

“by George!”

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Coming

The “by George!” connects all parishioners through electronic or hard copy distribution. It is normally published in September, November, February, and May. All articles are welcome; electronic submissions are appreciated.

The “by George!” would not be possible without the assistance of many parishioners. Thanks!

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November 2022

Advent Edition

Our word, Advent, is derived from Latin. We’ve heard many times that Advent means **coming**.

Bing.com attributes the following definition to Oxford Languages: advent: “the arrival of an important person, thing, or event - the advent of television”. The lack of a capital A on “advent” and the one example being a thing, “television”, points to the broader use of the word rather than the Christian use of it.

In fairness to Bing.com, I will mention that further down the page they add a reasonable, short explanation of Advent “The first season of the Christian church year, leading up to Christmas”. That placement will often be missed much like something you’re interested in being near the fold on page 17 of the newspaper.

Advent is important to the parishioners of St. George’s. We spent four weeks getting ready for Christmas. We proclaim “O Come Emmanuel” on the sign for everyone to see, we light the Advent wreath every Sunday, we add to two creches over the season, we enjoy Nine Lessons and Carols with Wassail (another time, I’ll explore the word “Wassail” and our version of it) We celebrate the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

In our dictionary, the definition of Advent could be “the coming of an important person or event” and the examples could be “the coming of Jesus” and “the coming of Christmas”.

Advent means coming!

The next “by George!” will be in late February. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you at St. George’s!

Ted Cotton

up. Anyone interested in helping provide the beverage service is encouraged to sign up for a Sunday on the Wilton bulletin board or contact Ted Cotton at tedcotton@mymts.net.

The Grief Support Group is meeting Wednesdays at 1:30 pm in the St. George's Guild Room. If you would like to participate or have any questions, please contact Ruth Dean at (204) 612-5017 / email: deanruth7@gmail.com or Peter Flynn (204) 475-2941.

Volunteers are needed for the **nursery**. The nursery requires two volunteers every Sunday morning to help look after our youngest parishioners. Volunteers are generally scheduled for one shift every 4-6 weeks (depending upon the numbers of volunteers we have). Volunteers should be at least 13 years old. If you are interested in helping out in the nursery, please email sarahmargaretpratt@gmail.com

Another paid staff is also required for the **nursery at the Christmas Eve service** on December 24 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The pay will be \$30. No experience is required, and you must be at least 15 years old. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

Save the Date: As there wasn't enough time to organize a Christmas Dinner for early December, we're planning a **12th Night Dinner** on Saturday January 7. The current menu includes a few kinds of chili, salad/vegetables, garlic bread, and dainties. There will also be an opportunity to sing some seasonal songs and carols.

