

For many of us, we long for more, and we even know that this "more" is found in Jesus, and yet we still

allow ourselves to live lives of what may be called functional atheism. It doesn't have to be like this for us. I was touched deeply recently by the following prayer by A. W. Tozer, in his classic work, *The Pursuit of God*:

O God, I have tasted thy goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need of further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to know thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me thy glory, I pray thee, that so I may know thee indeed. Begin in mercy a new work of love within me. Say to my soul, "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away." Then give me grace to rise and follow thee up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

This is my prayer this Advent and Christmas.

For Jesus came to be the answer to the longing of our heart. He came to be the Light that dispels all the darkness. He came to take us into the depths of meaning and value in life. He came to deliver us from our self-centred prisons, and set us free to give of ourselves as we share the love he has poured out into our hearts. He came to

make us his temples, so that when we gather together to worship we are not "going to Church" but are rather "the Church gathering together in one place" to unite with one another in praising, adoring, seeking, and loving our Lord.

Psalms 87, which ends with the words quoted at the beginning of this message, has the heading "The Joy of Living in Zion" in the New Revised Standard Version. The singers and dancers are filled with joy because they know that all their fountains - all things that are life in a dry, arid world - are found in the Lord. The words of this Psalm remind me of how we end our Annual Birthday Party, which we usually have on the third Saturday in November (the first Service in our new building was November 22, 1998), but this year,

due to the COVID-19 restrictions we've had since we resumed in-person gatherings in November, are planning to hold in January or February. We have a "St. Paul's mini-tradition" of ending this Birthday Party by dancing the "hokey pokey" together. One of my favourite St. Paul's pictures is the photo accompanying this Incumbent's Message (taken in 2015), because it shows the fun we all have doing the hokey pokey - young, "mature," and every age in-between. (I love the delight in the face of Maymai (fourth from



At St. Paul's, we're sharing the song and the dance of life with the Lord and one another!

the right, facing the camera), for whom this dance was always the highlight of the evening. How fitting to end our celebration of St. Paul's birthday this way - to say that at St. Paul's, we're sharing the song and the dance of life with the Lord and one another!

One of my favourite Hymns with which we close our Sunday Worship is "Draw the Circle Wide." It's one of my favourites, because it expresses the conviction that we want to make our dancing circle larger. We want all people to be part of it! We pray for this for the small business owner, whose life work is hanging by a thread, due to COVID-19; the immunocompromised person, who's had three vaccine shots, and still wonders if it will be enough should they come down with the disease; the person in B.C. whose house has literally been washed away in flooding; the person in our City, like "Chuck" in the Calgary Drop-In Centre video we watched on November 21, who hasn't lived in their own home for many years; and all our other fellow-wounded companions on the journey. We want to spread the love, the light, and the life of Our Lord, as

agents of hope. And so, we're dedicated to living lives that help everyone with whom we come in contact experience how precious and beloved they are to God and to us, and that they, too, belong.

This Advent and Christmas, may we all open our hearts to allow Jesus to make his home within us, to be our hope, in a deeper way than we ever have before. And may we then open our arms wide to share the song and the dance his love gives in a circle wide enough to include every precious one in this broken, hurting world. Amen.

God bless you all, this Advent and Christmas and always.

Your Brother in Jesus,



Everyone deserves kindness, a warm meal, and a home.

With help we can make this a reality.

REIGN OF CHRIST GUEST SPEAKER

On Sunday, November 16 we had Christopher Kavanagh from the Calgary Drop-In Centre come and speak to us. He talked about how they were coping with the pandemic and what they have been able to offer their clients.

The Drop-In Centre touches many lives in our city. They connect with those who are in need of support and a touch of kindness.

We must keep in our prayers the clients of the centre and also all the staff who give so much of themselves to bring light to so many. They see people at their lowest point and give them hope and strength to move forward.

If you missed the video of Chuck's Story which was shown at the service, please [click here](#) to see it.



ROSTER FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

| DATE | OFFICIATING | ASSISTING | PREACHING | CHILDREN'S TIME |
|---------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Dec. 12 | Fergus | Norman & Betty | Norman | Norman |
| Dec. 19 | Fergus | Betty | Lessons and Carols | Fergus |
| Dec.. 24 5 pm | Fergus | Betty | None | Fergus |
| 7:30 pm | Fergus | Betty | Fergus | None |
| 10:30 pm | Norman | None | Norman | None |
| Dec. 25 | No Service | | | |
| Dec. 26 | Fergus | Betty | Fergus | None |
| Jan. 2 | TBA | | | |
| Jan. 9 | TBA | | | |
| Jan. 16 | TBA | | | |
| Jan. 23 | TBA | | | |
| Jan. 30 | TBA | | | |
| Feb. 6 | TBA | | | |

UPCOMING SERVICES

Services are In Person and will also be available Live Streamed on Facebook or our YouTube Channel and website (to access Services on our website, please click on the Sermon tab in the top right hand corner of the home page).

Sunday, December 12: The Third Sunday of Advent—Joy (Gaudete Sunday), Welcoming of New Members

Sunday, December 19: The Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love—Lessons and Carols Service

Friday, December 24: 5 pm Family Service; 7:30 pm and 10:30 pm All services are Holy Eucharist and Candlelight; **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL THREE**

Sunday, December 26: First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, January 2: The Epiphany of our Lord

Sunday, January 9: The Baptism of the Lord

Sunday, January 23: Triple C Service, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday, January 30: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle, Annual Meeting of Parishioners



UPCOMING EVENTS

Watch announcements for when events will resume or be rescheduled

Men's Breakfast: Hopefully meeting Saturday, December 18 & January 15 at 8:30 am

Ladies' Luncheon: Hopefully meeting Saturday, December 18 & January 15 at 11:30 am

Annual Ladies Christmas Party: Thursday, December 16 at 7 pm via Zoom

BIBLE STUDIES & PRAYER MEETINGS & SERVICES

Bible Study: Will resume in January on the first, third, and fifth Wednesday of the month at 10:30 am.

Prayer Group: Second or third Mondays of the month at 7:30 pm on Zoom.

On line Midweek Prayer Service: the Midweek services are on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. The December date is December 9. **This will be a Service of Solace.**



Remembrance Day



Silhouettes representing the men from our Parish who didn't return from WWI & II. These were made by Simon Evans.



Poppies projected on the outside wall of St. Paul's on Remembrance Day. Thank you Kathleen for doing this.



Outreach Drop-Off Day

When: Saturday, December 11

Time: 11 am to 2 pm

For Who:

The Veterans Food Bank &
The Pregnancy Care Centre

“Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.” - Ruth Carter Stapleton

The Veterans Food Bank is a volunteer run Food bank where they have all the donations put out like a grocery store and Veterans are able to shop for their own food. If they are unable to come in some one will help them pick out food over the phone and it will be delivered.

What they are low on right now:

Dry Goods: instant potatoes, coffee, uncle bens flavoured rice, minute rice etc, (they have lot of pasta and cereal at this time)

Canned goods: stews, chili, vegetables and fruit

Snacks: - cake mixes, cookies

Juices

Stuff for Christmas: cranberries, stuffing etc.

LET'S HELP FILL THESE BOXES!



Here are some items which would be appreciated by the Calgary Pregnancy Care Centre.

Here are some items that would be a blessing for our clients this year:

- PJ's, nightgowns or bathrobes for moms
- Bath and body products for moms
- Headphones (to participate in zoom classes)
- Masks
- Gift certificates to accessible restaurants (i.e. Tim Hortons, McDonalds)
- Gift certificates for grocery stores (i.e. Superstore, Sobey's, Wal-Mart)
- Packets of bus tickets, gift cards for Taxi Cabs or Uber.
- Hygiene items for babies (shampoo, baby wash, lotion, and diaper cream)
- Baby items: clothes (0-2T), bibs, receiving blankets, toys, sleep sacks, change pads, washcloths, towels, etc)
- Gift certificates for local activities (Calgary Zoo, Telus World of Science, Leisure centres)
- Board books for infants and toddlers



LET'S HELP MAKE THIS A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS FOR THOSE IN NEED!

For Those Celebrating Birthdays in December

A special Happy December
Birthday
to Fergus and Laura Anne and to
all those who join them in
celebrating a November
Birthday!

*Happy birthday to you! We celebrate
the life that God has given you and
give thanks to Him for the many
blessings you bring to our lives. May
the LORD bless you on your birthday,
and may your day be filled with joy
and your year full of many blessings*

St. Paul's Secret Friends Annual Christmas Party

When: Thursday December 16th
Where: Via Zoom Invitation
Time: 7:00 PM

All ladies of the Parish are welcome.
This year we will be making a Folded Christmas
Ornament.
It will be a time of crafting and sharing.



Please RSVP to Julie Wilson by December 9th

For those wishing to be a Secret Friend in 2022, please fill out the attached questionnaire and text or email (you can take a photo of it) to me. I will then make the draw and send you your new Secret Friend information.

Email: jthompsonwilson@shaw.ca

Cell# 403 630-1533

St. Paul's Secret Friend Ministry



The Secret Friend Ministry is designed to bring the women of our parish closer together through the blessings of a "Secret Friend."

Throughout the year, try to get to know your new Secret Friend. Lift them up in prayer and bless them with regular correspondence (aim for once a month) and perhaps a small gift for special occasions, all secretly, of course. Cards and gifts can be left on the table at the south entrance of St. Paul's. The reveal and choosing of a new Secret Friend takes place at the annual Secret Friend Christmas Party.

If for some reason you are not able to continue your commitment please let the coordinator know. We will match her up with someone new.

