

Advent 2021

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

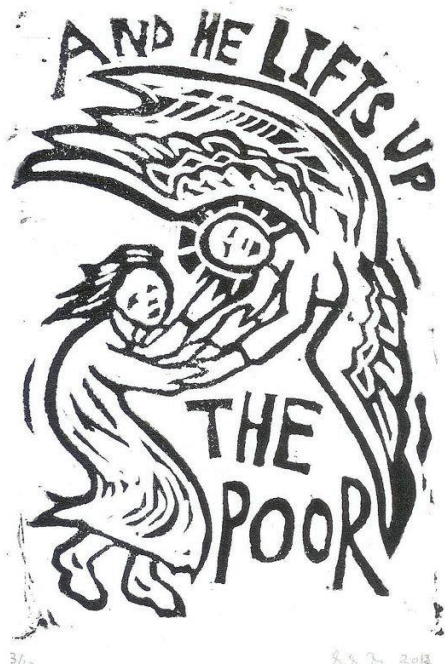
Advent is very nearly here – it begins on Sunday, November 28 – and, as I have said many times before, Advent is sadly neglected. We often do not acknowledge Advent in our lives at all except on Sunday mornings when we go to church and experience the Advent prayers and hymns.

As I have done for the past few years, I am including the Advent prayers at the back of the newsletter so that we can continue to work on correcting our lack of an Advent Season outside the church walls.



Why is it important for us to mark Advent in our lives outside of church? Well, we are formed – often without us even being consciously aware of it – by all that we do and by all that we experience. As Christians, our goal is to be formed into the image of Christ (Rom.8:29). Living according to the rhythms of the Church calendar – which unfolds and explores the events of the life of Jesus Christ – greatly helps in our transformation as a new creation in Christ (2 Cor.5:17).

Advent is an important transformational time for us as Christians. Yes, we are joyfully awaiting the annual celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ – our Saviour. But, our “joyful expectation” includes much more than that. We await the time when Jesus will come again to complete the revelation of God’s kingdom that he began – and that we



continue with the help of the Holy Spirit. It is Luke who accompanies us through Advent this year. He lays out the blueprint for life in God’s kingdom, when it has finally been fully revealed in its perfection, in the words of Mary: “[God] has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty” (Luke 1:52-53). In a nutshell, those who rely on the world’s idea of power (position, property, pocketbook) rather than relying on God, will end up with those things as their reward instead of life with God in God’s kingdom.

Why do we want life in God’s kingdom according to God’s ways rather than human ways? Because life in God’s kingdom means everyone is equal, everyone has enough, and there is no more brokenness, no sickness, no death (Rev.21:4). Life in God’s kingdom is the perfection of being completely reconciled in love with God, with humanity, and with the earth. That is what is coming and that is what we await through the season of Advent.

*Praying you have a blessed Advent season,
The Reverend Susan Montague Koyle*

The New “Normal” of COVID-19

Well, 2021 was supposed to have been much closer to life before the pandemic but, the reality is still masks and social distancing and all that other fun stuff. So, in the church, our fundraising, finances, and being a sign, instrument, and foretaste of the perfection of God’s Kingdom have been different but still there...

CHURCH CLOSET

The following is a report from Marie Eggesfield:

We opened on Oct. 2 for 5 weeks having 43 clients. This year we were grateful for the 28 foot cargo trailer full of furniture and household goods from a lady on the Island, who was moving to a smaller facility. Her family donated these items to "make money for our Church". How great is that to have others outside of our Parish family recognise the work we do in the Community. So far, \$877.06 has been generated and counting. Habitat for Humanity, Pauline's Place, Women in Crises, St. Vincent de Paul and Ken Brown, also received some clothing and goods.

Ham Pasties Minus the Luncheon

Please order your large Ham Pasties by calling Marie at 782-6813. \$15 per dozen. They will be ready for pick-up in the first week of December. Please be sure your order is in soon. Only 24 dozen will be made.

Work Bees to make the pasties will be on Saturday Nov.20 and 27, 9am at St. George's. If you would like to help, please call Liz (705-782-0670).

Thanks much, Liz Christie and
Marie Eggesfield

Our ACW Cookie Walk...umm...I mean, Cookie Trays, are coming!

The annual Cookie Walk is going to look a little different again this year. We will be back in the Legion in Richards Landing during the Christmas Luncheon and Bazaar but the cookies and other Christmas baking will be pre-packaged to sell on plates for \$12 each. The plates hold at least 2 ½ dozen treats! This all happens on Sunday, November 14 from 10am until 2pm. Hope to see you there (Well, I'll be there after church, that is). 😊

Our parish continues to be generous throughout these difficult times...