In the Broader Community

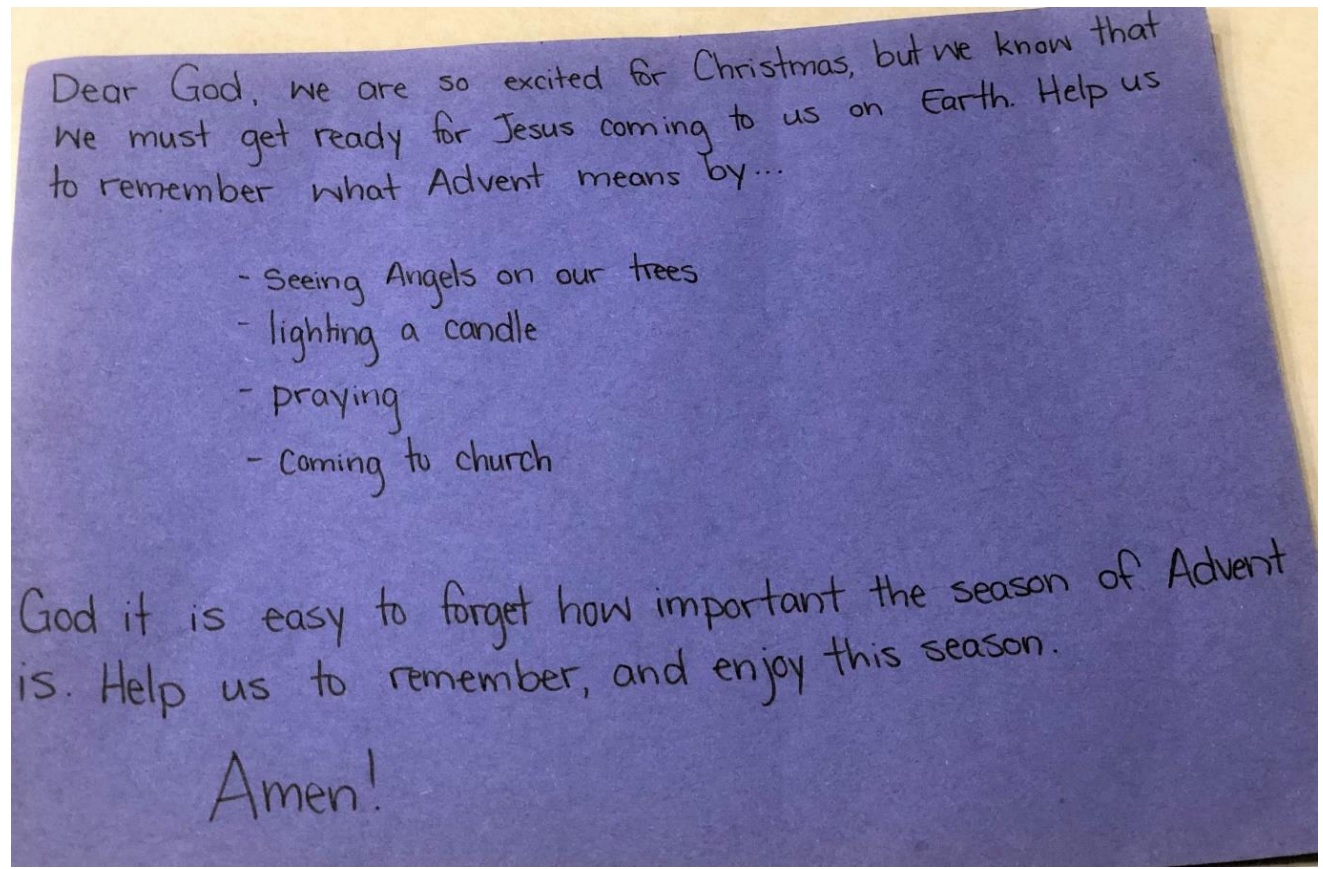
Please visit the Diocese of Rupert's Land website for the most current calendar:
<https://rupertsland.ca/events>

The Rupert's Land News is only electronic. To subscribe to the weekly electronic edition and get the latest news about the Diocese, please use the following link:
www.rupertslandnews.ca .

THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION

Look at the light ahead and leave the darkness behind.



SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAYER – November 27, 2022**FROM THE DESK OF THE INCUMBENT**

This week marks eight months as the incumbent for St Georges Crescentwood. We arrived on the evening of March 24th, towards the end of the winter season. Each time I meet someone new, a parishioner will ask me, "So, what do you think of St. Georges and the weather in Winnipeg?" It's hard to condense in a brief response all the good things I've experienced and the degree of people's faith here. However, a few recollections of what's happened in the past few months will help tell the story.

My day-to-day work within the parish has involved routine collaboration with outstanding wardens, committees, and staff. It is a blessing to have not only people who do their respective service with professionalism and sensitivity, but also to enjoy their fun company. The Rev. Canon Dr. Peter Flynn is a wonderful priest and great person to work with. I very much know how fortunate I am to have him as an honorary assistant Priest. The pastoral and sacramental responsibilities at St. Georges are not too unlike other parishes where I've served. I always discover there to be a recurring crowd of "regulars" at the Sunday services. It's nice looking out at faces that are becoming more and more familiar.

It is amazing to find so many ways through which the life of prayer and worship are practiced the rich music tradition and liturgies are reverent without being stuffy. And it is

very evident to me that the Holy Spirit is among us in all we do. Still, I know there are so many in our community who need to be evangelized about the opportunities and get involved.

We have braced up for the winter season and I pray that you all continue to attend the church services that are lined up for the festive season.

We found the coffee hours, barbeques, and lunches invigorating and joyful. The hospitality team was very impressive. It was very evident to me that this parish has a great spirit of volunteerism and has fun pitching in to make any efforts like these a success. In light of differences in opinion, It is my prayer that we continue to work towards listening to one another and growing St Georges spiritually and numerically.

Thank you for embracing me as your priest in my first eight months at St. Georges. I have appreciated the many kind words you have said and expressions of gratitude you have written. Thank you, also, for being patient with me as I continue to learn some new names. And while I know I can't be the pastor every person expects, I'm trying my best, with God's grace, to serve as the kind of priest the Church asks me to be.