Personal Profile:

Name: _____ Birthday: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Special Day: _____

Married: _____ Single: _____ Children: _____

Grandchildren: _____ Pets: _____

Spiritual:

Favourite Scriptures: _____

Prayer Requests:

Personal: _____

Family: _____

Favourites:

Colours: _____ Food: _____

Allergies:

Foods: _____ Scents: _____

Interests/Hobbies:

Coordinator: Julie Wilson (403) 630-1533, Email: jthompsonwilson@shaw.ca

Advent Study



Advent is about beginning with the end: preparing for the final stage of God's new mission that resulted from our mission failure. For many of us, Advent is the launching pad to Christmas morning; a twenty-four-day countdown to stockings and presents. We don't think about Advent as first being about the second coming. After all, it's been two millennia since Christ was born, crucified, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sent the Holy Spirit. And for two thousand years, we've been living somewhere between forgetting about or fretting over his return.

John 3:16-17 gives us Christ's mission: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but

have eternal life. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it" (1996 NLT).

Jesus' silent-night arrival in the manger is the first part of that mission. His trumpet-blasting arrival in the clouds is the last part. Taking the two seasons together, Omar Rikabi shows how preparing for this kind of Advent before we celebrate Christmas is how we get in on God's rescue mission.

St Paul's Advent Study

Our Advent Study this year will be "The Advent Mission" videos plus the "Journeying the Way of Love Advent Curriculum" from the Episcopal Church.

Date: Wednesday, November 24 to Wednesday, December 15

Times: in-person at 10:30 am; and via Zoom at 7:30 pm (*please register with Fergus by 4 pm on November 24 so Fergus can send you the Zoom link.*)



For the season of Advent, *Journeying the Way of Love* offers four sessions to be explored as we await the coming of Christ by moving through the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke. Luke's gospel provides a pattern for understanding how we can live the **Way of Love** as individuals, as families and friends, as a community, and out in the world. **Contents**

- **Advent One:** The Annunciation: Saying "Yes" to the Journey
- **Advent Two:** Mary and Elizabeth: Journeying with Family and Friends
- **Advent Three:** The Birth of John the Baptist: Journeying with Community
- **Advent Four:** The Birth of Jesus: Journeying with the World

By Jennifer Gamber and Becky Zartman www.episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove



Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 24

5:00 pm Family Service Holy Eucharist Candle Light (electric candles)

7:30 pm Holy Eucharist Candle Light

10:30 pm Holy Eucharist Candle Light

EVERYONE IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER FOR THE SERVICES. [CLICK HERE](#) TO GO TO THE WEBSITE OR CALL THE OFFICE



Altar Guild



Liturgy begins and ends with the work of the Altar Guild. To care for the sacred vessels, the bread and the wine, the fair linens and hangings and the candles and torches used for worship in the Sanctuary is far more than a task, it is a true ministry. We are told that all things must be done "properly and in good order." It is the work of the Altar Guild that makes it possible to do so. The contribution of each Altar Guild member is important; together those contributions are a devotion to the greater glory of God. The thanks of all the parish family of St. Paul's are given for the devotion and dedication of our Altar Guild.

Our Altar Guild Coordinator, Robbie, has decided to step down from this position. Thank you Robbie for all the work you have done especially during the trying times of COVID restrictions. We are now looking for a new coordinator. Robbie will be stepping down on January 1 and is willing to train a new coordinator during the next couple of months. If you are interested please contact Fergus or Robbie if you would like more information.



WEEK of PRAYER for CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022

"We saw the star in the East, and we came to worship him"
(Mt 2:2)

weekofprayer.ca



Who makes these resources?

International resources

Every year, Christians from a different host country choose the theme and prepare draft texts for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU). In 2022 these have been prepared by the Middle East Council of Churches based in Beirut, Lebanon.

The final yearly international WPCU booklet is published by the international ecumenical WPCU team, which is appointed jointly by the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches.

Canadian resources

Canadian resources for 2022 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the ecumenical WPCU Writing and Animation Team of volunteers from member churches of The Canadian Council of Churches working in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism and the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism.

For over 40 years, we have been supporting the WPCU celebrations across Canada through publication of additional resources in English and French, maintaining this website, and sharing stories about local WPCU events and ecumenical communities in Canada.

For more information go to: <https://www.weekofprayer.ca/week-prayer-christian-unity>

St. Paul's August Financial Report



Income Statement as at November 2021

| | | Actual | | Budget 21 |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | Jan - Oct 21 | Jan - Oct 20 | |
| Income | | | | |
| | Interest Income | 105 | 203 | 230 |
| | Offerings | 170,840 | 161,072 | 185,625 |
| | Offerings Special/SS | 0 | 150 | 113 |
| | Other Income | 8,243 | 17,509 | 5,082 |
| Total Income | | 179,188 | 178,934 | 191,050 |
| Expense | | | | |
| | Administration | 20,137 | 19,093 | 22,000 |
| | Apportionment | 27,929 | 15,617 | 27,960 |
| | Christian Education | 434 | 1,179 | 2,000 |
| | Communication | 204 | 738 | 1,837 |
| | General Maintenance | 6,022 | 13,738 | 12,190 |
| | Hospitality/ Fellowship | 128 | 27 | 1,010 |
| | Ministerial | 102,447 | 107,393 | 105,413 |
| | Other | 0 | 71 | 187 |
| | Outreach | 17,083 | 7,024 | 18,568 |
| | Pastoral Care | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| | Utilities/Insurance | 12,970 | 11,567 | 12,740 |
| | Worship | 5,018 | 6,250 | 6,740 |
| Total Expense | | 192,371 | 182,697 | 210,735 |
| Net Income | | -13,183 | -3,763 | -19,685 |

Christian Education Page

Hymn Stories

Submitted by Tosan—Christian Education Coordinator

Learning the circumstances around which hymns have been written enables us to love them more – J. Stratton Shufelt

I have truly enjoyed reading some of the history behind some of my favourite hymns from the book “101 Hymn Stories” by Kenneth W. Osbeck, and I thought to share a few.

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Author – Martin Luther, 1483 -1546

Martin Luther, a 16th-century monk and theologian, was one of the most significant figures in Christian history. His beliefs helped birth the Reformation—which would give rise to Protestantism as the third major force within Christendom, alongside Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy.

One of the important benefits of the Reformation Movement was the rediscovery of congregational singing. Luther had strong convictions about the use and power of sacred music. He expressed his convictions in this way “The Devil, the originator of sorrowful anxieties and restless troubles, flees before the sound of music almost as much as before the Word of God”. Again “I wish to compose sacred hymns so that the Word of God may dwell among the people by means of song”.

This single most powerful hymn of the Protestant Reformation Movement is based on Psalm 46. The hymn became the battle cry of the people, a great source of strength and inspiration and has been translated into practically every known language.

Blessed Assurance

Author – Fanny Jane Crosby, 1820 - 1915

Gospel music as an important form of Christian hymnody had its beginning in the latter half of the nineteenth century. It is estimated that Fanny Crosby wrote more than 8,000 gospel songs in her lifetime. Her hymns have been and are still being sung more frequently than any other gospel hymn writer.

It is truly amazing that anyone, and especially a blind person (Crosby lost her sight to an eye infection and medical ignorance at the age of six weeks), could write on this variety of spiritual truths & experiences with such proliferation.

Often themes for her hymns were suggested by visiting ministers, wishing to have a new song on a particular subject. At other times musician friends would first compose the music and then ask Fanny Crosby for the words. Such was the case for this hymn. The music was composed by Mrs. Phoebe Knapp, an amateur musician. One day Mrs. Knapp played this melody for the blind poetess and asked, “What does

this tune say?” Fanny responded, “Why, that says: Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine.”

Come, Thou Fount

Author – Robert Robinson, 1735 – 1790

At the age of fourteen Robinson was sent by his mother, a widow, to London to learn the barbering trade. There for the next few years he was associated with a notorious gang of hoodlums and lived a debauched life. At the age of seventeen he attended a meeting where George Whitefield was preaching. Robinson and his friends went for the purpose of “scoffing at the poor deluded Methodists.”. However, young Robinson was converted to Christ at that meeting. Several years later he felt called to preach and entered the ministry of the Methodist Church. He later left the Methodist church and became a Baptist pastor. Here he became an able theologian through writing of many theological works as well as several hymns.

This hymn text was written when he was twenty-three years of age. An interesting expression in the second stanza, “Here I raise mine Ebenezer-ither by Thy help I’m come.” Is taken from I Samuel 7:12, where the Ebenezer is a symbol of God’s faithfulness.

Hold the Fort

Author – Philip P. Bliss, 1838 – 1876

This hymn was inspired by an illustration used by Major Whittle, an officer in the American Civil War,

while addressing a YMCA meeting on the text of Revelation 2:25. The illustration was about a small Northern force of soldiers in charge of guarding a great quantity of supplies. They were being hard pressed by greatly superior Confederate forces. Finally, as the Confederate general commander the Federal troops to surrender, the troops saw a signal from their leader on a hill some miles away. The signal said, “Hold the fort, I am coming. Sherman.”

The story so captivated Bliss’s interest that he could not retire that evening until he had completed both the text and the music for the gospel song. At the next day’s YMCA service, Bliss introduced the new hymn and the response was immediate and enthusiastic. Later it became a favorite in the Moody-Sankey campaigns both in Great Britain and in the United States.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Author – Latin Origin from c. 12th century (Translated in English – John M. Neale, 1818 – 1866)

This hymn finds its origin in the medieval Roman Church of the twelfth century and possible even earlier. It began as a series of Antiphons-short statements sung at the beginning of the Psalm or the Magnificat at Vespers during the Advent season. Each of the Antiphons greets the Savior with one of the many titles ascribed to Him in the Scriptures. The hauntingly catchy modal melody for this text was originally Plainsong or Chant, the earliest form of singing in the Church.



