



ALL SAINTS CANDLE – DECEMBER 25, 2022

THE BIRTH OF THE LORD - CHRISTMAS DAY

Shining a Light on What is Happening in Our Parish

Our Mission at All Saints is to be a family of worshipping Christians, dedicated to Christian Education, Spiritual Growth, Pastoral Care, Outreach and Fellowship.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted. Isaiah 61: 1

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 35: 1-10; Psalm 146: 4-9; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

FOR REFLECTION by Rev Hobbs – God became human to enable us to become divine. He became like us to enable us to become like him. *Irenaeus*

CHRISTMAS OFFICE AND SERVICE SCHEDULE

- Our Parish Office closes at noon on Friday, **December 23rd** and reopens on Wednesday, **December 28th**, and is closed again on Monday, **January 2nd**
- **December 24th at 3:00pm** - Special Children's Christmas Eve Service with its unique children's liturgy
- **December 24th at 7:00pm** - Early evening Christmas Eve BAS Eucharist
- **December 24th at 11:00pm** - Late evening Christmas Eve Service BCP Eucharist
- **December 25th at 10:00am** – BAS Eucharist
- **December 31st at noon** is the last day for accepting donations to be included on 2022 tax receipts
- **January 1st at 10:00am** - Sunday morning BCP Eucharist
- **January 2nd** – Office closed
- **January 6th at 3:30pm** – ACW Epiphany Service

SPIRITUALS GUIDES - Bible Reading Fellowship works to enable people to grow in faith and understanding of the Bible. Find out more at brf.org.uk or google Bible Reading Fellowship.

JOIN OUR SERVERS TEAM - We are inviting anyone who is confirmed, and who is interested in becoming a server to please contact Gerry Fagan 730-8486 or Joanne Simfukwe 682-8103.

A CHRISTMAS STORY - THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN OUR LIVES

"I've had quite a few little Church buddies over the years. My three children, my seven grandchildren, and now our little great-grandson, Harrison. He is 17 months old and such a joy and a blessing. He was born three months premature with heart and other health issues, and spent his first three months in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Janeway. It was a difficult period for all the family. Each day brought a new hurdle. But we put our trust in the doctors and nurses, and prayed to God to watch over him and bring him to health. He is now my new little Church buddy. I love bringing him to Church. He gets so excited when he sees everyone, and everyone is so excited to see him. And if he's not with me, I'm always asked, "Where's your little Church buddy this morning"? Sometimes he'll clap to the music, he'll wave and give high-fives, and sometimes he might even give the occasional cry or a squeal during a quiet time or during Rev Sam's sermon. But we always get a smile from everyone sitting around us. At his latest cardiology appointment, it was confirmed that heart surgery is no longer required. **Prayers do work!** A second great grandchild has arrived since this story was written. Another little Church buddy for Nanny Taylor."

This is a wonderful story about how God works in our lives, and how He is forever present. The writer of this story knew her God, and was able to put her complete trust in Him. Unfortunately, not all of us know about how God is always there with us through the good and not so good times. During the pandemic, the question was asked more than ever before, "Where is God now?" Somewhere along the way a person answered that question, and it went something like this.

*God was in the streets with the paramedics rescuing people and saving lives. He was in the emergency rooms with the doctors and other medical staff where hundreds of people were rushed there in life threatening conditions; He was comforting them as they lay dying. He was in the schools helping teachers take care of frightened and anxious children. He was in the personal care homes comforting our loved ones when they were confined to their rooms unable to visit with their families. A picture was shown of a woman in the window looking out at her visiting family. In that window was **the face of Jesus.***

God loves us more than we can ever imagine. He would never abandon or forsaken us. We need only to reach out to Him - to stop and hear His voice - to feel His presence.

Thousands of years ago, the prophet Isaiah foretold the story "A virgin will have a son, and He will be called **Emmanuel**", "**God with us.**" (Isaiah 7: 14) God keeps that promise today and every day!!!

THANKS TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED - Thank-you to all those who contributed to our Christmas Hamper appeal. Your response was overwhelming, and loudly proclaims that God is indeed here among us. God Bless you ALL !!!



