

Ascension Prayer Circle:

Please pray for these individuals this week: Ann, Barbara, Bill, Brenda, Brian, Clarence, Claude, Cy, Daphne, Darryl, Dennis, Diane, Dot, Dulcie, Eileen, Ernest, Fred, Herb, Hilda, Ina, Ivy, Jack, Jeff, , Jennie, Jerome, Jessie, Josephine, Junior, Karl, Kevin, Lester, Lori, Mabel, Marguerite, Mark, Maxwell, Melissa, Melvin, Mona, Mya, Myra, Nancy, Pam, Randell, Roland, Ron, Roy, Ruth, Sean, Stan, Stephen, Todd, Terry and Violet.

Remember the families of those who have died.
Rest eternal grant to them, and let light perpetual shine upon them.

Loving God, you gather us as your people, where many come seeking your healing, strength, and love. You know us God: You understand who we are; you know what troubles and puzzles us, what makes you smile and what makes us sad. You listen to our questions and our prayers. We bring you these names, asking for your healing. Be with these named, with their families, and all whom they encounter.
Amen.

Duty Teams for Next Sunday, Jan 21: Sidespersons Team # 2; Counting Team # 4.

Services During the Week:	Morning Prayer daily at 9:30 a.m. (Except Wednesday & Saturday)	
Wednesday January 17	9:30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday, January 21 Epiphany III	8:30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist (Welsh Rite)
	6:30 p.m.	Evening Prayer (BAS)

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Rector:
Rev. 'd Canon David Burrows

Associate Priest:
Rev. 'd Lynn Courage

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Parish of the Ascension Chimes



January 14, 2018 Second Sunday after Epiphany

- Lectios:** 1 Samuel 3:1-10; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20;
John 1:43-51; Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17
- 8:30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)**
Presider/Homilist: Rev.'d Canon David Burrows
- 9:20 a.m. Ascension Café**
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist**
Presider: Rev.'d Lynn Courage
Homilist: Rev.'d Canon David Burrows
Readers: Shirley Cooper, Mya Lethbridge
Gift Bearers: Ed and Ruby Hunt
Psalm Refrain: *Your works are wonderful, O Lord.*
Hymns
- 6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer (BCP)**
Presider/Homilist: : Rev.'d Lynn Courage
Hymns

"We have found the Messiah: Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace." See John 1.

Weekly Word

When I was twelve years old I finally learned how to swim. I'm not quite sure all the reasons why it took me so long, although two specific reasons do stand out. In my early years, I lived in Iqaluit on Baffin Island, and there was no opportunity to swim in the water most of the year, and not a swimming pool there in the late 1970s. In addition, I became a little scared of water, seeing what wind and waves, weather and cold could do. It wasn't until I came close to drowning in a pool one summer that I became determined to get over fears and face the swimming piece head on. I can still remember the challenges I had, and sometimes still have, when living, working and playing around water.

I am acutely aware of my breathing when I'm in water. If it's in the ocean I'm constantly considering the temperature, possible currents, rip tides. I look for ways to stay safe, and to keep others safe. It's almost as if I feel the water could slowly creep up and cover me whole, when I'm not paying complete attention.

In this season of Epiphany, not many of us are brave or strong enough to swim or be in the water in our environment. In this Epiphany season, we are moving from the celebrations of the incarnation, to glimpses of God revealed in Jesus: in story, in sacrament, in the rule and routine of the life of faith.

Also in this time, the days seem to be struggling to get lighter. The contrasts of light and dark are as strong to me as the movement from low to high tide, and perhaps as foreboding.

We are immersed in this season of light and darkness, and yet I recognize that some people, indeed, even some communities, are as fearful of the movements from light to dark to light as I am about stepping into the ocean for a swim.

For many the season of the Epiphany has little to do with the revealing of Christ in the world, and instead the stark reality of the contrast between celebration and lament. I see persons struggle, with even minute changes in weather patterns: cancelling plans, thinking the worst, worrying beyond belief. Sunlight can transition to cloud cover to storm squall in moments. In these moments, the hearts of those we love can also transition just as quick.

This is the season of Epiphany. We are called to hold fast to Christ

revealed among us. We are called to hold fast to the community around us. We are called to reveal the light in places where we might only fear darkness and storm.

Reveal within us O God, your light and the brightness of our life with you.

Help us journey alongside those who may be lost in storm.

Hold to your love, your life.

Let not this light be extinguished

As you reveal to us, resurrection.

God Bless,

David

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)

Candlemas is celebrated as a winter festival of birth and light. It is also a story of living, ageing and learning. The wisdom of age, the years of struggling and hurting and loving, the presenting of themselves regularly in the communal round of worship, the prayers of a lifetime – these are the experiences that enable Simeon and Anna to recognize God in Jesus and to have confidence in the safety and vulnerability of God's love.

Living and dying, striving for holiness and justice, accepting forgiveness and affirmation, living with the questions and the mystery, trusting in hope of home and the glory and the light of resurrection – these are the elements of life and loving that dance and burn in the candles of Candlemas. And these are the candles that are offered to us so that, lit by God's bright fire, we may be light and warmth for God's world. (From: Hay and Stardust, Ruth Burgess © Iona Community)

This year, on February 4, in our Candlemas celebrations, we will be having a dramatic story recounted during the homily at the 11:00 a.m. worship. ***This year, in our Candlemas celebrations, we invite families to bring a pillar candle from home, to be blessed at the altar during the worship, and then taken back to your homes for use throughout the rest of the season of Epiphany.***

Annual Reports: Heads of parish organizations and groups are asked to please submit their reports for the Annual General Meeting by **January 31, 2018.**

Food Bank: There has been an increase in people coming to the parish in need of food. When you are picking up your groceries, please add an item or two and drop it in the food bank box. Items needed this week are **Tea Bags, Sugar & Peanut Butter**. If you wish, you may also donate to the food hamper fund. It is much appreciated!

The Men's Service Club annual general meeting will take place tomorrow, Monday, January 15, at 7 o'clock.

Junior Choir will resume on Wednesday January 24th at 6 p.m. Youth 8 years and older are welcome to join

Confirmation Class will take place today, Sunday, January 14th from 2 – 4 p.m. in the church and multipurpose room.

Arctic Char Dinner: Due to popularity, the Annual Arctic Char dinner hosted by the Church of the Good Shepherd has been sold out and a second Arctic Char dinner will be held the following Saturday, February 3rd 6:00 pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Mount Pearl. For tickets or information, please call the church office at 747-1022

The Mount Pearl Seniors Independence Group is holding their monthly "Caregivers Education and Support Program" on Tuesday, January 16th, at Park Place Community Centre from 1:30-3:00p.m. If you are a primary caregiver and would like to attend, please call 748-6485 to register.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: January 15 to January 20

Monday, January 15: 10 a.m. at Solid Rock Wesleyan Church, Archdeacon Charlene Taylor will preach on the theme, 'No longer a slave but a beloved brother'

Tuesday, January 16: 10 a.m. at First United Church, Rev'd Stuart Marples will preach on the theme, 'Hope and Healing'

Wednesday, January 17: 7:30 p.m. at Church of the Ascension, Captain Joshua Randell will preach on the theme, 'Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit'

Thursday, January 18: 10 a.m. at Park Avenue Pentecostal, Canon David Burrows will preach on the theme, 'Hark the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land'

Friday, January 19: 10 a.m. at Salvation Army Citadel, Rev'd Paul Perry will preach on the theme, 'Let us look to the interest of others'