During the nineteenth century there were a number of Anglican ministers and scholars, such as John Neale, who developed a keen interest in rediscovering and translating into English many of the Greek, Latin and German hymns. John Neale undoubtedly did more than any other person to make available the rich heritage of Greek and Latin Hymns.

Today most hymnbooks use just five of the original statements addressed to the anticipated Messiah; Emmanuel, Lord of Might (Exodus 19:16), Rod of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1), Day-Spring Luke 1:78, 79) and Thou Key of David (Isaiah 22:22).

This hymn has traditionally been ranked as one of the most popular hymns ever written

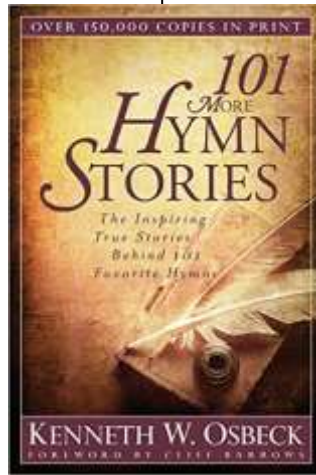
What a Friend We Have In Jesus

Author – Joseph Scriven, 1819 - 1886

This hymn's simply stated truths have brought solace and comfort to countless of God's people since it was first written in 1857. So relevant to the basic spiritual needs of people are these words that many missionaries state that it is one of the first hymns taught to new converts.

At the age of twenty-five, Joseph Scriven left his native country, Ireland and migrated to Canada. From that time, he developed a very different pattern of life. He took the Sermon on the Mount literally. It is said he gave freely of his limited possessions. Because of this manner of life Scriven was respected but was considered to be eccentric by those who knew him.

This hymn was never intended by Scriven for publication. Upon hearing of his mother's serious illness and unable to be with her in far-off Dublin, he wrote a letter of comfort enclosing the words of this text. Some time later when he himself was ill, a friend who came to call on him chanced to see the poem scribbled on scratch paper. The friend asked if Scriven had written the words. Scriven, with typical modesty, replied, "The Lord and I did it between us."



Title: 101 Hymn Stories: The inspiring stories behind 1010 Hymns
Copyright (c) 1982, 2012 by Kenneth W. Orbeck
Published by Kregel Publications. P.O. Box 2607, Grand Rapids, MI 49501
ISBN 978-0-8254-4282-7

The Discovery Series

An educational program for continuing Christian formation
A basic look at our faith, history & beliefs that bring us together as Christians. Laying the groundwork for every individual to find their own path

1. Anglican worship
2. A Journey of Faith
3. A Path to Spiritual Maturity
4. Our Spiritual Gifts
5. The Great Commission

**Discovery 4:
Our Spiritual Gifts**

Date: January 19 & 26
Day: Wednesday
Time: 7:30
Via Zoom



EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

If you'd like to participate, please contact Fergus.



Join this ministry

If you'd like to be part of our St. Paul's Pastoral Care Team, please contact Fergus or Nicola Peden. Training will be provided to anyone interested in this important ministry.

Chemo Care Bag

If you know of anyone who is beginning Chemo-therapy treatment and would benefit from receiving a Chemo Care Bag please contact Gloria Ford.



Prayer Shawl Ministry—

This is a fun ministry where we quilt or knit and share fellowship for an afternoon. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month. No experience needed! Everything is supplied. For more info. contact Laura Anne at the Parish Office.



Next meetings are December 15 & January 19 at 1 pm in-person and via Zoom.



Grief Support Group

Our Grief Support Group is a chance to be with others who have suffered a loss. It is a chance to speak from the heart or just listen. If you are interested, please contact Laura Anne at the Parish Office. If you are interested please contact Laura Anne at the Parish Office.



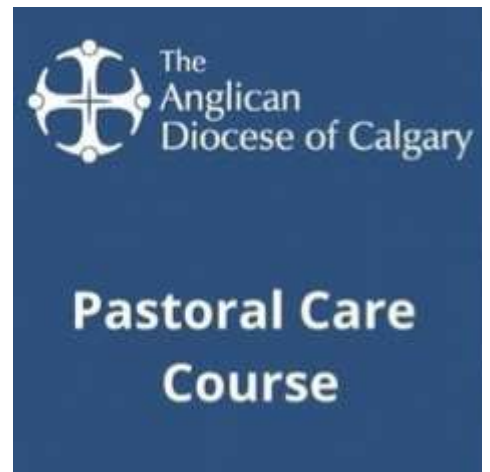
Diocesan Pastoral Care Training

January, 2022

Do you have an interest, calling or are just curious about Pastoral Care? Maybe you want to be better equipped to support your church community, or friends or even your own family. We are all called to care and care deeply, as we are able, with one another. Maybe this is a "brush up" opportunity or time for skill refreshing; this is an invitation to join us.

Perhaps you know of someone in your church community that has taken this course or other pastoral training. Ask them about what they thought, what they learned; how things changed pastorally for them.

The **Zoom course dates are set for Tuesday evenings, January 18 – March 1, 2022.** The time is **6:30 pm – 8:45 pm.** There will be some reading and/or reflecting as preparation for each of the evenings. There might be learning through new information, sharing and skill development. The course needs to have a minimum of 6 people and no more than a maximum of 15 people. Deadline to register is **December 14, 2021 or a full class.** Please register with [Rev. Tracey](#). Questions are also welcome.



St. Paul's Outreach Ministry



Food for Others on Jan. 30/22

When there are five Sundays in a month, that Sunday is **Food for Others Sunday**. The next one is **January 30/22**.

Year-round there is a box by the main entrance to collect donations of non-perishable items for the Calgary Food Bank.



What's the blue bin?

The big blue bin in our parking

lot is a fundraising effort by the Calgary Humane, an animal welfare organization connects the lives of animals and people while providing essential animal services to the community. Gently used clothing and footwear of any kind can be put in the bin for donation.

Small change for big change

Putting some coins (or bills) into the CAWST water filter by the library will support the delivery



of clean drinking water in poor communities. Through our donations, the health of many people in the third world can be greatly improved.

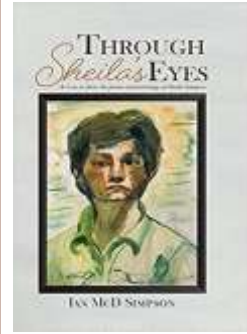
Clothing appreciated

Calgary Alpha House Society gratefully accepts donations of clothing and backpacks to help provide a safe and caring environment for those whose lives are affected by alcohol and other drug dependencies. Top needs include backpacks, , jeans, hoodies, shirts, athletic pants and shorts, pyjama pants, belts, jackets, gently used towels and sleeping bags.

There is a clearly marked Alpha House bin on the



base of a coat rack near the south entrance where you can leave donations.



Something you may like to read, and a way to support PWRDF:

"**Through Sheila's Eyes**" is a book of poems and paintings by Sheila Simpson, compiled by her husband, Ian. Sheila was the PWRDF rep. for her parish in Newfoundland, and also a dear friend of Stephanie Evans. All proceeds from the sale of this book go to PWRDF.

Thank you Emails to the Pregnancy Care Centre: How Our Donations Help

"Thanks to all your help and prayers and follow up. It made me stronger and determined to be the best version of a mother for my life."



"I appreciate everything you've done and are doing for me. I couldn't thank you enough! I just want to grab you and hug you So hard! I'm so thankful for you and your programs!! You're amazing thank you so so so much xo"

email received at 2:50am! "How are you doing? This is me writing in the middle of the night to tell you my baby arrived on the 1st of October! The labor went so smoothly. My midwife was the absolute best!! Thank you so much for the referral. It was an empowering experience. Mama and baby are doing so well. Her name is Alora. Right now, I'm breastfeeding. Lol. #nosleepforme. I hope you have a lovely day!"

From Strathmore: This picture came from one of my busy moms...she sent me an 'SOS.' She is trying so hard to balance parenting and working from home. This little guy does not like being contained ...I love how our clients share and give us insight to 'how things are really going'...in the midst of their struggles and chaos.

"I'm doing pretty well now. I recently got a part time job as a cashier. And we met a few families through our church. Thanks a lot for supporting me through the initial days. It really meant a lot to me. I would also like to donate [my son's] gently used clothes to your centre which could be useful for other families in need...I would like to thank you once again from the bottom of my heart for your valuable support during this journey."

"Being able to get counselling through the Centre has changed my life. I finally feel like I can address some of the big issues that have made my life hard. It feels like I have a chance to bring my baby into a better life and to be the mom I want to be."

The volunteer driver just dropped off the package for me this morning and I just broke down in tears filled with gratitude. My husband and I, thank you/Pregnancy Care so much for the generosity and thoughtfulness. That was a lot of stuff for her to carry and she brought them all up to me, bless her! God bless you all for all you do!

From Airdrie: I met with a client today who finally got her application for housing in (this is a HUGE win). She said to me "I feel like everyone has given up on me, but you guys, you are always there." That made my day!

One of our clients had her baby prematurely and after 6 weeks he is finally coming home from the hospital. Client was here today to pick up a baby essentials - with premie clothing included and here's what she sent in an email: "I wanted to thank you so much for all the things you guys donated to me. The clothes are so nice, and some of them will even fit him right now! I'm so excited to bring him home. You guys made it much easier on me. Mike and I are so grateful."

**To maintain client confidentiality, some names and circumstances have been changed. All quotes are from actual Centre clients.



Prayers



"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."
Isaiah 6:9

WE COME AS WE ARE

Lord, we come as we are that we may be changed by your grace.

