

**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](mailto:gmercerc@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Associate Priest**—Rev. Gail Coley MacDonald: Ext. 226 or [gmacdonald@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:gmacdonald@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Parish Administrator**—Paulette Hounsell-Collins: Ext 224 or [paulettehounsellcollins@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:paulettehounsellcollins@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Office Assistant**— Jocelyn Power: Ext. 0 or [office@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:office@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Music Director**—Ki Adams: [kiadams@mun.ca](mailto:kiadams@mun.ca)

**Percussionist** - Tim Langmead

**Guitarist**—Jayde Eustace

**People's Warden**—Donna Batten: 579-9252

**Rector's Warden**—Peter Adams: [peteradams@live.ca](mailto:peteradams@live.ca)

**Sexton**—Darrin Gosse: [office@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:office@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Sunday School**—Rev. Gail Coley MacDonald [sundayschool@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:sundayschool@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Stephen Ministry**—Jean White-Coady: 368-7050 or [jean.jay@nf.sympatico.ca](mailto:jean.jay@nf.sympatico.ca)

**Prison & Aftercare**—Rick Tessier: Ext. 230; 740-0285; or [prisonministry@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:prisonministry@st-thomaschurch.com)

**Servers/Eucharistic Assistants**—Vera Schofield: [veramschofield@gmail.com](mailto:veramschofield@gmail.com)

#### Honorary Assistants

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

Rev. Dr. Bob Rowlands, OPA: [bob@warp.nfld.net](mailto:bob@warp.nfld.net)

Rev. William Rice: [rwilliamrice@gmail.com](mailto:rwilliamrice@gmail.com)

Rev. Ken Penney: [penneyri@gmail.com](mailto:penneyri@gmail.com)

Ven. Sam Rose: [srose@anglicanenl.net](mailto:srose@anglicanenl.net)

#### Important Dates

February 11—Baptism

February 14—Ash Wednesday

February 18—Confirmation Class

February 19—Ladies Quiet Night

#### 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

8 Military Road

St. John's, NL A1C 2C4

Ph: 709- 576-6632

Fax: 709-737-0472

[office@st-thomaschurch.com](mailto:office@st-thomaschurch.com)

<http://www.st-thomaschurch.com>

## February 4, 2018



The Bulletin

**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

### (Diocesan Commission on Parish Renewal and Viability)

Dear Friends in Christ,

In June of last year the Executive Committee of the Diocese passed a motion for the Bishop to "**appoint a Diocesan Task Force (The Commission) to examine and propose a restructuring of the Diocese for consideration at the next meeting of Diocesan Synod in the Fall of 2018...**" The Commission was "tasked" with the business of parish renewal and viability, and to investigate present trends of ministry in the church. Essentially to look at new ways (models) of being church that may very well shape the way we "do" church here in St. John's and throughout the Diocese. For instance, in the cities of St. John's and Mount Pearl we have eight Anglican Church buildings, three of which has a capacity to seat 1000 people, and yet the average Sunday attendance of all eight combined can fit into either the Cathedral, St. Mary's or St. Thomas'. Do we need eight buildings in these two cities? Is this NOT a bad use of God's resources? Bad stewardship in other words. I think most of us would agree that we don't need all these buildings but none of us wants to lose our own.

All denominations are experiencing decline in the church. One of the driving factors for this is the demographic landscape. But the churches that are most affected are the mainline churches of which the Anglican Church is one of them. Is there a solution? Is there a way forward? Is there hope for the Anglican Church?

The week before last, as Chair of the Commission, I travelled Labrador with our Bishop and our Labrador representatives making a series of presentations and conversing with the people of the Big Land. There was a lot of great feedback. Starting next Saturday the Commission will run a series of Town Hall meetings on the Island portion of Diocese. The Town Hall meetings are for everyone – not just clergy and wardens or vestry. They are for the people of the Anglican Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador. The first of those is this *Saturday, February 10 at the Parish of St. Mark's Logy Bay Road from 10 am to noon*, and involves the parishes of St. Mark's, **St. Thomas'** and the Cathedral. It is very important that the members of our parish make a special effort to attend.

Already parts of our Diocese have made significant steps to come together and combine resources for a more effect ministry. Needless to say, we need to hear from the parishes. Only together can we find a way forward. I look forward to seeing you at St. Mark's this coming Saturday morning. And please pray for the church and for the work of the Commission.

Prayerfully,  
Canon Greg+

*February 4–11*

Sunday 4	Monday 5	Tuesday 6	Wednesday 7
<b>Holy Communion</b> 8:00 am—Church <b>Parish Communion</b> 10:30 am—Church	<b>Ladies Book Study</b> 1:30—Canon Howitt	<b>Stretch n Size</b> 1:30—Canon Howitt	<b>Men's Ministry Group</b> 7:00 am—Library <b>Holy Communion</b> 10:00 am—Chapel <b>Men's Service Club</b> 8:00 pm—Canon Howitt
Thursday 8	Friday 9	Saturday 10	Sunday 11
<b>Archives</b> 10:00 am—Library			<b>Holy Communion</b> 8:00 am—Church <b>Parish Communion</b> 10:30 am—Church
<p><i>February 11, 2018</i></p> <p>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD/ Speaker : Canon Greg            DANIEL 7:9-10, 13-14; PSALM 99; 2 PETER 1:16-19; LUKE 9:28-36</p>			
Sidespeople	Greeters	Eucharistic Assistants	Servers
Team: 3 Captain: Gail I	(S) Elizabeth G (W) Mary H (N) Glynn M	Vera May Derek	Vera May
Prayer Teams	Intercessor	Reader	Power Point
Glen/Edmund	Heather	Tim E	Scott

## Our Prayers

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Anglican Church of Burundi and The Most Revd Martin Nyaboho, Archbishop of Burundi & Bishop of Makamba.

**Tri-Diocesan Prayers:** Pray for the Parish of Belleoram, Rector The Rev. Tryphena Vallis, and congregations at St. Lawrence, Belleoram; St. Thomas, English Harbour West; St. Michael & All Angels, St. Jacques; and St. Stephen, Recontre East. Also pray for the Parish of Bell Island, Rector Pro Tem The Rev. Ron Lee.

**Remember the sick and those who have asked us for our prayers:** June C., John C., 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, Tina Taylor & Greg Carter and Rev Gordon W.

**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.*



The Diocesan Commission for Parish Renewal and Viability: will be carrying out a series of Town Hall Meetings over the course of the Winter and Spring, 2018. The first of those is scheduled for Saturday, February 10 at St. Mark the Evangelist, Logy Bay Road from 10 am to 12 noon. This gathering is for the parishes of St. Mark's, St. Thomas' and the Cathedral. Clergy and Wardens are asked to encourage as many of their congregants as possible to attend these meetings. There will be some presentations from the Commission but the meetings will be organized for conversation. People will have ample opportunity to respond and share ideas. Refreshments will be made available upon arrival.

**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](mailto:jean.jay@nf.sympatico.ca)

# Parish Information cont...

**Confirmation classes:** The following are the dates of classes for the next several months: Please note that the Confirmation class scheduled for February 4th has been postponed and will now take place on February 18th.:

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

**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 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** is 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.

**Pancake Breakfast in Support of Housing and Homelessness Initiatives:** Tuesday, February 13, from 7:00 am until 11:00 am, at the Provincial Learning Centre & The Network Café, 77 Charter Avenue, Pleasantville. Live entertainment with Mark Hiscock & Craig Young. Prizes and more. Thank you for your support! Suggested Donation: 5.00. For more information call 722-1030.