

THE VALLEY BULLETIN

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



December 7th, 2025

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.

ADVENT IN THE VALLEY

A Franciscan Approach to the Advent Themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

St. Francis of Assisi one of the most well-known saints; known for the blessing of animals, the poem 'Make Me a Channel of your Peace,' and his Canticle of the Creatures (Brother Sun and Sister Moon). What some might not know: we also have St. Francis to thank for the Nativity Crèche (the Manger Scene)!

In his living and his preaching, Francis invited his companions to a way of being in the world that was both joyous of God's love and sincere in Christ's call. Francis called for peace in his words and deeds and continuously chose the love that Christ taught: an active love that lives out the attributes of hope, peace, joy and love.

This Advent, we are invited to also embody that active love and return to our own sacredness in seeking to live those Advent attributes.

RECEPTIVITY – ADVENT 2 (PEACE)

"How do we cultivate our openness to those around us?" One way is to practice letting go of our armor in order to receive from and heal the world. Here is an exercise which you can practice in the morning before beginning your daily tasks, or at any other time of the day. Stand up, dropping your arms to your sides. Allow your entire body to relax. Breathe in God's grace; breathe it out into the world. Then slowly raise your arms and cross them in front of your eyes. Feel yourself protected and guarded. Slowly extend your arms outward in an attitude of openness to the world. After a few moments, move them in a gesture embracing the world. Repeat several times. This can be performed alone or with others.

PEACE

Leader We light the first and second Advent candles and say,

All **Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

A light no darkness can extinguish.

Leader Today we light the second candle, the candle for Peace. It reminds us that Jesus is called the Prince of Peace who brings peace into our hearts and asks us to be people of peace to those around us.

Let us pray,

Christ our Peace,

Glow brightly in each moment.

Enlighten our vision so that we see beyond
all of the trouble and all of the conflict in our world

and see the peace that you give.

Relieve us, if just for a moment,

of our worries and stress.

We await your coming with quietness.

All **Amen.**



LET'S PRAY

In the Anglican Communion, this week we pray for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop-Designate of Canterbury. We pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

In the Anglican Church of Canada, we pray for Shane Parker, our Primate. We pray for Anne Germond, our Metropolitan. We pray for Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop. We pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

In our Diocese of Ottawa, we pray for Michael Bird, our Diocesan Administrator. We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we prepare to elect a new bishop on February 28th: for those discerning a call to let their name stand for election; for the candidates; for Members of Synod. We pray for our Diocesan Partners: Kairos Ottawa and Saint Paul University. We pray the Parish of South Dundas.

In our Deanery of the Northwest, we pray for St. John's Antrim, part of the Parish of Pakenham.

In our Parish of the Valley, we pray for Matthew Brown our Incumbent; and for Gillian Hoyer, Nicholas Forte, and Christine Muise our Associate Incumbents. And for the life and members of our Parish of the Valley Community, this week we pray for: Ken Foy, Sue & Jim Fulcher, Larry Gale, Shawn & Jennifer Gardiner, Dave & Sheri Gareau.

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

Alice & Petawawa: Heather, Lynn, Ralph, Bill, Issy, Nora, Marion, Lynn, Wanda, Rose, Laurie, Lois, Gloria, Ronny, Patricia, Sammy, Chandra, Shane, Michael, Larry, Trent, Minnie, Scarlett, Brittany, Donna, Shawn, Gerry.

Barry's Bay & Whitney: Mary Ann, George, Poppy Joe & Penny Jane, Fred, Blake, Cathy, Susan, Patricia, Elspeth, Debra, Mary-Jayne, Fern, Shirley, Marilyn, David, Susie, Sharon, Bob.

Killaloe/Tramore & Eganville: Joan, James, Hilary, Heather, Jan, Harold, Richard, Dorothy, Betty, Ann, Sheila, Andrea, Sharon, Junior, Peter, Richard, Pauline, Phyllis, Ethel, Anice, Paula, Rosemary.