We come with our emptiness that we may be filled.
We come with darkness, seeking your light.
We come with our weakness to receive your strength.
We come with our brokenness that you may make us whole,

Lord, we come as we are that we may be changed by your grace.

We come with our lives to be filled with your power.
We come with our worship to praise you forever.
We come with our words and our prayers, which we offer for your glory.

Lord, we come as we are that we may be changed by your grace. AMEN -David Clowes

PRAYER FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA & THE MARITIMES

Compassionate Lord, we pray for those who have been devastated by recent natural disasters. We remember those who have lost their lives so suddenly. We hold in our hearts the families forever changed by grief and loss. Bring them consolation and comfort. Surround them with our prayer for strength. Bless those who have survived and heal their memories of trauma and devastation. May they have the courage to face the long road of rebuilding ahead.

We ask your blessing on all those who have lost their homes, their livelihoods, their security and their hope. Bless the work of relief agencies and those providing emergency assistance. May their work be guided by the grace and strength that comes from You alone.

Help us to respond with generosity in prayer, in assistance, in aid to the best of our abilities. Keep our hearts focused on the needs of those affected, even after the crisis is over. We ask this in Jesus' name. - AMEN -
-jesuitresource.org

WORDS FOR ALL WHO ARE IN NEED OF ENCOURAGEMENT

"We have this hope (God's promise) as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."
Hebrews 6:19

GOD CARES

God cares when the trials of life overwhelm you and threaten to drown you in sadness and woe. God cares when life's very foundations are shaking, when deep waters of trouble would fain overflow.

God cares and remembers 'mid daily frustrations when the enemy whispers just what is the use?

God cares whenever your heart is nigh breaking and for doubting in Him there seems lots of excuse.

God cares in life's race when you think you are losing, understands when life's doors seem to shut in your face; he's prom-

ised His love will remain with you always, turn tears about face with a smile in their place.
God cares when the road seems rough and uncertain, understands when life's burdens grow heavy and grim.
He bids you look upward when hope has deserted,
He bids you stop doubting, find anchor in Him.
Source: AFP Newsletter/Prayer Corner

SOLACE

Lord Jesus we lift up to you all those who are in need of your comfort, your healing in body, mind or spirit and your Peace that passes all understanding. Let them feel your loving presence in a tangible way as you strengthen, protect and support them through the storms of life and the aftermaths of those storms. Let them always place their trust in you for you are ever faithful to your promise "I am with you always." Thank you Jesus. AMEN (D.B. 2016)

SEASONAL PRAYERS

"Come , O Come, Emmanuel"

"He has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth." EPHESIANS 1:9-10

AN ADVENT PRAYER

Come, Lord Jesus. Come into Our Hearts

Lord Jesus Christ,

Thou Son of the Most High, Prince of Peace, be born again into our world. Wherever there is war in this world, wherever there is pain, wherever there is loneliness, wherever there is no hope, come, thou long-expected one, with healing in thy wings.

Holy Child, whom the shepherds and the kings and the dumb beasts adored, be born again. Wherever there is boredom, wherever there is fear of failure, wherever there is temptation too strong to resist, wherever there is bitterness of heart, come thou blessed one, with healing in thy wings.

Saviour, be born in each of us who raises his face to thy face, not knowing fully who he is or who thou art, knowing only that thy love is beyond his knowing and that no other has the power to make him whole.
Come, Lord Jesus, to each who longs for thee even though he has forgotten thy name. Come quickly! AMEN -Frederick Buechner



SOME ADVENT SCRIPTURES

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

-Is. 2:3

And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

-Is. 35:10

PRAYERS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come and see what the Lord has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Psalm 46 NIV

A HUMBLE PRAYER FOR GOD'S POWER DURING THIS PANDEMIC

The times we're in right now feel so uncertain. We're battling fear and worry at every turn. We don't know what the future holds, but we believe you're holding us and won't let go. We're desperate to feel your presence surrounding us. We humble ourselves before you, aware of our need for you and believing in your great power. Thank you that no matter what we face, we know you are still greater. We praise you for your truth and are so grateful you've set us free from the clutching grasp of sin and death. Forgive us God, for the times we've missed the mark. Help us to live strong and walk wisely, filled by the power of your Spirit within us. Amen

--Debbie McDaniel

"And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."
And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." --Minnie Haskins

Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. -Is. 7:14

WORLD AIDS DAY-DECEMBER 1ST

Lord Jesus, you reached out to touch the leper and the outcast; reach out in love to those with HIV and AIDS, and those who love them. Give courage to their doctors, nurses, family and friends, so that their touch may be a channel for your healing and strengthening grace. Lord Jesus, you were brought to the cross by hostility and prejudice: open our eyes to the challenge of HIV and AIDS.

Make us ready to learn before we speak; may our words dispel hatred and build up compassion; and may we serve your spirit of truth and your kingdom of goodness. AMEN -Newcastle Churches Aids Awareness

ST. NICHOLAS. DECEMBER 6

Eternal God, in your great love you gave to your servant Nicholas a perpetual name for deeds of kindness on land and sea.

Grant that your Church may never cease to work for the happiness of children, the safety of sailors, the relief of the poor and the help of those who are tossed by tempests of doubt or grief;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. AMEN
-Collect from "For All The Saints"

CHRISTMAS

Glory to God in the highest! And on earth peace, good will towards all Luke 2:14

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

IS. 9:6

Blessed be God who in his love stooped to redeem mankind.

Blessed be the king who made himself poor to enrich the needy.

Blessed be the Holy Child who was born of the Virgin Mary. Blessed be the eternal Word who was made flesh for us. Blessed be Jesus, our Saviour and Lord, now and for evermore. AMEN

CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT

O God, who made this most hallowed night resplendent with the glory of the true Light; grant that we who have known the mysteries of that Light on earth, may enter into the fullness of his joy in heaven. AMEN

-Ancient Western Rite, Christmas Midnight

CHRISTMAS MORNING

Jesus, Son of God,
Now that we have heard the angels sing, may we not lose our sense of the joy of heaven;
Now that we have been with the shepherds to Bethlehem, make us witnesses of the wonder of the love we have seen. Fill us with the quiet joy of Mary, so that we, too, may keep all these things and ponder them in our hearts. AMEN

-Angela

Ashwin

God who became as we are,
may we become as you are. AMEN

-after William Blake

A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May the humility of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the joy of the angels,
and the peace of the Christ-child
be God's gift to us and to people everywhere
this Christmas time.

And may the blessing of the Christ-child
be upon us always. AMEN

-The Promise of His Glory



ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR DEC.26

Fill us, O God, with your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth and Charity, so that like St. Stephen, the first martyr, we may contend earnestly and fearlessly for the faith of the gospel and pray with hearts of love for those that ill-use us. AMEN (adapted)

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST DEC.27

Almighty God, you have revealed to us the mystery of the Word made flesh through the Apostle John. Keep us steadfast in the faith that the Son of God has come; that believing in him we may have life through his name. AMEN (adapted)

HOLY INNOCENTS DEC.28

We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the holy innocents of Bethlehem by King Herod. Receive, we pray, into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims; and by your great might frustrate all evil designs, and establish your rule of justice, love and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN (adapted)

NEW YEAR

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Says the Lord. (Isaiah 43:19)

O Lord, as the years change, may we find rest in your eternal changelessness. Help us to meet this new year bravely, in the faith that, while life changes all around us, you are always the same, guiding us with your wisdom and protecting us with your love; through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. AMEN

(source unknown)

For all the possibilities ahead
in this new year,
Make us thankful, O Lord.
Give us wisdom,
courage and discernment
In the face of so much chaos,
despair and fear.

Help us to see how, in our circumstances,
We can contribute towards peace,
faith and love

And give us the will to translate
our desires into actions.

AMEN
-Brother John Charles, SSF

THE NAMING OF JESUS JAN.1

We praise you, heavenly Father, that you gave your incarnate Son the name of Jesus, for it is the name of our salvation. May it be to us, and to all your people, the name that is above every name, the name to be honoured, trusted and adored, now and forever more.

-Frank Colquhoun

EPIPHANY JAN.6

Jesus,
We offer you the gold of our desire to love,
even though our hearts are often cold.
We offer you the incense of our longing to pray,
although our spirits can be lukewarm.
We offer you the myrrh of our frustrations and troubles,
even when self-pity and bitterness creep in.
Receive and make good our gifts
out of your great love for us,
and grant that we, like the wise men,

may find some kneeling space at Bethlehem. AMEN
-Angela Ashwin

Almighty God, who by the light of a star led wise men to Jesus:
by the light of your Word lead us, and all nations to him, the Saviour of the world;
that together we may bring him our best gifts,
and pay homage to him as our King. AMEN

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD JAN.9

Almighty God, who proclaimed Jesus to be your beloved Son when the Holy Spirit came down on him at his baptism in the Jordan ,grant that we who have been baptized in his name may rejoice in being your children and servants of all., through Christ our Lord. AMEN

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

(Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins Jan. 18)

We pray, O Lord, for the Church which is one in the greatness of your love, but divided by the littleness of our own. May we be less occupied with the things that divide us, and more with those we hold in common, and the love that enfolds us all. AMEN

-USPG" Network" Winter/78

THE CONFESSION OF ST. PETER JAN. 18

God of grace, your church is built on Peter's faith;
Grant that we, like him, forgiven and restored,
may overcome our weaknesses and serve you without wavering, now and forever. AMEN
-A New Zealand

Prayer Book

CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL JAN. 25

Convert us, Jesus the persecuted, as you converted Paul and sent him as apostle to the world. May our love, our prayers, our suffering carry your gospel at whatever cost to all who wait to hear it. AMEN
-A New Zealand

Prayer Book

PRAYERS FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING OF

PARISHIONERS

Lord, as we approach the full second year of Covid-19, we thank you once more that you have walked with us through the pandemic, that you have kept your promise that you will never leave us or forsake us and that you have provided ways for us to carry on the mission to which you have called us. And, in this New year of 2022, we face the great unknown of the future with faith and trust in your unfailing love. Thank you Jesus. AMEN
-DB

(-a period of silence is needed after offering the following prayer:)

Go deep, Lord,
to the point beneath our thinking, discussing and planning,
so that, in the stillness beneath all words
we may open our hearts to you,
and be soaked in your love,
from which all wisdom springs.
Go deep, Lord,
as we remain quiet before you,
and offer our gathering to you. AMEN
-Angela Ashwin



Almighty God, we come together in the service of your Church to remember with thanksgiving all that you have been able to do through us in this parish during the past year, and to seek your guidance in all decisions that will be made on this day.

