

THE VALLEY BULLETIN

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15TH, 2024



WELCOME

If you are visiting, we welcome you into our midst.
Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey in faith, you are welcome.
It is a blessing to have you worship with us today!
The Parish of the Valley respectfully acknowledges that we gather for worship
on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

INTRODUCTION TO OUR ADVENT BULLETINS

This Advent Season, when the world is in a hurried frenzy to get to Christmas, we are inviting you to join us as we pray with Icons in the Advent themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. As with any symbol, like the cross, or stained glass, it is not that these things 'are God', it is that they are windows that point us towards God.

As Mary's 'yes', opened the way for God to enter the world as a human child, may our hearts be open to new ADVENTures too!

The images of Mary are offered as a way to delve deeper into our reflections on Mary and her 'yes', and all that it might mean for us to echo and join in that affirmation of God's work in and through us. If this is new to you, we invite you to be prayerfully curious. Yours in Advent hope,

The Parish of the Valley Clergy Team

Weekly selections are from: Mother of God Similar to Fire: Icons by William Hart McNichols with Reflections by Miribai Starr. Copyright ©2010 by Orbis Books

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT REFLECTION

Mother of the Incarnate Word

Pregnant with the Word of God, you slip into prayer. You do not simply read sacred scriptures; you allow yourself to become fully absorbed in the perennial wisdom they illumine, and then you embody it.

Blessed Mother, innocent bride of the Absolute, you say yes to the Holy Spirit and are quickened with the divine teachings. Mary, Mother of the Word made flesh, teach me to be a true contemplative. Let me leave my scattered thoughts behind and enter the secret refuge of my soul.

Let me carry the Prince of Peace in my own womb, giving birth to truth with every word I utter.



LET'S PRAY

For the Church in the World we pray for the Anglican Church of Tanzania. We pray for our companion Diocese of Jerusalem. We pray for Anne Germond, our Metropolitan and Acting Primate. We pray for the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, Christopher Harper, our National Indigenous Archbishop, Sacred Circle Events, and the Ministry of Reconciliation.

In our Diocese of Ottawa we pray for:

- † For Shane Parker, our Bishop; for Matthew Brown our Incumbent; and for Gillian Hoyer, Nicholas Forte and Christine Muise our Associate Incumbents.
- † For St. Paul's, Hazeldean-Kanata.
- † For Holy Trinity, Pembroke, part of the Parish of the Valley.

For the life & members of our Parish of the Valley Community, this week we pray for:

Cari Rakai & Tyler & Poppy Haggerty, Dawn Price-Rakai & Andy Rakai, Bev & Ron Ramey, Jordan, Amy, Wyatt & Piper Ranger, Idella Ranger, and all members of their families.

For those preparing for baptism:

Benjamin Rivet on January 12th, 2025 at St. Paul's Cobden.

For those who have died and all members of their families as they grieve:

Bert Morrow, father in-law of Kerr Childerhose, Mona Kosmack.

For the sick, those who have asked for our prayers, and all others who are on our hearts...

Alice & Petawawa: Kim, Claire, Laurie, Lois, Gloria, Ronny, Patricia, Sammy, Chandra, Shane, Michael, Larry, Joe, Trent, Minnie, Scarlett, Brittany, Donna, Shawn, Gerry, Peter.

Barry's Bay & Whitney: George, Poppy Joe & Penny Jane, Fred, Sebastien, Blake, Anna, Morley, Cathy, Abigail, Susan, Patricia, Elspeth, Debra, Mary-Jayne, Violet, Fern, Shirley, Marilyn, David, Susie, Donna, Sharon, Callie and Glenys.

Killaloe/Tramore & Eganville: Gale, Harold, Aubrey, Richard, Sandra, Dorothy, Betty, Ann, Sheila, Andrea, Sharon, Junior, Peter, Richard, Pauline, Jim, Hanna, Phyllis, Ethel, Anice, Paula, Rosemary.

Pembroke: Betty, Kevin, Connie, June, Paul, Lawrence, Lomie, Bea, John, Jessie.

Stafford / Beachburg/Cobden: Jean, Margaret, Denver, Brian, Ruby, Janice, Dale, Susan, Ryan, Haley, Ruth, James, Sharon, Dave, Nicholas, Carolyn, Hillary, Ralph, Sharon, Thyra, Sandra, Bill.

ADVENT CANDLE PRAYERS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Officiant Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. The first candle is for HOPE, the second candle is for PEACE, and the third candle is for JOY.

The candles are lit

Officiant Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete.

All Amen.

