

Advent 2019

THE BRIDGE

Bringing together the Parish of St. Joseph and St. George

St. John's
Hilton Beach

Holy Trinity
Jocelyn

St. George's
Echo Bay

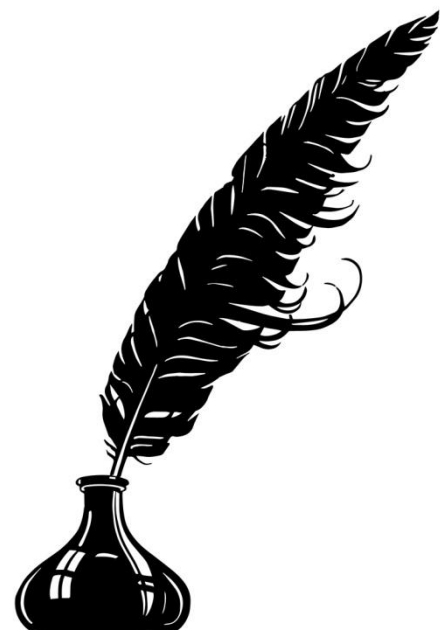
Chapel of the Intercession
Llewellyn Beach

From the Incumbent's Desk

The Arrival of Advent

Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. Matthew 24:44

We are about to start another year on our church calendar. It begins on the first day of Advent – Sunday, December 1st. It's a very exciting time of year as most people – young and old – are looking ahead to the celebration of Christmas.





Each Sunday's gospel story that we will hear through Advent is from the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew reminds us that, even as we await the day we mark as Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, we are truly awaiting the day when Jesus comes for the second time, when God's kingdom will at last be fully here "on earth as it is in heaven."

Matthew tells us that we must be ready for when Jesus comes

again. How do you get ready for a day like that? Well, we also hear from the apostle Paul through Advent and he tells us what to do: "Live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God" (Romans 15:5-7). For Paul, the bottom line is love – love God and love your neighbour – as we all live into the time of the complete fulfillment of God's purpose that *every* person and *all* creation be in right relationship with each other and with God.

The season of Advent is a time of expectation, of anticipation, and of waiting but most of all, of hope. Christians have the *certain* hope that God *will* keep his promises and God's kingdom *will* be completely revealed here on earth. That hope can fade into the background in a world where it feels like, sometimes, there is more bad than good. But, in Advent, our hope is front and centre. So...we love. We love God and we love each other. We love so that God's love fills us and pushes out everything else. As we await the coming of the light of the world – Jesus Christ – we allow the light of Christ to shine into the world through our love. I invite you into Advent and beyond with the words of the prophet Isaiah:

"Come let us walk in the light of the Lord!" Isaiah 2:5

*Wishing you a blessed Advent season,
Susan Montague Koyle*

Advent Services St. George's, Echo Bay at 9am; Holy Trinity, Jocelyn at 11am are the following:

Sunday, Dec. 1st Advent 1: The Celebration of Holy Communion; The Ven. Hugh Hamilton

Sunday, Dec. 8th Advent 2: Celebration of Holy Communion; The Rev. Canon Rosalie Goos

Sunday, Dec. 15th Advent 3: Morning Prayer Liturgy & Advent Carols; Susan Montague Koyle

Sunday, Dec. 22nd Advent 4: Celebration of Holy Communion; The Ven. Hugh Hamilton

It's only 'bye for now', Bob!



Joint Service, Sunday, June 30th at the W.I. Park, Richards Landing
The Rev. Canon Bob Elkin is cutting into his “good-bye” cake as Susan keeps an eye on him using that knife (Just kidding...Bob's a cake-cutting pro)!
Bob accepted the position of interim incumbent at Emmaus Anglican Church in Sault Ste Marie. We know he will serve them well until they find a new incumbent.

Our ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING will be on Sunday, February 9th, 2020 at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn. It will be a joint service of Holy Communion starting at 10:00 a.m. followed by a potluck lunch and the meeting. According to the canons of The Diocese of Algoma (J-1), you are entitled to be a voting member of the vestry if you:

- a) are baptized; and b) are of full age of 16 years; and c) are habitual attendants at Divine Service in the congregation; and d) have contributed during the year immediately preceding to the working expenses of the parish/congregation.

Please plan to attend. Your presence will help to make this a productive and positive meeting!

Annual Large Ham Pastie Christmas Luncheon
Saturday, December 7th

11:00 a.m. – 1:30 pm. at St. George's, Echo Bay
(159 Church Street)

Enjoy ham pasties, baked beans & salads galore along with coffee, tea, and dessert!

Bake Table and Craft Table for your Christmas gift needs
(or for yourself!)

Win a door prize or a treasure at the silent auction.

Adults...\$9.00 Ages 5-12...\$5.00 Under 5...free

The ACW is at it Again!

They're making their list and checking it twice! Each year our ACW gives away hundreds of dollars to people and charitable organizations who need their help. The Children's Library and The Mission to Seafarers are just two of many. The ladies work hard at events throughout the year in order to have plenty of money to give away. Their next event is the Cookie Walk on Nov. 17th at the Legion in Richards Landing. This event raised \$700 last year!

Attention Ladies of the Parish!