We pray that this may be something much more than just a business meeting, but rather an occasion when we receive fresh encouragement in our work, catch a wider vision of your purpose and rededicate ourselves to your service.

We ask this in the name of him who came to this world not to be served but to serve, and gave his life as a ransom for many, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

-Michael Botting

ST. PAUL'S PARISH PRAYER

Our God of infinite grace, we give you thanks and praise for calling our congregation into being, and then continuing in loving relationship with us, in great faithfulness over the years, to bless, transform, and guide.

At St. Paul's, you have given us a mission that will never change with time, to live out your love as revealed in Jesus Christ. It is your will that, with your help, we shall discover your Presence in Word and Sacrament; deepen our sense of Christian community; share your Word; nurture your people; encourage congregational and personal growth on our shared journey; act on your call for peace and justice; and

build the foundation for tomorrow's Church.

Help us to respond to your love by dedicating ourselves with joy as a Parish family to this mission. Pour out your Spirit upon us, and work mightily in our midst to bring about its accomplishment. Fulfill your vision of opening hearts and minds to your grace, in us, and through us, now and for evermore. This we ask for the glory and in the Name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

A BLESSING

Let us go in peace. Let us love and care for one another in the name of Jesus:

-may he who is our Lord and King bless us with hearts of reverent and joyful obedience;

-may God our Father bless us with minds that know his truth and his glory;

-may the Holy Spirit guide and lead us on the way with power and love and wisdom,

till at last we experience the wonder of the inheritance that has been prepared for us in the heavenly places –

Amen

R. Fairchild (adapted)



Sweet Symbol

- | A significant symbol of Christmas
- | Is the simple candy cane.
- | It's shape is the crook of the shepherd
- | One of the first who came.

- | The lively peppermint flavor is
- | The regal gift of spice.
- | The white is Jesus' purity.
- | The red is sacrifice.

- | The narrow stripes are friendship.
- | And the nearness of his love.
- | Eternal, sweet compassion
- | A gift from God above.

- | The candy cane reminds us all
- | of how much God cared.
- | And like His Christmas gift to use
- | It's meant to be broken and shared.



Author Unknown

What's Happening to Keep Us Connected

Prayer Group Ministry: Members of this ministry lift up prayer requests given to the Prayer Group in their daily prayers, and are now gathering together on the 3rd Mondays of the month via Zoom. The next Zoom Meeting is 7:30 p.m. on May 17. If you have a prayer request, or would like to join this vital ministry, please contact Dinah at breu.dinah@gmail.com, or Fergus.



Caring Contact Ministry: Helpers in our Caring Contact Ministry contact the households on their lists once a month, and share any pastoral concerns with Fergus. If you'd like to join this Ministry, please let Fergus or Betty Nadurak know.

Children's Time Ministry: *We're beginning to record 5 min. Children's Time messages (stories or songs) to show to bless the children watching our Sunday Services. If you have a heart for Jesus and for children, and would like to be part of this Ministry, please contact Fergus. Look to the next of these new Children's Time recordings on May 9.*

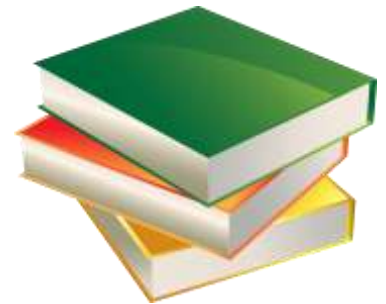


Pick-up Ministry: Thank you to the 4 households who have volunteered to pick up groceries or prescriptions for those who can't get out. If anyone else would like to join this Ministry, please contact the Office at 403-256-1428; office@stpaulscalgary.ca.

Pastoral Visits: Fergus is available for regular visits via phone or email. He will also continue to respond to all pastoral emergencies.

Library

We have a small library located at the south door. We welcome anyone to check out books. If anyone is interested in helping with the library please contact Doreen or Kerry. If you would like to borrow a book (as you may have more time at home right now), please contact the office at 403-256-1428, or office@stpaulscalgary.ca. Fergus or Laura Anne can put books in the church mailbox, using gloves. None of the Book Nook books have been touched since Mar. 7.



Book Nook

Fergus also has a lending library just outside his office. If you'd like to see if there's anything from it you would like to read, please contact Fergus in August. Everything said about borrowing Church Library books at this time applies here, too.

Offerings



Offerings: Thank you for continuing to give your Offering when so many of us are unable to be physically present together. It's critical to helping us fulfill our Mission. Here are ways we can do this. We can donate via our website (<https://www.stpaulscalgary.ca/donate>). This is completely secure, with the highest level of PCI compliance. We can also mail our Offering (perhaps post-dated cheques) via regular post; drop it off in the Office mailbox (phoning 1st); arrange for it to be picked up from our mailboxes; or set up direct depositing (for the form, go to our website, type "Donation" in the search box, and click on "Pre Authorized Donations"). We can also now use e-transfers. Please use the email gift@stpaulscalgary.ca. No password is needed; to help our Envelope Secretary, please included your envelope number in the "message" spot.





MORE THAN ENOUGH

Advent: I am Enough, and Together We are More than Enough

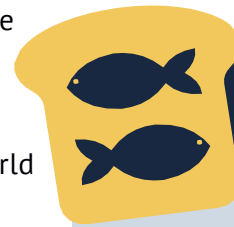
Just as much as the season reminds us to be vigilant to the subtle signs of Christ's light as we once again anticipate and revel in the remarkability of Christ's birth and his return in the Second Coming, Advent is also about preparation for impactful giving – giving back to ourselves as well as to our communities. It's about recognizing where there is potential for energy renewal and restoration in our lives, in a world where we are often asked to operate on overdrive. Renewal and sustainability go hand in hand; to use our giving-energy sustainably means employing our awareness to our fullness as individuals first. In doing so, we can identify our actual capacities to give.

The theme for this year is more than enough. It is difficult in today's world to look for evidence of renewal and rebirth among very real threats of scarcity, depletion, and other forms of not enough-ness. For many of us, it can be especially hard to find enough-ness within our own bodies. The Advent season provides a context for this search because even in the darkest of hours, hopefulness for the future can be cultivated and energized anew when we pay close attention to our needs and the needs of our community.

We are all exhausted and overwhelmed by this year's own set of yet more unprecedented circumstances. But I am constantly and lovingly reminded by one of my dearest friends that our boundaries are bountiful. To give more than what we have, to exist in of a state of depletion, does not yield a sense of more than enough. The miracle, however, is that if each of us can identify and act upon the bounds and limitations of how much we can give, we can show up better for ourselves and those around us, authentically and less harmfully. If we give from a place of our embodied fullness, we are honoring our full humanity. We can then sustainably grow our capacity to give back to ourselves, as well as our communities and the land that we occupy.

This is what sustainable stewardship means to me: Giving from a place of our personal definition of plenty. Whatever that plentifulness may look like from person to person, is bountiful. And in this way, together we can be more than enough to do the collective healing work that needs to be done. |

Elise Mills, TENS' Staff Writer, is a recent graduate, writer, and musician from San Francisco. She looks forward to taking afternoon naps with her cat. She is a member at Holy Innocents' San Francisco.



Questions For Reflection:

This Advent season is a beautiful time to turn our attention inwards and renew our commitments to tangible, impactful giving. What spiritual preparations and mindsets are necessary for you to practice sustainable giving and receiving, even beyond this season? What values and boundaries will you lovingly recommit to as you prepare for the year ahead?





MORE THAN ENOUGH

As we enter this Advent season we will be changing our Stewardship theme. Below the new theme is explained.

As we emerge from this period of disruption and isolation in our congregations, we have felt the pain and frustration of distance, of diminished resources, and of our ability to connect in the ways to which we are accustomed. However, as we take inventory of our spiritual resources, the strength of our community, and our capacity for generosity, we realize that there is now, and always has been, More Than Enough.

Theological Statement

When Elijah meets the widow of Zarephath, as the story is told to us in First Kings, he asks to be fed from the very last of her stores. She explains to him that she's gathering wood for the fire she'll make to cook the last meal she expects to eat before she and her son die of starvation. Still, he asks her to make him some bread.

Even though Elijah promises that she won't run out of flour and oil, how can she know this is true? The first miracle of the story is that she shares the very last that she has with this entitled man who is asking for food and drink. In my opinion it overshadows the other miracles that follow – the never-empty jugs of oil and flour – because for the first miracle to be effective, the widow must first make the most daring risk.

I see this miracle replayed often in the Church. When faced with diminished resources, I have witnessed congregations get creative, roll up their sleeves, and find ways to engage their mission. In situations where old models were failing to attract new energy, I have seen members volunteer their ideas, their wisdom, to help a congregation move beyond its capacity. I have seen vestries take risks in order to extend more services, more ministry in their communities, even if the path to staffing or funding it wasn't immediately clear.

