



Parish of the Ascension Chimes



January 21, 2018
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Lections: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20; Psalm 62:6-14 (**Refrain: Take refuge in God, all you people.**)

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP)
Presider: Rev.'d Lynn Courage
Homilist: Dr. Rick Singleton

9:20 a.m. Ascension Café

11:00 a.m. Welsh Eucharist
Presider: Rev.'d Canon David Burrows
Homilist: Dr. Rick Singleton
Reader: Ray Hewitt
Gift Bearers: Dianne Benmore & Ros Mole
Hymns (CP): 328; 273; 430; 431 & 561; 453

6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer (BAS)
Presider/Homilist: Rev.'d Charlie Green
Hymns (CP): 383; 561; 431

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel" Mark 1.15

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, Lloyd, Lori, Mabel, Marguerite, Mark, Maxwell, Melissa, Melvin, Mona, Mya, Myra, Nancy, Pam, Randell, Rodney, Roland, Ron, Roy, Ruth, Sean, Stan, Stephen, Todd, Terry and Violet.

Remember the families of those who have died especially Bishop Mark Genge. 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 28: Sidespersons Team # 3; Counting Team # 5.

Services During the Week:	Morning Prayer daily at 9:30 a.m. (Except Wednesday & Saturday)	
Wednesday January 24	9:30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
Sunday, January 28 Epiphany IV	8:30 a.m.	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11:00 a.m.	Family Service
	6:30 p.m.	Holy Eucharist (BAS)

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Rector:
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Rev.'d Lynn Courage

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Weekly Word

Here we are, in the middle of so much. We are steps into Epiphany, well entrenched in winter, and now, we are immersed in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In my role as pastor and priest, at times this week, I have neither known whether to grab a shovel or a prayer book, nor which church to attend! This world, and the nuances of the communities in which we dwell seem at the surface to produce much complication, much confusion, and dissonance.

Perhaps, as some say, life is more complicated and not as simple, nor as wonderful as it once was. Respectfully, I disagree with that sentiment, for the present age, indeed the present day reveals to me the blessing of difference, the joy of complication, and the presence of God pervading all.

This week I have worshipped with friends and neighbours, who express their spirituality in ways different from mine. Beyond Christian Unity, I have continued to listen to my brothers and sisters of differing faiths, taking the time to hear how they express their understanding of the life and journey with the Divine. In a simple, perhaps more monochromatic world for which some would long, this would not be the ideal.

Today I have connected a friend from my Targa Rallying days to a colleague in Quebec. I hope that this connection enables a priest to further fulfil his vocation, and a friend to express his greatest gift – generosity of Spirit. Again, in a simpler, uncomplicated age, this might not occur.

This Sunday, the Provost of the local theological college, Queen's College, is here at the Ascension to preach. A Roman Catholic, a devout, learned man; he offers to us his perspective on theological education, the blessing of vocation in the church, and the need for us to surround these individuals with prayer, resources, and a community of faith.

This next week, I have the privilege of meeting with colleagues in the Episcopal Church of the United States, as well as colleagues in the Diocese of Niagara. Within these meetings and interactions, no doubt there will be differences of culture, language, expression, and understanding. It is not for me (or others) to focus and espouse differences to place one in higher importance. I believe it is enough that we come together, celebrate diversity, and together reveal the presence of God in our midst.

*'God changed his mind'
'they are together lighter than a breath'
'The time is short'
'I'll make you fish for people'*

The Scripture this week reveals to me that God has work for us to do. We are but small parts of the intricacy of the world that God has created. I am a fool if I hold on that there is but one way to express this, and even more of a fool if I hold that my way is the most valuable.

*In the wonder
of myriad expressions
of beauty and joy
in this your world;
Let me see others,
let me hear your voice:
see your face
and give you glory.
Amen.*

Peace, David.

Welcome: Today we are pleased to welcome Dr. Rick Singleton, Provost and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's College, Faculty of Theology, as he shares with us the work and ministry of Queen's College, on this, Theological Education Sunday. Queen's College invests in Christian Leadership through Theological Education, Pastoral Training and Practice, Spiritual Development, and Participation in Community. Over the years, many students of Queen's College have been formed through ministry with the Ascension, and have in turn helped to form the ministry and mission of this parish. For this we give God most profound thanks. An envelope is found in your chimes today for you to consider making a donation to support the work and ministry of theological education at Queen's.

Canon Burrows: This afternoon Canon Burrows is flying to Washington to meet with the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church, as he fulfills his role as National Partner. After meetings with the Episcopal Church, Canon Burrows is flying to Toronto on Thursday, to meet with the Bishop, clergy, and delegates of the Diocese of Niagara, in preparation for their Electoral Synod on March 3. Please keep Canon Burrows, his family, and the Diocese of Niagara in your prayers, as the church continues its discernment of a chief pastor and shepherd for the Diocese of Niagara. (www.niagaraanglican.ca)

ACW members are reminded of their AGM Luncheon Meeting on Monday, January 22, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. Please make a special effort to attend.

Christmas Memorial List: The list for the Christmas Memorials is available in the foyer at the back of the Church as well as in the side foyer.

Parish Network Visitors: The next meeting will be on Thursday, Jan. 25th at 2 pm at the home of Shirley Cooper on 67 Commonwealth Ave., Mount Pearl. , e-mail: g.cooper@nf.sympatico.ca, telephone 368-6180. We are welcoming new members. This ministry involves the visiting of mainly shut-in seniors of our parish for about an hour or so each month. We bring a friendly face and a sense of continuity with their parish family. For more information, contact Rev. Lynn or Canon David. There are also pamphlets located in the church.

Vestry members, please take note that the monthly Vestry meeting will be next Thursday, January 25, at 7 o'clock.

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

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.

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.