

Sudbury Manitoulin Deanery Digest

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[Editor's Notes: Improvements: If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding our editorial policies, please feel free to send them to me.]

ADVENT 3

'The days are coming,' declares the Lord, 'when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land.'
—Jeremiah 33:14-15

1. [News and Events](#)

a. [Synod Office Christmas hours](#)

The Diocese of Algoma Synod Office will be closed from Tuesday, December 22nd at noon until Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 9 a.m.

Archbishop Anne and all the staff wish our Diocesan family a beautiful Christmas filled with the hope, peace, love, and joy of the Christ child.

Blessings to all,



b. [Advent stories and Reflections](#)

i. [From Archdeacon Glen Miller's Desk](#)

Hello,

In many of our Churches the four candles of the Advent wreath have been used to focus on some aspects of the Christian Faith. Contrary to some opinions there is no one pattern even though for

many congregations the: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love pattern has entered into the realm of tradition. In this Parish we have been using this traditional pattern and so this Sunday will have a focus on Joy as part of our gathering. I have been thinking about that theme as I prepare my weekly messages, Facebook posts, and short reflection for shut-ins and through it all has been the words of a song recommended in our Sunday School Curriculum. The words that stick in my mind are: 'This joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me. The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away'. During this pandemic it can often seem that we have lost our joy and some fear it will never come back. But if that little song is correct and the world didn't give us joy what did? In the 15th Chapter of John's Gospel Jesus describes his relationship with his Father in heaven and with his disciples using the example of a grape vine. "I am the vine, you are the branches", Jesus said. He also described his Father as the vine-dresser. Within that bit of teaching are the words "my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete". From other references we can see that our joy comes from God and it is God's desire for us to experience that joy. I have found it very interesting this week to explore the concept through the scriptures and I commend that activity to all of you. If you feel you have lost your joy it will be very worthwhile to find out ways of recovering that joy – scripture has many suggestion. The world around us is not the source of joy – God is. If we abide in Jesus joy comes as part of the package and 'the world didn't give it (so) the world can't take it away'. As we approach the celebration of the birth of our Saviour may we be blessed with joy in our hearts. Glen +
a prayer

"O most merciful Father, we humbly thank thee for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For life and health and safety, for power to work and leisure to rest, for all that is beautiful in creation and in the lives of your people, we praise and magnify thy holy Name. But, above all, we thank thee for our spiritual mercies in Christ Jesus our Lord, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (BCP p. 736)

- ii. An Advent message from Archbishop Anne
Archbishop Anne Germond brings 2020 Advent greetings to the people of God in Algoma and Moosonee. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=30f703b4ba&e=23056c3f4c>

via Anglican Church of Canada News

- iii. Lessons & Carols: From Coast to Coast to Coast
General Synod has worked with Anglican cathedrals across the country to offer a special, national service of Lessons and Carols. Files for optional inclusion in diocesan and parish services will be available for download beginning Thursday, December 10, with an online national broadcast to be held on Friday, December 18. Link at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=a7d258d701&e=23056c3f4c>
- iv. Archbishop Greg's reflections on Advent 2
In this 10 minute video, Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson (Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land, Diocese of Calgary) reflects upon the Gospel reading for Advent 2, in the light of the pandemic. Watch at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=030f7c652a&e=23056c3f4c>
- v. Join Bishop Jane in prayer this Advent
The Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander (Diocese of Edmonton) is sharing short videos of Advent Prayers and the Lighting of the Candles throughout this coming Advent and Christmas season. Video links can be found on the diocesan website. Watch at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=05c8fd76da&e=23056c3f4c>
- vi. Advent Talks series looks at "Shopping for a Messiah"
Weekly throughout Advent, the Diocese of Fredericton will be sharing retired bishop and leader the Rt. Rev. Bill Hockin's Advent Talks series, which include two reflections from Bishop Hockins as well as a reflection each from the Rev. Canon Albert Snelgrove and Dr. Barry Craig. Read more/Watch at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=cd4cb41041&e=23056c3f4c>
- vii. An Advent study of the Gospel of Mark facilitated by Valerie Tryon, St. Alban's, Capreol (part of her supervised parish placement for the C.A.L.L. program at Thorneloe University). See attached poster with contact info if you are interested in participating vis an online platform.
- viii. New episode of Sacred Teachings: Sweetwater
Have you tuned into the latest season of the Sacred Teachings podcast? In a season which focuses on Stories of Hope and Light,

this week's guest Mary Louise Bernard, Mi'kmaq from Nova Scotia, shares about "sweet water" (sap) and the importance of keeping ceremony. Link at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=e15fe2a964&e=23056c3f4c>

c. Seeking Justice

i. The Archbishop's motto for 2021

What does the Lord require of you?