In every one of these circumstances, miracles were present, because in every one of these circumstances there was more than enough. More than enough people to do the work, more than enough money to cover the costs, more than enough creativity to carry the project forward. Even when we feel depleted, there is more than enough.

Maybe the recent pandemic has made you wonder if your congregation will be able to continue, able to provide ministry and pay the bills. Maybe you have had to make serious adjustments in your own household budget or your plans. Our stewardship of our personal and collective resources reminds us of the abundance around us. There will be more than enough because our faith will unlock the generosity of others. Expect miracles.



THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP



MIDWEEK IN-PERSON SERVICES and VIDEO PRAYER SERVICES

In-Person midweek services of Holy Eucharist on the first, third and fifth Wednesdays of the month at 9:30 am

The video prayer services will be posted on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month on Facebook & YouTube.—the next on Dec. 2nd . You can watch them by clicking [here](#).

RESERVED SACRAMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE!



Pick up time: Monday to Friday 9 am to noon

Reserved Sacrament consecrated wafers with drops of wine are available for pickup just inside the main entrance. For safety, they are in individual cups, in sealed plastic baggies.

Everyone is encouraged to hold on to the wafers until the following Sunday Service, and partake when it is Communion time.

Bible Verses About Giving

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver
2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35 ESV

Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38 ESV

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed. Proverbs 19:17 ESV

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16 ESV
The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.
2 Corinthians 9:6 ESV

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.
1 Timothy 6:17-19 ESV

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
Matthew 6:1-4 ESV

And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."
Mark 12:41-44 ESV



Notice of Annual Meeting of Parishioners

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Parishioners of St. Paul's Parish will be held on Sunday, the 30th day of January A.D. 2022, at 11:30 in the after-noon by ZOOM. DATED at St. Paul's this 6th day of December A.D. 2020.

ANNUAL OF MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

**ST. PAUL'S PARISH HALL
IN-PERSON & BY ZOOM*
JAN. 31 AT 11:30 A.M.**

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS IS A TIME TO GATHER AS A PARISH FAMILY TO CELEBRATE WHAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN 2021 AND TO LOOK FORWARD TO 2022 AND ALL THE POSSIBILITIES. THE MEETING BEGINS PROMPTLY AT **11:30 AM.**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

*In-person depends on COVID-19 restrictions at this time

St. Paul's Parish Prayer

"Opening hearts and Minds to God's Grace"

Our God of infinite grace, we give you thanks and praise for calling our congregation into being, and then continuing in loving relationship with us, in great faithfulness over the years, to bless, transform, and guide.

At St. Paul's, you have given us a mission that will never change with time, to live out your love as revealed in Jesus Christ. It is your will that, with your help, we shall discover your Presence in Word and Sacrament; deepen our sense of Christian community; share your Word; nurture your people; encourage congregational and personal growth on our shared journey; act on your call for peace and justice; and build the foundation for tomorrow's Church.

Help us to respond to your love by dedicating ourselves with joy as a Parish family to this mission. Pour out your Spirit upon us, and work mightily in our midst to bring about its accomplishment. Fulfill your vision of opening hearts and minds to your grace, in us, and through us, now and for evermore. This we ask for the glory and in the Name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN



Ministry Reports for Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP):

All ministry leaders are asked to submit a year-end report for the AMP on January 30. **Please have reports in by January 10th.**

I know most Ministries don't have a lot to report but a short note would be good.

Following is a list of ministries who need to provide reports. Altar Guild, Card Ministry, Casserole Ministry, Prayer Chain, Prayer Group and Prayer Team, Readers, Moveable Feast, Secret Friends, Counters, Servers, Father Lacombe Nursing Home, Sidespeople, Stewardship, Greeters, Sound people, Ladies Luncheon, Sunday School, Men's Breakfast, Nursery, Worship Folders and Bulletins, Youth Group, Music Ministry: Music Group, Newcomers, Community Connection.

Committee Reports: Christian Education, Pastoral Care, Envelope Secretary, Maintenance, Worship Committee, Outreach Committee, Hospitality, Communication.

The reports will be available a week before the AMP on Sunday, January 23.

Recipe for a Happy New Year

Take twelve whole months

Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy

Make them just as fresh and clean as possible

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty, or thirty-one different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once.

Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients:

Mix well into each day:

one part of faith,
one part of patience,
one part of courage,
one part of work.

Add to each day:

one part of hope,
faithfulness,
generosity,
kindness.

Blend with:

one part prayer,
one part meditation,
one good deed.

Season the whole with a dash of good spirit, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cup full of good humour.

Pour all this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness.

Your bound to have a happy New Year!

Author Unknown



The Naming of Jesus - 1 January

According to Saint Luke, Jesus was circumcised on the eighth day after his birth, as the Law of Moses required. This is an event of tremendous religious importance for Jews. Circumcision entitles the newborn male to share in "the promise of mercy" which God "made to Abraham and his children for ever." For this reason, Jewish custom sees it as the most suitable occasion for giving the child his name and thus a distinct presence in the community of God's people.

Luke the evangelist made nothing of these Jewish beliefs in his account. He mentioned the circumcision of Jesus for one reason only: it fulfilled the last word of the Annunciation, when the angel told the Virgin Mary that the son she would bear should be named Jesus. Therefore, instead of commemorating the Circumcision of Christ, the Church observes the Gospel's emphasis and celebrates January first — the eighth day after Christmas Day — as the Naming of Jesus.

Jesus is the Greek form of a Hebrew name, Yeshu' (or Joshua), meaning "Yahweh saves." And that fact has immense significance for the Church.

According to the Book of Exodus, God spoke to Moses out of the burning bush and called him to bring the Hebrew people out of Egypt. Moses asked the divine voice, "What is your name?" And God answered with the word "Yahweh," which means "I am who I am." Because this name was laden with all the holiness of the Almighty, the people of Israel developed the custom of never speaking it; whenever they met it in the text of Scripture, they spoke the Hebrew word for "Lord" instead.

But when Mary gave birth to her child, "I am who I am" entered human life as "I am the One who saves." God's name became speakable for humans, because all the saving power of the Almighty was embodied in "the name of Jesus." To take this name upon our lips — and still more, to manifest this name in our lives — is to become what Jesus is, human life in intimate communion with God.

From: 'For All the Saints' compiled by Stephen Reynolds Copyright © 2007, General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada



Luca Signorelli's c.
1491 *Circumcision of Christ*

The Season of Epiphany

Dennis Bratcher

In western Christian tradition, **January 6** is celebrated as **Epiphany**. It goes by other names in various church traditions. In Hispanic and Latin culture, as well as some places in Europe, it is known as **Three Kings' Day** (Span: *el Día de los Tres Reyes, la Fiesta de Reyes, or el Día de los Reyes Magos*; Dutch: *Driekoningendag*). Because of differences in church calendars, mainly between the Eastern Orthodox and the western Catholic and Protestant traditions, both Christmas and Epiphany have been observed at different times in the past. Today, most of the Eastern Orthodox traditions follow the western church calendar. The exceptions are some Greek Orthodox Churches and related traditions (for example, Russian and Serbian Orthodox) that still follow the older calendar and celebrate Epiphany as the Theophany on January 19th.

Epiphany is the climax of the Advent/Christmas Season and the **Twelve Days of Christmas**, which are usually counted from the evening of December 25th until the morning of January 6th, which is the Twelfth Day. In following this older custom of counting the days beginning at sundown, the evening of January 5th is the **Twelfth Night**. This is an occasion for feasting in some cultures, including the baking of a special **King's Cake** as part of the festivities of Epiphany (a King's Cake is part of the observance of **Mardi Gras** in French Catholic culture of the Southern USA).

In some church traditions, only the full days are counted so that January 5th is the Eleventh Day of Christmas, January 6th is the Twelfth Day, and the evening of January 6th is counted as the Twelfth Night.

In traditional Christian churches **Christmas**, as well as **Easter**, is celebrated as a period of time, a season of the church year, rather than just a day. The Season of the Church Year associated with Christmas actually begins with the first Sunday of **Advent**, four Sundays before Christmas Day. Advent is marked by expectation and anticipation in preparing to celebrate the coming of Jesus. **Christmas** begins with Christmas Day December 25 and lasts for **Twelve Days** until **Epiphany**, January 6, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The one or two Sundays between Christmas Day and Epiphany are sometimes called **Christmastide**.

For many Protestant church traditions, the season of Epiphany extends from January 6th until **Ash Wednesday**, which begins the season of **Lent** leading to **Easter**. Depending on the timing of Easter, this longer period of Epiphany includes from four to nine Sundays. Other traditions, especially the Roman Catholic tradition, observe Epiphany as a single day, with the Sundays following Epiphany counted as **Ordinary Time**. In some western traditions, the last Sunday of Epiphany is celebrated as Transfiguration Sunday.

The term *epiphany* means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." In Western churches, it remembers the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King. In some Central and South American countries influenced by Catholic tradition, Three Kings' Day, or the night before, is the time for opening Christmas presents. In some eastern churches, Epiphany or the Theophany commemorates Jesus' baptism, with the visit of the Magi linked to Christmas. In some churches the day is celebrated as Christmas, with Epiphany/Theophany occurring on January 19th.

Symbols of Epiphany

The colors of Epiphany are usually the colors of Christmas, white and gold, the colors of celebration, newness, and hope that mark the most sacred days of the church year. In

traditions that only observe a single day for Epiphany, the colors are often changed after Epiphany to the colors of **Ordinary Time**, usually green or thematic sanctuary colors, until Transfiguration Sunday, the last Sunday before the beginning of Lent. The colors for Transfiguration Sunday are usually the colors of Holy Days, white and gold.

