

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

February 11—Baptism

February 14—Ash Wednesday

February 18—Confirmation Class

February 20—Ladies Quiet Night

February 21—Lenten 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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February 11, 2018



The Bulletin

Transfiguration Of Jesus

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
(Holy Baptism)

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Bible presents many images of Holy Baptism. The Introduction to Baptism in the Book of Alternative Services gives us a sneak peek into the richness of the Sacrament (BAS, pg. 146)

Baptism is participation in Christ's death and resurrection (Romans 6.3-5; Colossians 2.12); a washing away of sin (1 Corinthians 6.11); a new birth (John 3.5); an enlightenment by Christ (Ephesians 5.14); a reclothing in Christ (Galatians 3.27); a renewal by the Spirit (Titus 3.5); the experience of salvation from the flood (1 Peter 3.20-21); an exodus from bondage (1 Corinthians 10.1-2) and a liberation into a new humanity in which barriers of division, whether of sex or race or social status, are transcended (Galatians 3.27-28; 1 Corinthians 12.13).

This is no way an exhaustive list but from these few biblical examples we get a picture of just how rich Holy Baptism really is. When I teach about the Sacraments I always try to leave the people with ONE word that makes it easy to capture the essence of the Sacrament. For Holy Baptism that one word is BELONGING. When we are baptised we BELONG to Christ; we BELONG to the Body of Christ, i.e., the Church. At the end of the baptismal service we welcome the newly baptized with these words: **"We receive you into the Household of God."**

The image of Belonging is certainly a notable one and easy to relate to since it is all about relationships, all about belonging to the family of God. Of all the images associated with Baptism the one reality is that it is a sign of new life in Christ. Baptism unites Christ with his people, and unites people with one another around Christ. That is to say, that the union is both personal and corporate. We belong to Christ and no matter how different we are, including our theological differences, we are still united to one another in and through Christ by way of the Sacrament of Baptism. We all BELONG to the ONE family who together **"Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood."**

Welcome to the Family of God,
Canon Greg+

February 11-18

Sunday 11	Monday 12	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 14
Holy Communion 8:00 am—Church Parish Communion 10:30 am—Church	Ladies Book Study 1:30—Canon Howitt	Pancake Supper 5:30 pm—Auditorium Stretch n Size 1:30—Canon Howitt	Men's Ministry Group 7:00 am—Library Holy Communion 10:00 am—Chapel Visioning 7:00 pm—Library Men's Service Club 8:00 pm—Canon Howitt
Thursday 15	Friday 16	Saturday 17	Sunday 18
Archives 10:00 am—Library			Holy Communion 8:00 am—Church Parish Communion 10:30 am—Church
<p><i>February 18, 2018</i></p> <p>Speaker: Canon Greg</p> <p>FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT</p> <p>GENESIS 9:8-17; PSALM 25:1-9; 1 PETER 3:18-22; MARK 1:9-15</p>			
Sidespeople	Greeters	Eucharistic Assistants	Servers
Team: 4 Captain: Wilf B	(S) Gwyn B (W) Joan S (N) Mahlodi T	Rick Faye Vivian	Rick Faye
Prayer Teams	Intercessor	Reader	Power Point
Diane/Derek	Don H	Betty	William R

St. Augustine's Anglican Church: at 1 Westerland Road, St. John's is having an International Buffet Dinner on Tuesday, February 13! Tickets are \$20.00 each (\$15.00 for Seniors and Students, \$6.00 for kids 5-10 years old and free for children 4 and under. Dinner starts at 5:30pm. Please call the office at 753-1931 or email staugustine@nf.aibn.com to book your tickets.

Gonzaga High School: will be holding its annual Ocean Ranger Memorial Prayer Service to remember those who lost their lives in the tragedy 36 years ago. The service will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 10:45am at St. Pius X church. All are invited to attend

Alpha Introductory Dinner: Ever wonder Why did Jesus die? or Does God heal today? Ever wonder where you can come to explore the Christian Faith – a safe place to ask questions. Why not come to an Alpha Introductory Dinner at Elim Pentecostal Church on Feb 20 at 6:30pm. For further information or to register call Wanda at 364-8778.

Our Prayers

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Anglican Church of Canada, The Most Revd Fredrick Hiltz Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

Tri-Diocesan Prayers: Pray for the Parish of Bonavista, Rector The Rev. Shaun O'Connor, The Christ Church, Bonavista, St. Mary, Elliston. Pray for The Parish of Bonne Bay South, Priest-in-Charge The Rev. Kay Short, The Good Shepherd, Norris Point, along with St. Matthew, Rocky Harbour and St. Alban, Sally's Cove.

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.*



St. Thomas'
Parish
News

Lenten Services: All Lenten services, apart from Holy Week, begin at 7.

Ash Wednesday – Traditional Service from the BAS with ashes and Holy Eucharist

Wednesday's in Lent – Folk Eucharist

HOLY WEEK (*Tentative*)

Tuesday – Liturgy of Blessing

Wednesday – Folk Eucharist

Thursday – Traditional Stripping of the Altar with Holy Eucharist

Good Friday – Passion of the Lord

Children's Liturgy (10 am)

Traditional Three Hour (noon)

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: Please note that the Confirmation class scheduled for February 4 has been postponed and will now take place on February 18:

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

Annual Congregational Meeting: Please note that the Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) is scheduled for Sunday, March 18, 2018, in the Parish Hall, beginning at 7pm. 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.

Church News cont...

THINKING OF OTHERS THIS LENT: If you are looking for a Lenten self-denial or outreach suggestion this year, why not consider donating the cost of your daily Coffee, Latte or other treat to the Sharing Fund? At the moment, the "funds" in the fund are getting low. Please consider **giving up** some small treat or luxury this Lent and **taking up** the challenge of helping to replenish this important fund. You can give weekly or all in one great gift of love at Easter. Use one of the special envelopes from your box or pick up one labelled "Sharing Fund" from the table by the breezeway door. Thanks!

Folk Eucharist (Mass): As a part of our Lenten Journey we will be offering a Folk Eucharist every Wednesday night (except for Ash Wednesday) beginning at 7pm in the church. A folk Eucharist is an informal celebration of the Lord's Supper. The musical instrument of choice is the guitar, although Piano can also be used, and the music, while sacred, has a kind of folk rhythm. The sermon is usually conversational (dialogue) and the people are seated in a circular fashion (horseshoe) around the Altar. We will probably celebrate the Eucharist at the back of the church around the Font. Spread the word.

The Fall Fair Committee: is looking for donations of wool suitable for socks, caps, mittens, slippers, sweaters and toys. If you have wool to donate, or would like to help with knitting or crocheting (wool can be provided), please contact Lorna Martin (576-1595) or Donna Batten (579-9252). Thank you for your help!

Advance Notice: Fall Fair Events for 2018: Please mark the following dates in your calendars and tell your friends!

Silent Auction and Cold Plate Supper: Saturday, April 21

Fall Fair: Saturday, October 13

Christmas Afternoon Tea: Saturday, November 24

Groups and Ministries

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 13 in Canon Wood Hall. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm. Cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children (12 years and under). Cards will begin at 7:30pm. Cost \$5.00. Please bring your own cards and baskets. Tea and coffee will be served. Our congregational support would be very much appreciated.



Wesley United Church: will be holding a Pancake Supper & Card Game on Tuesday, February 13, at 5:30pm. 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 7:00am 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.