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."
Micah 6:8

ii. Foundation Forward podcast: Episode 4

via Anglican Church of Canada News

In the latest podcast episode from the Anglican Foundation, Christopher Dawes interviews author Lawrence Scanlan of Kingston, Ont., an award-winning journalist over a 40-year career. Scanlan spent one year visiting food banks, hospitality centres, drop-ins across Canada to West Africa. Listen at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=29ff9b5dbd&e=23056c3f4c>

iii. Video segments of "Peoples of African Descent & Canadian Churches" livestream event now available for viewing

via Canadian Council of Churches

Videos of key moments are now available online, from the Nov. 26 cross-Canada conversation which looked at the experience of people of African descent in a Canadian Christian context. Watch at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=3a1cf1b8c4&e=23056c3f4c>

iv. Indigenous spirituality & the Christian faith

via Vancouver School of Theology

This January interterm course (Jan. 4-15) investigates the historical relationship between Indigenous and Christian heritage, with the goal of offering possible models for telling the two stories "side by side, until they can be told together." Read more at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=72b42deaa8&e=23056c3f4c>

- v. Final day of 16 Days of Activism to End Gender-Based Violence takes place tomorrow
The Diocese of Edmonton has worked with local Muslim and Jewish leaders to create a series of brief but powerful videos addressing the ways faith traditions can speak to gender-based violence. A resourceful toolkit is also available for download from the diocese, which provides notes on Scriptural interpretation, pastoral counselling and more. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=7f29444ed1&e=23056c3f4c>
- vi. First African American cardinal is a climate change leader
via Inside Climate News
Recently-elevated Cardinal Wilton Gregory asked for an action plan in 2015 (as Archbishop of Atlanta) to help boost Pope Francis's encyclical on climate change, and has been "sticking his neck out" for climate change for quite a while. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=364854a50a&e=23056c3f4c>
- vii. Maori Anglicans tell of turning grief to joy during 'planetary crisis' webinar
via Episcopal News Service
Anglicans should look to Indigenous peoples for a deep, ancient understanding of the natural world and learn from their practices to forge holistic solutions to environmental problems, National Indigenous Archbishop Mark MacDonald told attendees in the first segment of a 4-part Advent webinar series. Link at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=07812b2054&e=23056c3f4c>
- vii. Groups work together to provide tablets to care home residents
via the Battlefords News-Optimist
Community organizations in Borden, Sask., including St. John's Anglican Church (Diocese of Saskatoon), have donated a total of \$1,000 to buy tablets for the residents of Borden Care Home so they can keep in touch with family, as they are not allowed to have visitors. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=affbe2f27f&e=23056c3f4c>
- viii. Resolve
If you find yourself overwhelmed and tempted to despair, lift up your eyes and fix them on God, trusting in God's goodness and mercy. Strengthen your resolve to oppose violence, protect the

earth, toil for justice, and work for peace. Do not fear; only believe.
 –Br. David Vryhof
 Society of Saint John the Evangelist

d. COVID UPDATE:

- i. 'God is waiting for us' via Anglican Journal
 As COVID-19 propels us towards a different kind of Christmas, this Advent could be a time for considering God's expectations for Christians and the church, says Newfoundland priest and theological studies professor Robert Cooke. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=d7c441d06d&e=23056c3f4c>
- ii. Holy Trinity's pandemic pageant of the Christmas Story keeps annual tradition alive
 Holy Trinity's (Diocese of Toronto) Christmas Story has been an annual tradition since 1938. This year, the event has been reinvented into a film, presenting the classic Nativity story against the backdrop of life in an urban centre in the middle of a pandemic. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=63098e8793&e=23056c3f4c>
 Also, Visit "The Christmas Story 2020: A Pandemic Pageant" website...
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=bdbaabdf66&e=23056c3f4c>
- iii. Longing and living in our Advent lockdown via Anglican Journal
 In a guest column from the Rev. Dr. Kara Mandryk, coordinator of the Henry Budd College for Ministry, she asks, "Why does it take so long to be more like Jesus?" Read more:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=6516a204a2&e=23056c3f4c>
- iv. Voices from the table via Niagara Anglican
 A young adult ministry initiative gathering people in the Diocese of Niagara between the ages of 19-35, called The Table, has grown in membership during the pandemic. This Niagara Anglican article asks some members directly why they attend the group. Read more:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=7a0f7777d2&e=23056c3f4c>

- v. Hanukkah a much-needed celebration of light in darkness of pandemic, says Winnipeg rabbi via CBC Manitoba
Hanukkah begins tonight at sunset. For the Jewish community, Hanukkah has always been the antidote to fighting the increasing darkness. To our Jewish neighbours and friends, we wish "Chag urim sameach!" Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=5fcf238991&e=23056c3f4c>
- vi. COVID took my friend, who was much more than his connection to C.S. Lewis via the Toronto Star
The Rev. Michael Coren (Diocese of Niagara) remembers his late friend—someone far greater than a font of anecdotes about writer and lay theologian C.S. Lewis (to whom he'd served as private secretary, and later the literary adviser for Lewis' estate). Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=229545e4c2&e=23056c3f4c>
- vii. A shattered touchstone: becoming a touchless community
"When we get together, if we get together, we see each other in masks. At the Eucharist, the laity are disabled from sharing the consecrated wine. Services are 45 minutes max and you go in one door and another. We join the parade or choose to stay home Sunday from church... another broken touchstone." Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=425b822699&e=23056c3f4c>
- viii. Church decorated for Christmas despite COVID-19 regulations banning worship via Vernon [B.C.] Morning Star
"A night club without patrons is just an empty room; a church without a congregation is still a church. It has symbolic value," writes faith columnist Jim Taylor. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=3e0020c313&e=23056c3f4c>
- h. Thoughts and Reflections
 - i. WCC puts forth "fragile hope" and "sound of angels in the air" via World Council of Churches
In a special Christmas message, WCC interim general secretary Rev. Prof. Dr Ioan Sauca reflects on fear, despair, hope and joy. Read more at:
<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=eb03192ab4&e=23056c3f4c>