The traditional liturgical symbols of Epiphany are usually associated with the

Magi. The symbols include either three crowns or a single crown, various portrayals of the Magi or Wise Men, three gifts, a five pointed star, or a combination of a star and crown. A more modern symbol of Epiphany is a globe or a stylized portrayal of the world.

Around January 6, the symbol **+C+M+B+** with two numbers before and two numbers after (for example, **20+C+M+B+14**) is sometimes seen written in chalk above the doorway of Christian homes. The letters are the initials of the traditional names of the Three Magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. These letters also abbreviate the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The beginning and ending numbers are the year, 2014 in the example above. The crosses represent Christ.

Marking the lintels of doorways is an old European practice that originally had overtones of magic (protection of the house). However, the symbols are now used throughout the world and usually represent a traditional Epiphany prayer and blessing.

A Blessing for the Marking of Doorways

Leader: *Peace be with this house and with all who live here.*

Response (All): *And peace be with all who enter here.*

Leader: *During these days of the Christmas season, we keep this Feast of Epiphany, celebrating the manifestation of Christ*



to the Magi, and thereby to the whole world. Today, Christ is manifest to us! Today this home is a holy place because of the presence of Christ here.

Leader: Listen to the Gospel according to Matthew.

2:1 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2:2 asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." 2:3 When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; 2:4 and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. 2:5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 2:6 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

2:7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. 2:8 Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." 2:9 When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. 2:10 When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. 2:11 On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 2:12 And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord to you.

Response (All): Thanks be to God!

Leader: O God, Lord of all that exists, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill each of us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Response (All): Amen

Significance of Epiphany in the Church

As with most aspects of the Christian liturgical calendar, Epiphany has theological significance as a teaching tool in the church. The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the child Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32), was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few.

The day is now observed as a time of focusing on the mission of the church in reaching others by "showing" Jesus as the Savior of all people. It is also a time of focusing on Christian community and fellowship, especially in healing the divisions of prejudice and bigotry that we all too often create between God's children.

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DIOCESAN EVENTS



St. Edmund's Food Bank Appeal

We are once again appealing for help with stocking our Food Bank shelves. We currently find that we are running short on canned goods – especially canned meats (tuna, salmon, ham, etc), vegetables, soups, beans, etc. as well as cereals, snack foods for kids, and jams. The Food Bank is open **Monday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30** for dropping off donations, or you can call Marilyn (our Food Bank Coordinator) at **403-288-6330** to arrange a time for drop-off outside of those hours (please leave a message and she will call you back). If you would like more information about our Food Bank and how you can help, please [email](#) us. Thank you for your support!



Rosary Gathering via Zoom

Fr. Jerrod McCormack will be offering the Rosary Gathering via Zoom on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. This is open to all who wish to participate. For the Zoom link or more information, please email Fr Jerrod.

For Such A Time As This

free_eBook available

Many are fearful and anxious about their future as the pandemic lingers.

A free eBook created by St. Luke, Calgary continues to circulate, bringing encouragement and Good News to more than 1,000 readers. To download and share, please click [here](#).



Missional Minute from November 17 Diocesan Newsletter

Like many people this week, my attention was drawn to the flooding happening in BC. I watched the videos from flyovers of broken highway and rail line sections. I saw the photos of lakes where there used to be cities. I read harrowing tales from drivers, evacuation alerts from media sources and Twitter feed posts from frightened, astonished, and displaced persons, as well as the ever-present doom sayers.



Photo via BC Transportation and Infrastructure/Facebook

And in the midst of these troubling times, there are sparks of hope: a restaurant owner offering free pizza to stranded drivers; the diner owner who opened his doors, allowing people camping in the parking lot to have a warm, dry place to sleep; the closed summer camps that opened to feed and house wayfarers. Watching, I wondered, what can I do? How can I help? First, I can offer encouragement and a listening ear to those of my friends and family in BC. Several are not anywhere near the lower mainland, but they are affected by supply lines to their grocery stores this week. They need to hear that others are concerned and willing to listen. As well, as one is able, now is the time to send funds to verified online or local church organizations who are on the scene and likely in need of financial resources.

And we can pray. We know our God is in control. He is there with each person, literally in the storm. He is bigger than the rising waters. We can turn to Him in our worry and fear, knowing He is the author of peace and courage and strength and hope. In the midst of the devastation, and the relief and rebuilding that will need to occur, He is there. This is an opportunity to see His power at work, if we choose to look for it.

Eternal God, we ask at this time for Your presence to be with the people of southern BC. Bring them relief and aid, comfort those who are fearful, give peace to those displaced, strengthen those who have lost so much. We ask for Your Spirit to be with the leaders, the emergency workers, and all those working to rescue and restore. We hold each one up to you. Make haste to help them. Amen.

Missional Minute from December 2 Diocesan Newsletter

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 forever. Amen.

- Seasonal Collect, BCP

What is Jesse Tree?

Jesse Tree is a way of preparing for Advent by journeying through the stories on Jesus's family tree. Each day of Advent, read a Bible story about someone on Jesus's family tree and hang an ornament symbolizing the story on your Jesse Tree. As you decorate your tree, you'll see how God prepared for Jesus to be born through many generations.



Where does Jesse Tree come from?

The Jesse Tree tradition is rooted in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of David, Israel's greatest king. And Jesus is descended from the line of David. He is the branch God promised would grow from Jesse's family tree. Each symbol represents a story from within this family tree and a step toward the birth of Jesus.

To get a free Jesse Tree toolkit please go to this website: <https://www.faithward.org/jesse-tree/>

Helpful Information

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9 am to noon.

Sunday Services: 9:30 am Live Streamed on Facebook or after 11:30 on our website under the Sermon tab

Wednesday In –Person Services: 9:30 am 1st, 3rd and 5th Wed. Postponed for October

Thursday Video Prayer services: posted on Facebook and YouTube on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month. You can watch them by clicking [here](#).



Useful Websites and other Social Media Platforms:

St. Paul's Website:

<https://www.stpaulscalgary.ca>

Instagram: [stpaulsanglican Calgary!](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulsanglican Calgary/)

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulscalgary>

Twitter:

@stpaulscalgary

@Pastor_Fergus

YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCldxfHv5pFYST--j8as1GVg>

Toddlers to Tweens Group Facebook:

toddlerstotweens

Youth Group's Facebook:

StPaulsCalgaryYouth

St. Paul's Alpha Facebook:

stpaulscalgaryalpha

MCES: <http://www.historicstpaulsanglicanchurch.ca>

Facebook historicstpaulschurch

Pastor's Postings Blog:

<https://pastorfergus.wordpress.com>

Diocese of Calgary:

<https://www.calgary.anglican.ca>

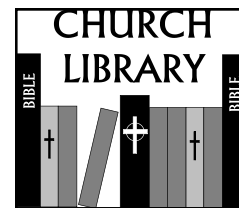
Diocesan Facebook calgary.anglican

Canadian National Church: <https://www.anglican.ca>

PWRDF—www.pwrdf.org



The Library is open and there for your use. Please have a look at what is available. When you take a book out, please fill out the card in the back of the book and leave it in the file. When you return the book leave it in the marked box.



St. Paul's is a Scent-Free Parish



A reminder that we try to be scent-free out of love and respect for those whose health is threatened by fragrances. May we ask your cooperation in avoiding wearing to church, perfumes and after-shave, perfumed hairsprays, etc.

Information you may find helpful:



Large Print Order Of Service: We have large print copies of the service and hymn book available. Please ask the sides people.

Hearing Devices: If you have trouble hearing the service, we have hearing devices that can help. Please ask the sides people for assistance.

Welcome Booklets: If you would like to know more about St. Paul's and our ministries, please help your self to a booklet. You will find them by the name tags.

Business Cards: St. Paul's Business Cards with service times are available. They are designed to carry in your wallet to give to people who ask about St. Paul's. This is a form of Outreach to the community.

Can Tabs

Those little tabs from your drink cans can do some good. Rick and Robbie Collier seasonally attend St Mark's in Mesa. That parish collects the tabs as a fundraiser, so please



Advent 2021

Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre

COME AWAY TO PREPARE YOUR HEART

Advent is... *It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.*
Pope Benedict XVI

Advent is a time for us to review our journey, renew our vision and return to the message of love and hope woven in our heart. At Mount St. Francis Retreat Centre, we provide space for you to come and be, for prayer, for peace and for healing during this season.

We invite you to register for any of these Advent Retreats by contacting Deb at 403-932-2012 Mon.-Fri., 9 am – 4:30 pm.

Advent Twilight – “Prepare Your Heart” Tuesday, November 30 \$30

Registration at 6:00 pm Supper at 6:30 pm

A delicious homecooked supper followed by a guided reflection to help you enter into the season of Advent, time for quiet and moments of shared prayer to close off the evening. Consider gifting this Twilight Retreat to a friend or family member.



Advent Retreat – “Prophets, Mystics & Storytellers” December 3-5 \$195

with Pastor Matt and Br. Michael

God is the great storyteller; history has proved this and our place in history continues to show how God is still writing the message of Good News for all people. The Advent Season is filled with great stories and great people from scripture. It also invokes in us our stories and often brings to mind the people who we have journeyed with and those we share the journey with now. Prophets, Mystics and Storytellers all have defining roles during the Advent Season. They call to us, they encourage us, they help us find words for our story in this season and in all the seasons of our life. Our life is story entwined with the life of Christ. This will retreat will give you the space to explore your story and the hope which the remaining days of the Advent Season can be filled with for you.

Register with Linda and Russ Nicol 403-932-1804 lindamnicol50@gmail.com

Winter Stillness Retreat Friday, December 10 – Sunday, December 12 \$195

A quiet weekend entering into Advent silence. Come and rest. Delicious meals to nourish your body, quiet and nature to nourish your soul.