PWRDF - UKRAINE EFFORT – Ever since the war in Ukraine began on February 24, over five million Ukrainians have been forced to flee their country for safety. You can help PWRDF to support Ukrainians with your donations, either by dropping it into our collection plate or our secure dropbox, or by eTransfer to donations@allsaintsparish.ca. Please indicate that it is for Ukraine.

GOD AT WORK THROUGH OUR YOUTH - A "new" thing is happening at All Saints CBS – our **Youth Ministry** has taken on a new post-COVID look. Since the fall has begun we have rebranded our Sunday School program, and have launched our new **Kidz Klub**. We hope to have great success in this program as the year progresses. Go to our website to read our exciting report. If you would be interested in helping out with this rewarding ministry, or if you have any questions, please contact Joanne at joannesimfukwe@gmail.com or 682-8103



SPONSOR 'THE CANDLE' – To remember a loved one or to make a special 'thank' offering, we invite you to have your message placed prominently within the Bible graphic at the top of this weekly bulletin, for which your kind donation of \$25 would be greatly appreciated. Additionally, you could place a full-page message with a photo and maybe a memorial verse, for which your kind donation of \$50 would be greatly appreciated. A paper copy of **'THE CANDLE'** is distributed at all Sunday services, and a digital copy is permanently available on our Parish website at allsaintsparish.ca

CHURCH OFFERTORY OPTIONS - Our *secure drop-slot* is emptied several times daily, and is located to the left of the main door of our Parish Hall. **e-Transferring** your gift to donations@allsaintsparish.ca has become a popular method of offertory as well. And of course, we encourage you to consider our **eGiving** service which automatically deposits your gift at whatever interval you choose: weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly. To register simply go to our website and follow the eGiving notes. If you have any questions, please email your Finance Team at finance@allsaintsparish.ca, or call our Office at 834-4501



CONSIDER JOINING ONE OF OUR MINISTERIAL TEAMS – We are seeking individuals, whatever your skillset or interests include, to please consider becoming a part of one of the following groups: *Altar Guild, Eucharist Assistant, Funeral Reception, Lectern Reader, Liturgical Planner, Offertory Counter, Server (must be confirmed), Sides Person, Greeter, ACW, Men's Fellowship, and many*

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more. Simply call our Office at 834-4501 or email us at office@allsaintsparish.ca, or complete our [online form](#).

DIGITAL ROADSIDE BILLBOARD – All Saints is a very active in our community and beyond, and it is very important that we reach as many people as possible. Our list of mission work is quite extensive: Liturgical Services, Mission & Outreach, our weekly Tea Room fellowship, our various fundraising activities including Take-Out Dinners and Craft Fairs, Catering, Hall Rentals, as well as community service events such as Blood Donor Clinics, Flu Shot Clinics, COVID vaccination clinics, and the list goes on. We also anticipate a new and much needed revenue stream by selling public advertising space. We appreciate your financial support to date.

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS? - If we do not already have your email address on file, and you would like to have the digital version of *The Candle* sent directly to your smartphone, tablet or computer, please email it to communications@allsaintsparish.ca

December 18, 2022	WEEKLY	YTD	Why not consider signing up to our e-Giving program. It's an easy way to ensure you contribute on a regular basis, even during those periods when you are unable to regularly attend church. We also accept E-transfers at donations@allsaintsparish.ca
PERCENT OF LAST YEAR	99%	108%	
2022 ACTUAL	8,350	199,607	
2021 ACTUAL	8,468	184,951	
DIFFERENCE	-118	14,656	

DIGITAL BILLBOARD \$8,490

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN PARISH CBS
419 Conception Bay Highway
Conception Bay South, NL, A1X 7A2

Telephone: 709-834-4501
Email: office@allsaintsparish.ca
Website: allsaintsparish.ca
Facebook: facebook.com/AllSaintsAnglicanChurchCBS

OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday, 09:00am - 2:00pm

REV SAM BUTLER
PRIEST-IN-CHARGE
rev.sam@allsaintsparish.ca
689-4501 – Cell 834-9464 - Home

MADONNA SCOTT
OFFICE ADMINISTRATION
madonna@allsaintsparish.ca
834-4501 – Office