

Office Directory : Office Phone: 576-6632 ext. 0 (9 :00am-2:00 pm, Monday to Friday)

Rector— Rev. Canon Greg Mercer: Ext. 225 gmercerc@st-thomaschurch.com

Associate Priest—Rev. Gail Coley MacDonald: Ext. 226 or gmacdonald@st-thomaschurch.com

Parish Administrator—Paulette Hounsell-Collins: Ext 224 or paulettehounsellcollins@st-thomaschurch.com

Office Assistant— Jocelyn Power: Ext. 0 or office@st-thomaschurch.com

Music Director—Ki Adams: kiadams@mun.ca

Percussionist - Tim Langmead

Guitarist—Jayde Eustace

People's Warden—Donna Batten: 579-9252

Rector's Warden—Peter Adams: peteradams@live.ca

Sexton—Darrin Gosse: office@st-thomaschurch.com

Sunday School—Rev. Gail Coley MacDonald sundayschool@st-thomaschurch.com

Stephen Ministry—Jean White-Coady: 368-7050 or jean.jay@nf.sympatico.ca

Prison & Aftercare—Rick Tessier: Ext. 230; 740-0285; or prisonministry@st-thomaschurch.com

Servers/Eucharistic Assistants—Vera Schofield: veramschofield@gmail.com

Honorary Assistants

Rev. Bob Chafe (Archivist): archives@st-thomaschurch.com

Rev. Dr. Bob Rowlands, OPA: bob@warp.nfld.net

Rev. William Rice: rwilliamrice@gmail.com

Rev. Ken Penney: penneyri@gmail.com

Ven. Sam Rose: srose@anglicanenl.net

Important Dates

Sunday, February 4—**Candlemas Service**

Weekly Services

Sunday 8:00 am Church
10:30 am Church

Wednesday 10:00 am Chapel

Deadline for Bulletin submissions is Wednesday at 2:00 pm.

Bulletin/Flower Memorials can be requested by calling the church office at 576-6632 ext. 0



St. Thomas' Anglican Church

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January 28, 2018



Vision: To be a radically welcoming servant church.

Mission: A Community of believers, exploring our faith in Christ and embracing our neighbourhood through sharing and caring.

From the Rector's Desk
(Heaven and Hell)

Dear Friends in Christ,

I came across this little story a friend sent to me some years ago. It' entitled "Heaven and Hell," but to me it is an important message on Christian charity. For what it is worth, here it is:

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said, "Lord I would like to know what Heaven and Hell are like?" The Lord led the holy man to two doors. He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth water. The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles that were strapped to their arms and each found it possible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful, but because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths. The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering. The Lord said, "You have seen Hell."

They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one. There was the large round table with the large pot of stew which made the holy man's mouth water. The people were equipped with the same long handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, "I don't understand." It is simple," said the Lord, "it requires but one skill. You see, they have learned to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves."

I don't know who makes up these stories but it sure gets the message across. Probably heaven and hell is not just a place but a condition; a product of how we live in relationship to one another, with God, and with the whole of God's creation. After all, Jesus not only preached a future kingdom, but a here and now message: "The time is **fulfilled**, and the kingdom of God has **come near**; repent and believe in the good news" (Mark 1:15). And what is that Good News? "Love your Neighbour as yourself" (Mark 12:31). "I came not to be served but to serve" (Matthew 20:28). "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (ACTS 20:35). All of which we see **fulfilled** in the person of Jesus Christ.

In His Service,
Canon Greg+

January 28—February 4

Sunday 28	Monday 29	Tuesday 30	Wednesday 31
Holy Communion 8:00 am—Church Parish Communion 10:30 am—Church	Ladies Book Study 1:30—Canon Howitt Outward-Looking Team 7:00—Library	Stretch n Size 1:30—Canon Howitt	Men's Ministry Group 7:00 am—Library Holy Communion 10:00 am—Chapel Men's Service Club 8:00 pm—Canon Howitt
Thursday 1	Friday 2	Saturday 3	Sunday 4
Archives 10:00 am—Library			Holy Communion 8:00 am—Church Parish Communion 10:30 am—Church
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY / PROPER 5 ISAIAH 40:21-31; PSALM 147:1-12, 21C; 1 CORINTHIANS 9:16-23; MARK 1:29-39 <u>February 4, 2018</u>			
Sidespeople	Greeters	Eucharistic Assistants	Servers
Team: 2 Captain: Jack C	(S) Barb & Dave L (W) Tim & Lisa E (N) Edmund R	Betty Faye Heather	Betty Faye
Prayer Teams	Intercessor	Reader	Power Point
Roberta/Derek	Carol T	Gillian G	Sophia A

Our Prayers

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil and The Most Revd Francisco De Assis Da Silva, Primate of Brazil & Bishop of South-Western Brazil.