Greccio: A St. Francis Christmas Pageant December 12, Sunday, 2021 –

Virtual Event St. Francis of Assisi started the popular tradition of re-enacting the Christmas story in Greccio, Italy. Mount St. Francis has held the Greccio Christmas pageant since 2006, to continue this tradition, this year we again offer a virtual event.

Check our website beginning December 12. Please consider making a donation to a local food bank.



Advent Twilight – “In Thy Dark Streets” Wednesday, December 15 \$30

Registration at 6:00 pm Supper at 6:30 pm

As we enter these final Advent days enjoy a hearty homecooked meal followed by a guided reflection, time for quiet and moments of shared prayer.

Being wounded healers in a broken world



The bishop of one of Kenya's newest dioceses, the Rt Revd Paul Korir, is passionate about leading the churches in his area into new forms of mission.

Established in January 2016, the new Diocese of Kapsabet, in the western part of Kenya, has been focusing on reaching young people and helping the next generation understand the word of God.

Bishop of Kapsabet talked to the Lambeth Conference team about leadership and how he believes the Anglican Communion can bring healing to a broken world.

How would you describe your leadership role as a bishop?

"As bishops and as leaders, we are entrusted with the mandate of being the stewards of the people's spirituality. Bishops are also the vision carriers, somebody who has been given an opportunity to rally the people behind the vision, and it must be shared in a language that is understood by everybody."

"I see myself also as a symbol of unity," he said. "So, as a leader you are called to mobilise people around vision, around resources and around sustainability. You are called to serve. You are present, and you cry, and you share, and you celebrate with people. The ministry of presence is very, very important as a leader. So, for me, those are the three words that come to my mind when we think about the bishop, as the leader – their stewardship, service and mobilisation."

What do you need to do as a leader to support people in your part of the world?

"We are called to go and make disciples, and Jesus commissions the Church to do that. I think the first priority should be mission, winning souls for Christ, evangelising so that we may continue expanding the Kingdom of God."

Bishop Paul said making disciples, so that they are rooted in the word of God is also a priority. "Another priority is the question of education," he said. "Bible literacy is very key, enabling Christians in the church to be familiar with and understand the word of God."

According to Bishop Paul chaplaincy in schools and universities is an important way to reach out to children and young people. "I see that as a priority. It's a matter of urgency in terms of acquainting the next generation with the word of God."

He highlighted tackling climate change and helping make the church sustainable as two other priorities in his diocese. "We need to reorganise ourselves," he said, "making a response to climate change as part of our mission agenda. And we need to equip the Church to be able to respond to the needs around the world... thinking globally and acting locally."

What are your hopes for bishops as they meet together for the Lambeth Conference?

"The Lambeth Conference, is an opportunity to connect back

to the sense of belonging. It's family. I look at it as family coming together. It's like coming back home to share our stories. We've been in the field, maybe others have been wounded, and we are coming back home. So, for me, that sense of belonging reminds us that we are not alone; we belong, we are a shoulder to lean on. I can't wait to meet my brother and sister bishops just to share the narrative of the Kingdom of God. It's a family. It's a family gathering. It's a Thanksgiving."

How can the Anglican Communion be a force for good in the world?

"I think we need to serve like wounded healers. We need to be healing people who are hurting. The world we live in is really presenting hurts to the people, so let's be a wounded healer. Let the Anglican Communion stand as a wounded healer so that we may heal and move forward. Let's continue appreciating our structure, appreciating our administration, appreciating our challenges, and so on. But I think let's look beyond that. We are a missional church which can stand the test of time."

Bishop Paul said he believes the Anglican Communion should celebrate its identity. "I think sometimes, as the Anglican Communion, we write ourselves in small letters, we need to celebrate our identity. We need to celebrate our history and we need to celebrate our inheritance."

He said, "I believe that each one of us should participate in enhancing the kingdom of God wherever we are. We need to be present in the life and ministry of where we are serving, right from the family circle, to the community, to the village, to the local church. And I think we need to put a lot of energy into strengthening the family, which will in turn strengthen the local church, the parish, and even the diocese."

The Bishop said he hopes resolutions from the Conference will be taken seriously and put into practice at a local level around the world.

"Let us hold ourselves to account in terms of making the Lambeth Conference resolutions, to be like a covenant, because we are a family. So that when you go north, you go south, you go west, you go east, there is a sense of belonging. And we must include the laity, the majority of this Anglican Communion, let them be part of this... I think we need to open up and ask the laity to give us their lenses through which we can see the world around us and can influence change and policy. So that priest, or bishop, I would like to see that lay reader, that Sunday school teacher, those children who are in the church, rising and saying, 'this is our church', and holding it and participating and moving on."

"I would love us to be an outward looking church when we meet at the Lambeth Conference, let us hit the road running in terms of climate change, HIV AIDS, the Covid-19 pandemic. I pray that the Anglican Communion will rise to the occasion... advancing the Kingdom of God, as we hold our hands and move forward together."

<https://www.lambethconference.org/being-wounded-healers-in-a-broken-world/>

Music of the Christmas Season

F D O Y O U H E A R W H A T I H E A R Q V I Q O Q S
 L Q E J W F Y R M D J O Y T O T H E W O R L D F G Y
 J U T C Y E D R M W H S B I T G B O L D Q Q H Q N Y
 J V N U K V A P V T P O T E S U O H E H T N O P U O
 T H G I N T N E L I S F L L E O N T S R I F E H T B
 D U R N X Q H U O V Z R J H D R X H T K N K P Q T R
 M E H E L H T E B F O N W O T E L T T I L O T B I E
 X A W C V M F L H B D H F X O P X H B F Z M I A N M
 Q N Y B A B A T N A S M A D A D I V A N Z I L E F M
 S K X V B C Y R A C L E E R T S A M T S I R H C O U
 G N I S S L E G N A D L A R E H E H T K R A H J R R
 F F S I L V E R B E L L S L L E B E L G N I J E C D
 H D O F K N L L F W K Y V Z T J R J P S Y Y H U H E
 O Q R M D N A L R E D N O W R E T N I W F Q O Z R L
 W E W I S H Y O U A M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S I T
 G O D R E S T Y E M E R R Y G E N T L E M E N R S T
 R A E L C T H G I N D I M E H T N O P U E M A C T I
 S A N T A C L A U S I S C O M I N G T O T O W N M L
 A M R O A V Z B O M F R O S T Y T H E S N O W M A N
 J X A W A Y I N A M A N G E R E D I R H G I E L S C

Away in a Manger

Up On the Housetop

Silent Night

Silver Bells

God Rest Ye Merry

O Christmas Tree

Jingle Bells

Gentlemen

Joy to the World

Do You Hear What I Hear?

The First Noel

Little Drummer Boy

Feliz Navidad

It Came Upon the
Midnight Clear

Sleigh Ride

Frosty the Snowman

O Little Town of
Bethlehem

We Wish You a Merry
Christmas

Santa Claus Is Coming to
Town

Deck the Halls

Nuttin' for Christmas

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Santa Baby

To find the answer to the trivia question, look for a word or phrase that is hidden in the puzzle, but not in the word list

Trivia: In what Christmas song would you sing about Parson Brown, a circus clown, a bluebird, and a new bird?

Answer: _____

December 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| 5 Advent 2 9:30am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook | 6 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 7 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 8 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 10:30 am In-person Advent Study 7:30 am Zoom Advent Study | 9 Deadline to RSVP for Dec. 16 Secret Friends Christmas Party 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up YouTube Evening Service of Solace | 10 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 11 11 am - 2 pm Outreach Drop-Off for the Veterans Food Bank & the Pregnancy Care Centre |
| 12 Advent 3 Gaudete Sunday Welcoming of New Members 9:30am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook | 13 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 7:30 pm Prayer Group Meeting via Zoom | 14 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 7 pm Parish Council via Zoom | 15 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am In-person Advent Study 7:30 am Zoom Advent Study | 16 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 7 pm Secret Friends Christmas Party on Zoom | 17 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 18 8:30 am Men's Breakfast 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon (depending on COVID-19 restrictions) |
| 19 Advent 4 9:30 am Lessons & Carols Live streamed on Facebook | 20 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 21 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 22 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 23 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 24 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 25 No Services |
| 26 Christmas 1 9:30 am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook | 27 Office closed | 28 Office closed | 29 Office closed | 30 Office closed | 31 Office closed | January 1 |

January 2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| 2 Epiphany of Our Lord 9:30am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook | 3 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 4 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 5 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study | 6 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 7 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 8 |
| 9 Baptism of the Lord 9:30am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook | 10 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 11 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 7 pm Parish Council via Zoom | 12 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 13 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up YouTube Service | 14 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 15 8:30 am Men's Breakfast 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon (depending on COVID-19 restrictions) |
| 16 9:30 am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook Guest Speaker | 17 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 7:30 pm Prayer Group Meeting via Zoom | 18 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 19 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 1pm Prayer Shawl via Zoom 7:30 pm Discovery 4: Our Spiritual Gifts via Zoom | 20 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 21 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 22 |
| 23 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 9:30 am Triple C & H.E. Live streamed on Facebook | 24 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 25 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 26 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 7:30 pm Discovery 4: Our Spiritual Gifts via Zoom | 27 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up YouTube Service | 28 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 29 |
| 30 Conversion of St. Paul 9:30 am H.E. Live streamed on Facebook 11:30 am Annual Meeting of Parishioners | 31 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | February 1 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up | 2 9am—12 pm Reserved Sacrament Pick-up 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study | 3 | 4 | 5 |