We gave Metro gift cards to the Echo Bay food bank and to the Richards Landing food bank in the week leading up to Thanksgiving to help support their food ministry in our communities.

We once again raised money through participating in the annual Coldest Night of the Year Walk to end homelessness (although we each had to walk alone rather than in a group).

We have purchased Christmas gifts through our Anglican national charity, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. These gifts include such things as a donkey, chickens, and baby supplies for new mothers.

We have collected money to give to our local Alzheimer's Society.

We appreciate those who have supported our effort to help others. If you would like to help, please send a cheque, (payable to The Anglican Parish of St. Joseph & St. George), to Box 61, Richards Landing, ON, P0R 1J0.

Thank you! 

Advent Outreach

Speaking of helping others, 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 listed above and indicate that it is for the "Advent Outreach". Thank you. 😊

We worship in person each Sunday: 9am at St. George, Echo Bay; 11am at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn Township. People are wearing masks, social distancing, and using a lot of hand sanitizer. 😊 For those not yet comfortable with gathering in a group, there is a short service (usually about 20 minutes) of prayers and a sermon posted on our parish You Tube channel each week (St. Joseph and St. George). My oldest son, Stephen, has been assisting in these recordings for over a year now. 😊 The sermon – an audio recording and a PDF – is also posted on our parish website each week (<https://stjosephandstgeorge.com/>)

Our first worship service together, when COVID-19 restrictions eased up enough to do so, was an outdoor occasion at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn Township. It was wonderful to gather for worship, praising God surrounded by the beauty of God’s glorious creation!



July 25, 2021

Here are a few more photos of that worship service...



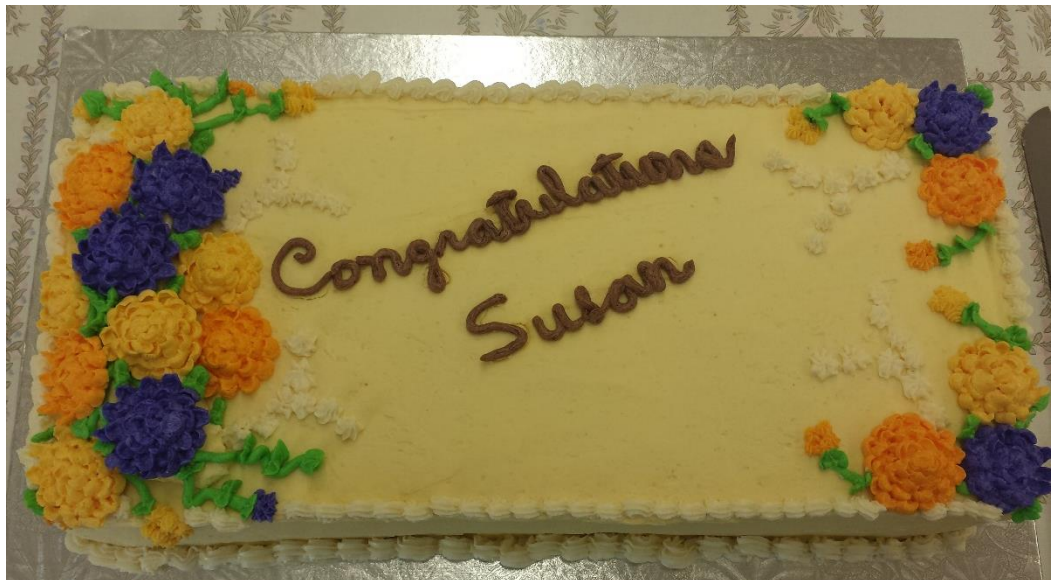
On October 4, 2021, I was ordained a presbyter in the Anglican Church of Canada. It was 20 degrees celsius and sunny – a great day for a “barbecue & bubbly”!



Back Row from left: The Ven. Hugh Hamilton, The Rev. Claire Miller, The Rev. Brad Mittleholtz, The Rev. Holly Klemmensen Middle from left: The Rev. Bill Steadman, Katherine Walker, The Rev. Canon Rosalie Goos Front from left: The Ven. Roberta Wilson-Garrett, The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle, The Most Rev. Anne Germond, The Rev. Susan Montague Koyle, The Very Rev. James McShane

It was as delicious as it looks!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the day a wonderful memory for me!





Advent is meant to be celebrated in the home so here is some information to help you do that:

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 Nov.28...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.5th ...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.12th...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.19th to the 24th...Light all 4 purple candles (or 3 purple, 1pink) each night 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

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Check us out on Facebook:

[The Anglican Parish of St. Joseph & St. George](#)

And don't forget about our website:

<https://stjosephandstgeorge.com/>