You are invited to a Christmas Party
on December 9th,
starting at 4:30 pm,
at the home of The Rev. Rosalie Goos
(11 Bristol Place, Sault Ste Marie).

We will be having a finger-food potluck dinner.

Yum!

Advent Outreach

Like last year, our Parish will again be “adopting” a family currently residing at the Women in Crisis Shelter in Sault Ste Marie. We are also collecting food and toiletries to give to our local food banks in Echo Bay and Richards Landing. If you’d like to contribute but won’t be able to make it to a church service before Christmas, you can send a donation to our mailing address:

Box 61, Richards Landing, ON, P0R 1J0

Please make cheques payable to: The Parish of St. Joseph & St. George, and indicate that it is for “Advent Outreach.” Thank you so very much!

Speaking of outreach, our parish is reaching out around the world! We’ve spent \$200 to purchase “gifts” from the PWRDF catalogue called *World of Gifts*. We’re paying for things like goats, chickens, and bicycle repair kits (for community health care workers) to be sent to villages around the world! It’s truly amazing what a little bit of money can do. If you’re interested: <https://pwrdf.org/world-of-gifts/>

Christmas Eve Services

7:30 pm. at St. George's, Echo Bay: Holy Eucharist
Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Rosalie Goos

8:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn: Holy Eucharist
Presider & Preacher: The Ven. Hugh Hamilton

Christmas Day: For anyone interested, there will be a Christmas morning service of Holy Eucharist at St. Luke's Cathedral, 10:00 a.m.

Holden Prayer Around the Cross "Be Not Afraid"

*In the Lady Chapel, Bishophurst
Wednesday, Dec. 11th at 7pm.*

We invite you to join us in this beautiful and moving liturgy as we pray for ourselves and others in this time of waiting and hope.

The next joint service is December 29th, 10:30 a.m. at St. George, Echo Bay. It will be a service of Holy Eucharist with Christmas Lessons & Carols followed by a potluck lunch. Like last year, I'll bring the hot apple cider! 😊

More "Reaching Out" ...

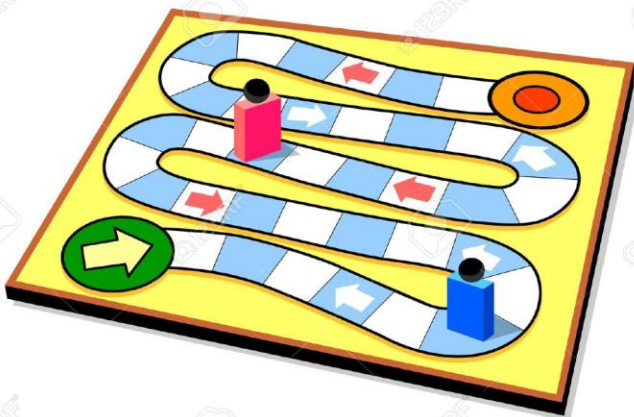
We are working towards the fulfillment of God's purpose by reaching out in love to seniors (and anyone else who wants to join us) in Echo Bay and on the Island:



Faith & Fellowship

The 4th Saturday of each month, up to and including April, we will have a short service of Holy Eucharist followed by fellowship over soup and dessert. 12-1pm at St. George.

And...



Games Afternoon

At the Legion in Richards Landing

The 1st Wednesday of every month. Coffee, tea, goodies...

1-3pm

(P.S. There won't be one on Jan.1st since that's a holiday.)



The **ROCK-A-THON** is on! This year we will be supporting vulnerable populations in Echo Bay and on St. Joseph Island. “Vulnerable” means those who struggle financially, those who are sick, and the very young and old in our communities.

What we’re doing: we are knitting/crocheting slippers and teddy bears (or buying them) for the doctor’s office (Richards Landing) and the nurse practitioner’s office (Echo Bay). We’re also knitting “pick-line” sleeves. Of course, we are collecting money too – this will go to the pharmacy to cover the dispensing fees for any who may struggle to pay.

Our Grand Finales will be Sunday, January 19th! 10:30-11:30 am at St. George’s, Echo Bay. 12:30-1:30 pm at the Town Hall in Richards Landing.

_ *_* *_* *_* *_*

The following article was in last year’s Advent newsletter but it’s important, so here it is again to help you celebrate Advent in your home:



Did you know?

The Advent wreath marks the passage of the weeks of the season of Advent. It was originally devised to encourage family observance of Advent and was introduced to congregational worship only to provide a model for family use.

If you’d like to have an Advent Wreath at home, hit a dollar store for what you need (that’s what I did): plate; four candles (all blue, or all purple, or 1

pink candle for Advent 3); 4 candle holders; some fake greenery to decorate (if you want to).

Advent 1 – The week of Dec.1st ...Light one purple candle each night at supper and have someone read this prayer:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Advent 2 – The week of Dec.8th ...Light two purple candles each night at supper and have someone read this prayer:

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, on God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Advent 3 – The week of Dec.15th ...Light three purple candles (or 2 purple, 1 pink) each night at supper and have someone read this prayer:

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Advent 4 – Dec.22nd, 23rd & 24th ...Light all 4 purple candles (or 3 purple, 1pink) both nights at supper and have someone read this prayer:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

If you'd like to contact me (Susan Montague Koyle):

Phone: 705-253-6456

Email: susan.montague2@gmail.com