

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

Anglican Priest and Rector: The Reverend Shirley J. Cole

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December 8, 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent - PEACE

Welcome to everyone gathered here today.

A Candle is Burning

(sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger")

A candle is burning, a candle of PEACE,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease.

For Jesus is coming to show us the way,
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

Today's Readings

Malachi 3:1-4; Canticle 19 (Luke 1:68-79)

Philemon 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Lantz, NS

~ The Rev'd Jane Magrath, Rector,
and Wendy Carroll

Provincial Prayer Care

Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island, Bishop Sandra Fyfe

Council of the North

Diocese of Athabasca – Bishop David Greenwood

DCS Cycle of Prayer – St. Mark's, Kensington

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside



IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and In Loving Memory of

ORVILLE LEIGH ADAMS

+July 26, 1993

HILDA IRENE ADAMS

+December 2, 1989

INFANT DAUGHTER

+May 9, 1968

INFANT GRANDCHILD

+July 25, 1982

GEORGE ROGER ADAMS

+February 1, 2015

Always loved and remembered
by the Family

IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and In Loving Memory of

Mom

EARLA ADAMS

Aug. 9, 1932 – Dec. 14, 2003

Dad

IVAN ADAMS

April 9, 1920 – June 30, 2006

Brother

MARVIN ADAMS

June 5, 1961 – March 1, 1984

*Today recalls the memories
of loved ones gone to rest,
and those who think of them today
are those who loved them best.*

Always loved and remembered by
Carl and Jessie

The Second Sunday of Advent

DREAMING OF PEACE

Reader 1: On this second Sunday of Advent, we hear stories of the dreams and longings of God's people. The Hebrew people dreamed of a king who would rule with justice and peace. The apostle Paul had a dream that all people would belong to God. John the Baptist invited people to dream with him about the coming of God's reign.

Reader 2: We share these dreams that can lead to life-changing action.

Reader 1: God's people have long dreamed of the coming of peace, justice, and faithfulness to God's ways. In our own time we dream of equality and good life for everyone. Such dreams come from God and inspire us to work for justice and peace.

Reader 2: With John the Baptist we dream of making crooked paths straight, of making smooth highways broad enough for all God's people to move on together in peace and harmony.

Reader 1: Our actions can help build that highway. God's dream can become our dream.

Reader 2: Last week we lit the first candle. Its flickering flame reminded us that our waiting is to be both contemplative and active. **(The first candle is relit)**

The flame of the second candle reminds us that just as candles can be given a flame, so God's dreams can become real in our world.



(The second candle is lit)
(unison prayer)

Loving God, give us the desire, the willingness, and the courage to be part of your dream for a world made new. We pray in the name of Jesus, your dream incarnate. Amen.

December 15 – 3rd Sunday of Advent–JOY (blue)

Advent Carol Service

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 65:17-25; Canticle 3 (Isaiah 12:2-6, page 76); Luke 1:5-25; Luke 1:26-38; Canticle 19b (Luke 1:68-79, page 89-90); John 1:1-14; Luke 3:7-18

Readers: Grafton C, Jim E; Doreen C, Jean R; Doris M, Norma T

Prayers of the People: Jim E, Amy M, Bronwyn C

Worship Times: 9 am – St. Thomas' MP

11 am – St. Stephen's HE

11 am – St. Mark's MP

December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship Services

4 pm – St. Stephen's HE

7 pm – St. Thomas' HE

9 pm – St. Mark's HE

December 25 - Christmas Day Worship Service

11 am – St. Elizabeth's HE

December 29 Worship Service

11 am – Parish Service at St. Mark's

Thomas Haslam will be guest speaker, and the combined choirs will provide music.

COLLECT (pg 269)

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS (pg 270)

God our strength, we are nothing without you.

Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (pg 270)

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.



Thank you to all who participated in and attended the Ecumenical Carol Service on Monday night. Special thanks to Gwendy Murphy and Hugh Jones and combined choirs; and to Jessie Adams, one of our Christian Council reps who accepted food donations at the door.

Clinton View Lodge worship service will be held on Wednesday, December 11, 10:30 a.m. All are welcome!

St. Stephen's Church Ladies and Friends Christmas Luncheon will be held at Lotus Garden Restaurant on Wednesday, December 11, 12:00-1:30 pm. Please feel free to wear red and green, and please bring along a wrapped \$5.00 gift for a fun gift exchange activity. Contact Sandra H (902-836-4751) to add your name to the reservation list.

St. Thomas' APP are planning a Christmas Luncheon to be held at the home of Hilda Johnstone (1575 Burlington Road) on December 12, 11:30 a.m. We are having an arranged Pot Luck lunch. Please contact Hilda (902-836-5692, 902-439-0760) or Doreen (902-886-2207, 902-439-3816) with the food dish you might bring to share. Please bring along a small item for the food bank.

Christmas is approaching quickly!!!

If you would like to help with the purchase of memorial poinsettias for St. Thomas', please contact either Susan or Lola before December 18.

St. Mary's Holy Family Parish, Kensington, and St. James Parish, Summerfield, present a **Christmas Musical Social Evening** on Sunday, December 8, 6:30 p.m. at Holy Family Church, Kensington. Join our parish choirs in singing Christmas favorites, with special guests fiddler Courtney Hogan-Chandler, Iain and Melissa McCarvill, and others in celebration of the season. Admission is free, but donations of money or non-perishable food items for the Kensington Food Bank are very welcome!

'Arioso' Christmas concert, with special guests Jillian Clow and the Smith family, will be held on Thursday, December 12, 6:30 p.m. at Kensington United Church. Admission by donation with proceeds going to the Christmas Tree of Hope.

A READING FROM MALACHI 3:1-4

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty. But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

A READING FROM PHILEMON 1:3-11

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your love for all his holy people and your faith in the Lord Jesus. I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the Lord's people. Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I prefer to appeal to you on the basis of love. It is as none other than Paul—an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—that I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.

Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all people will see God's salvation.