Tri-Diocesan Prayers: Pray for the Parish of Bay Roberts/Coley's Point, Rector The Rev. Kenute Francis, with congregations at St. Matthew, Bay Roberts and St. John the Evangelist, Coley's Point. Also pray for the Parish of Bay St. George, Priest in Charge The Rev. Canon Ruby Carter, RD, and congregations at St. George, Robinsons; St. Michael and All Angels, St. David's; St. Mary Magdalene, Jeffrey's; and St. Mary the Virgin, St. George's.

Remember the sick and those who have asked us for our prayers: June C., John C., Dorothy H., Emily, Hawa and family, Lillian W, Roger R, Sandra, Eva H, Genevieve H, Krista P, Howard H, Erin M, William H, Barbara and Ella, Jeremy R, Nita S, Dorothy H, Mary K, Janet C, David C, Gilbert B, Neil C, Doreen M, Payton B, Emily B, Walter O, Edna D, Larry C, Peter H, Roy G, Kathryn F, Jean McGrath; Daisy C, Viola McBay Chenoweth, Joan Boland, Beth T, Eric H. & Family, Rachel Forsey and Tina Taylor & Greg Carter.

Visioning Committee Prayer: *Heavenly Father, we pray that St. Thomas' may be renewed for its mission in this city. Inspire our minds with a vision of your kingdom in this time and this place. Draw us by faith so that we may live to serve you here in this parish and to look to life eternal.*



St. Thomas'
Parish
News

ATTENTION Sidespersons, Greeters, Hospitality teams, Outward-looking team, ACW and MSC, and ALL others wishing to participate: there will be a parish gathering on the first Sunday in February following the Candlemas service to take a closer look at our new parish vision and mission, and see how we can contribute to it. Let's get together and make this work. Canon Greg.

Church Envelopes: Your 2018 church envelopes are available on the tables at the back of the church. If there are any changes to your mailing address, please inform the church office.

Gluten-free Communion Wafers: For those who have Celiac Disease or are wheat intolerant, gluten-free communion wafers are available at the altar. Please inform the server if you wish to receive the gluten-free host.

Home Communion: Are you or someone you know unable to attend our regular Communion services? Did you know that our parish provides Home Communion? If you would like further information or would like to avail of this ministry, please contact Jean White-Coady at 368-7050 or via e-mail at jean.jay@nf.sympatico.ca

Confirmation classes The following are the dates of classes for the next several months: February 4th has been postponed to February 18th.

February 18th, March 4th, March 18th, April 29th, May 13th and May 27th

Candlemas Service: Sunday, February 4 we will be keeping the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord with our annual Candlemas Service. This is a beautiful, ancient service of light welcoming Jesus as the Light of the World.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Please note that the Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) is scheduled for Sunday, March 18, 2018 in the Parish Hall beginning at 7 pm. All groups and committees submitting reports are asked to have them submitted electronically (if possible) to the office by Friday, February 23 at the very latest. Note also that any parish groups with their own bank account need to have their books audited.

Convertible Car Seat needed for a needy family. Please contact Glenn Myers at 753-2163.



Coming Soon – Embracing an Adult Faith: Author and Bible scholar Marcus Borg invites us to join him in revisiting Christianity’s most fundamental questions: Who is God? Who is Jesus? What does Salvation mean? In this *five-session*, faith-formation resource, participants enjoy the rare privilege of witnessing Marcus in dialogue with a small, diverse group of adults as they honestly confront BIG questions about faith.

Annual Pancake/sausage/Baked Beans Dinner & Card Game: A.C.W. and the Men's Service Club will sponsor their annual pancake/sausage/baked beans dinner (with dessert buffet) on Tuesday, February 13th in Canon Wood Hall. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children (12 years and under). Cards will begin at 7:30 p.m. Cost \$5.00. Please bring your own cards and baskets. Tea and coffee will be served. Our congregational support would be very much appreciated.

The "Airport Kitchen Party" is coming to St. Augustine's on January 28 at 7 pm. Featuring Sean Sullivan, Rob Slaney, Sheldon Thornhill and the young, but talented, Liam Corrigan, we are sure you will have a great time. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door. Please call the office at 753-1931 or email staugustine@nf.aibn.com for more information or to book your tickets.

Annual Arctic Char dinner: A second Arctic Char dinner will be held on Saturday, February 3, 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 CLB Regimental Band’s Annual Valentine’s Dinner & Dance: Saturday, February 10. Doors open at 7:00 pm with dinner starting at 7:30 pm. \$80.00 per couple. Advance tickets only \$75.00 per couple! Order before January 31 and save. Call or text 330-2334 for your tickets.

St. Michael's Men's Association: are having a Jigg's Dinner with pancakes for dessert (\$18.00) with a mini bake sale at their Parish Hall on Kiwanis Street on Saturday February 10, at 6:30 pm. Take-outs available. For tickets call Buster at 579-8279

Wesley United Church will be holding a Pancake Supper & Card Game on Tuesday, February 13 at 5:30 pm. Pancakes, sausages, bologna and baked beans will be served along with dessert and tea or coffee. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults & \$6.00 for children under 12 and can be purchased by calling Marvin at 579-7900, Pheobe at 726-1689 or the Church Office at 579-3682.