Pembroke: Jolene, Loreen, Heather, Tristan, Iris, Bill, Bob, Jo, Connie, June, Lawrence, Lomie, Bea.

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

TODAY'S READINGS

DECEMBER 7, 2025 - Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

UPCOMING READINGS

December 14, 2025 - Third Sunday of Advent: (Gaudete)

Isaiah 35.1-10; Canticle 18a (Luke 1.46-55); James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11

December 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7.10-16; Psalm 80.1-7, 16-18; Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1:18-25

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](https://www.valleyanglicans.ca/tithe), please visit our website: www.ValleyAnglicans.ca

*This Valley Bulletin is offered to the greater glory of God
in memory of Bill Dainty, December 6, 2019 – with loving thoughts each day...
Sharon- my love, Katie –Dad, Mike, Nila – Grampie.*

SERVICES IN THE PARISH OF THE VALLEY

Sunday, December 14th, 2025

8 & 10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke

9am - St Stephen's Micksburg

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

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Wednesday, December 10 at 10:30am - Riverview Heights (Pembroke)

Thursday, December 11 at 10:15am - Valley Manor (Barry's Bay)

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The Parish of the Valley **Advent Appeal** is now underway. By now all members of the parish should have received an appeal package via the mail. Please prayerfully consider how you might support your local Anglican congregation or chapel with a donation this holiday season. For more information or to give online please visit www.ValleyAnglicans.ca. Thank you for faithfully supporting our Advent Appeal!

This Advent, step out of the hustle and bustle and into a quiet space for **Advent Taizé**, a time of evening prayer, Taizé music and candlelit worship. Beginning Wednesday, November 26th and continuing on December 3, 10, and 17 at 4pm at Holy Trinity Pembroke. It will also be simultaneously live-streamed for those who would prefer to join in from home.

Holy Trinity Pembroke's annual **Joyous Prelude to Christmas** concert and sing-a-long will be held today at 3pm. Admission is by free-will donation at the door (68 Renfrew St.). Please join in. All are welcome!

Join the **Upper Ottawa Valley Heritage Centre** for a traditional Christmas carol sing at the historic Micksburg United Church on the museum grounds (1032 Pembroke Street East in Pembroke). Thursday, December 11th at 7pm. Donations for the museum are welcome at the door. Rev. Matthew & Rev. Nick will share in leading the service and will be joined by The Intermittents!

Next Sunday, December 14th, is **Food Bank Sunday** across the Parish of the Valley. Donations of non-perishable food items will be received at our churches to benefit our local food banks.

The YoYo Mamas annual Christmas Concert of toe-tapping fiddle music will be Wednesday, December 17 at Epiphany Barry's Bay. There will be two concerts: a 3pm Matinee and 7pm Evening. Tickets are free, but seating is limited. Please reserve your free ticket from any one of the YoYo Mamas or by contacting Pia-Leena Voorand at piaatthelake@gmail.com or 613-633-9361. A freewill donation will be received at the door.

Join Ottawa Valley Lutheran and Anglican churches for **Starry, Starry Night**, a shared service to celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. Sunday, January 4th at 4pm at Zion Lutheran Church (454 Miller Street) in Pembroke. All are welcome!

Looking for a pause for **reflection and spiritual refreshment** in the middle of your week? Join the Parish of the Valley each **Wednesday at 10am for a said service of Holy Eucharist** at Holy Trinity, Pembroke.

The St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation's ***Tree of Lights Campaign*** to help purchase essential equipment for St. Francis Memorial Hospital's medical unit in Barry's Bay has begun. Visit the Foundation at 7 St. Francis Memorial Drive, online at www.sfvhfoundation.com, or call 613-756-3045 ext. 217 to donate.

CLERGY TEAM

Contact Information

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The Rev. Gillian Hoyer (613-687-9123)

The Rev. Nicholas Forte (613-629-9498)

The Rev. Christine Muisse (613-883-8402)

Cover: *Stained Glass, Peace*, Washington National Cathedral, Washington, DC.

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