ii. God wishes us small

Tara Saracuse (Diocese of British Columbia) asks, "What if there is an opportunity this Advent and Christmas to be powerfully small? ... Instead of focusing on what is diminished in our celebrations this year, maybe God is inviting us to consider the powerful in the small things in our lives." Read more at:

https://bc.anglican.ca/blog/god-wishes-us-small?utm_source=Anglican+Church+of+Canada&utm_campaign=fa297a30d9-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_12_08_08_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_6285aca377-fa297a30d9-243900825

iii. Discerning the word of God in a busy world – Arusha Call #5

via Anglican Church of Canada

The World Council of Churches' Conference on World Mission and Evangelism met in Arusha, Tanzania, in March 2018. From this meeting, the more than 1,000 participants, who were all regularly engaged in mission and evangelism, issued the Arusha Call to Discipleship.

A thought-provoking article by Dean Geoffrey Hall (Diocese of Fredericton), which was published in the latest edition of the New Brunswick Anglican. Read more at:

<https://anglican.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d120aa8efc4112c7cae41108e&id=67a4b530d8&e=23056c3f4c>

v. Watch

The days and hours of Advent continue to invite us to the work of waiting and watching: by lamplight, by starlight, and in the darkness before dawn. Truth dawns gradually, nearly imperceptibly, in dense constellations. –Br. Keith Nelson

God Bearer

We say yes to so many things. And sometimes, we say yes to the very thing for which we have been destined from all eternity. When we say yes to God, our yes echoes that of Mary, and like her, we become God-bearers. –Br. James Koester

The Society of St. John the Evangelist: <https://www.ssje.org/>

i. Prayers Requested via Algoma and Anglican Church of Canada News

i. Anglican-Lutheran Weekly Prayer Cycle. See attached document.

j. Deanery Parishes producing Services online

i. Churches of Manitoulin Island

Virtual services are usually up late Saturday night on YouTube.

Best way to access the services is to simply Goggle: Doug Prebble YouTube. The videos are dated, choose and enjoy!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQDMLTd18dMsO8hW9Tpzp3A>

ii. Church of the Epiphany

(1) <http://epiphanysudbury.org/news> Streamed on Video available anytime after Saturday afternoon.

(2) Online 'Godly Play' for the children.
With thanks to Fr. Aidan and the children's ministry of the Church of the Ascension, we are posting their weekly online 'Godly Play Storytime' on the Church of the Epiphany's Facebook Page:
(<https://www.facebook.com/EpiphanySudbury/>)
Parents are encouraged to check it out and share with their children.

iii. Church of the Ascension

Online service and Godly Play Storytime on their FACEBOOK PAGE @ASCENSIONSUDBURY

iv. Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively

<https://www.thelivelyanglican.ca/news>

v. St. Alban's Capreol

www.facebook.com/alban.church – they have posted the readings from the Revised Common Lectionary and many other very valuable pieces of hope in various posts.

vi. All Saints Coniston

<https://allsaintsangcon.weebly.com/sunday-service-bulletins.html>
The full service is printed there with a couple of video's embedded.

vii. St. Georges Espanola

Check out their online services on facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/1657007827882930/videos/1148115742201139/>

2. Deanery of Sudbury–Manitoulin Council

Website: <http://www.deanerysudbury-manitoulin.org>

3. Diocese of Algoma

Website: <http://www.dioceseofalgoma.com>

4. Anglican Church of Canada

Website: <http://www.anglican.ca>

We send the Deanery Digest most Fridays, usually before 10 PM.

Improvements: If you have any concerns or suggestions regarding our editorial policies, please feel free to send them to me.

Feel free to send me and Allison Cline-Dean (our Webmaster) any and all events and news. "Your Viewpoint" articles are also very welcome. You can use either my personal email as above or the Deanery email address above.

We would like to receive items by the Thursday evening before Friday. Some items may be repeated due to the date of the event. If you have some news and/or articles and miss the Sunday cut off, please send directly to either personal e-mail address above. We will gladly include parish events, special events, and worship times. Please make sure all info is as accurate as possible, and any poster type submissions are as camera ready as possible to be included as PDF attachments to the Digest.

Safe Unsubscribe lives here. If you want us to remove your name from our newsletter list, just send us an e-mail.

Dave Stamp, Council Secretary/Digest Editor