TODAY'S READINGS

DECEMBER 15, 2024 - Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudete Sunday
Zephaniah 3.14-20; Canticle 3 (Isaiah 12.2-6); Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

UPCOMING READINGS

December 22, 2024 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
Micah 5.2-5a; Psalm 80.1-7; Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.39-55

December 24, 2024 - Christmas Eve
Isaiah 9.2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-20

December 25, 2024 - Christmas Day: The Nativity of our Lord
Isaiah 52.7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1.1-12; John 1.1-14

OFFERINGS

We are grateful for your ongoing support of our parish's congregations.

Donations can always be placed on the offering plates located at the back of the church, or can be given during the offertory in congregations where an offering plate is passed. To learn more about Pre-Authorized Remittances (PAR), options for e-transfer, or how to donate online with credit card through *Canada Helps* or Tithe.ly, please visit our website: www.ValleyAnglicans.ca

SERVICES IN THE PARISH OF THE VALLEY

Sunday, December 22nd, 2024

8 & 10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke

9am - St Thomas' Rankin

9am - Ascension Killaloe

9:30am - St George's South Alice

11am - St Paul's Cobden

11am - St John's Eganville

11am - Epiphany Barry's Bay (Morning Prayer)

11:15am - All Saints Petawawa (with Christmas Pageant)

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

4 pm Services

All Saints, Petawawa

Ascension, Killaloe

St. Paul's, Cobden

St. Anthony's, Whitney

7 pm Services

Holy Trinity, Pembroke

St. George's, South Alice

St. John the Evangelist, Eganville

Epiphany, Barry's Bay

St. Thomas', Rankin

St. Augustine's Chapel, Beachburg

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

9 am - Ascension, Killaloe

10 am - Holy Trinity, Pembroke

11 am - St. John the Evangelist, Eganville

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The Christmas issue of our quarterly parish newspaper, *Revelations*, is available for pick up today!

Advent Vespers: Come and Find a Quiet Centre short services of quiet and reflection on the themes of our upcoming Advent Sundays - our final Vespers, this Wednesday December 18 at 4pm at Holy Trinity Pembroke, or online through our YouTube livestream (<https://www.youtube.com/@valleyanglicans/streams>).

St. George's **Christmas Sing-A-Long** is THIS AFTERNOON at 2pm. Enjoy and sing-a-long to Christmas favourites followed by a hot meal.

The **YoYo Mamas Fiddle Group** Christmas Concert at Church of the Epiphany, Barry's Bay on Tuesday, December 17th at 7pm. Very limited (free) tickets still available: please text Pia (613-633-9361) or stop by Epiphany Fashions to reserve your ticket.

Join us for **Lessons & Carols** at the Upper Ottawa Valley Heritage Centre Museum Church in Pembroke this Thursday, December 19 at 7pm. Featuring the Intermittents.

Sunday, December 29th Services in the Parish of the Valley will be held at:

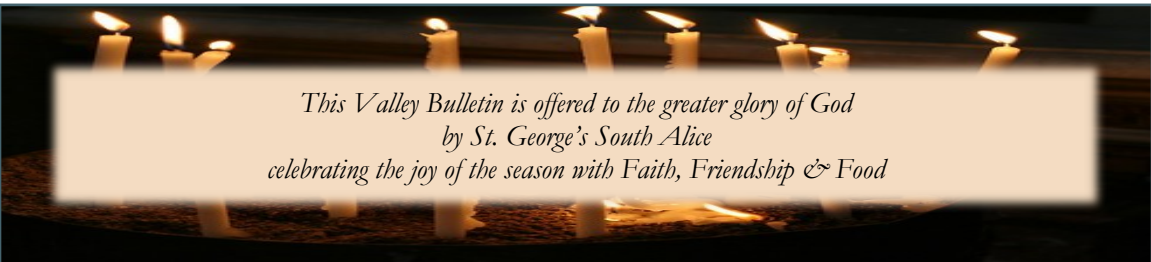
8am & 10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke

9am - Ascension Killaloe

11am - St. John's Eganville

11am - St. Paul's Cobden

Regular services across the Parish of the Valley will resume on January 5th for the Feast of the Epiphany.



*This Valley Bulletin is offered to the greater glory of God
by St. George's South Alice
celebrating the joy of the season with Faith, Friendship & Food*

Now Booking Valley Bulletin Sponsorship for January 12th onward.

CLERGY TEAM

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The Rev. Christine Muise (613-628-2029)

Cover: *Julian of Norwich*, icon by Marcy Hall

Advent Reflection icons: <https://frbillnichols-sacredimages.com>

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