As we move towards the end of the year, I feel confident about St. Georges' future. I know together and with the Holy Spirit's inspiration we will navigate what lies ahead of us as a parish. Here's to the next year together!

Sherpard

FINANCE REPORT

The net loss to October 2022 is \$65795. This is unfavourable (U) to budget of \$62125 and last year of \$13870 (when we had lower Ministry costs). Here are the variances:

PWRDF has an in and out variance of \$1215 due to donations to world issues e.g. Ukraine.
Fundraising is \$8791 U due to less special events and no garage sale transfer yet
Interest Earned is \$4355 U due to timing and less investments
Open Plate is \$2605 favourable (F) due to more services open to everyone
Identified Giving is \$5841 F to budget and \$3541 F to last year.
Rentals Sundry is \$2690 F due to more events than expected e.g. movies.
Administrative Assistant Salary is \$1379 F. This is due to less hours worked.
Honorary Assistant Salary is \$2220 F. This is less time used.
Living Allowance, Rector's Stipend, and Payroll Benefits are \$4407 U in total. This relates to Dwight earlier in the year and our wait for a CRA ruling on Sherpard's Living Allowance.
Music Director is \$4339 F. This is less time used.
Boys' and Girls' Allowances is \$792 F. This is less times boys and girls were paid.
General Maintenance is \$1783 U. This is more work e.g. plumbing than planned.
Utilities Gas is \$3586 U. This is higher rates and colder weather.

The chequing account is reconciled to October 2022.

Changes in Designated Funds > \$500:

Garage Sale: +\$6852 for October sales – expenses

Dishwasher: +\$1391 for October donations

Relocation: +\$900 for adjusting entry on rent repayment

If you have any questions on the Finance Report, please let Ted Cotton know (204 488 3606 or tedcotton@mymts.net). Thanks.

**STEWARDSHIP MATTERS**

Stewardship is **time, talent, and treasure**. If you have time and talent available, St. George's would welcome you in one of the many volunteer opportunities in the parish e.g. Stewardship Chair, greeter, coffee preparation, server, nursery caregiver. Please talk to one of the Wardens about how you can help the parish.

The 2023 Stewardship packages were sent out in early November. Thanks to everyone who has returned their **Estimate of Giving Card**. If you haven't, please read the letter, carefully consider your giving to St George's, and return the Estimate of Giving Card to the church as soon as possible. If you don't have your Stewardship package, please contact the Parish Office for one. Your Estimate of Giving Card, your treasure, will help the Finance Chair prepare the draft 2023 budget for review by Parish Council in January and presentation to AGM in February.

Thanks to all parishioners who make their regular offerings to St George's.

Parishioners generously donated the \$7000 needed for a **dishwasher**. It has been installed and used for parish activities. Also, many of you returned your **Thanksgiving festive giving envelope**. Thank you.

Watch for a **Christmas letter and festive giving envelope**. There will also be **Nine Lessons ... envelopes** at the Festival of Nine Lesson and Carols to encourage guests to donate to the parish.

If you have any questions about Stewardship or donation methods, please contact Ted Cotton at tedcotton@mymts.net or 204 488 3606.



MISSION AND MINISTRY

The **Prayer Box** is an integral part of our ministry and continues to have a presence in our worship on Sunday morning. We recognize that the box is not as accessible for people to share their confidential prayer requests as it was. Please use the following email to send your confidential prayer requests to the coordinator, John Kehler: prayerbox@stgeorges.mb.ca. For those without email access or who prefer to not use email for this purpose, please contact our Incumbent Priest, Rev. Fr. Sherpard Gwende at (204) 390-8522.

Christmas Stockings for West Broadway Patrons We are collecting personal hygiene items (shampoo, disposable razors, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste and socks for the ladies and gents at West Broadway (1Just City) to fill stocking at Christmas. Please leave items at the back of the church labelled (West Broadway). Thank you for your support.

The **Thelma Wynne Project** continues to prepare layettes for low-income mothers within and outside Winnipeg. We have a need for travel size soaps, lotions, shampoos and conditioner to provide a small gift bag for the new Moms. If you can help, please leave items at the back of the church labelled “Thelma Wynne”. Thank you for your support.

This year, we are again marking the “**International 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence**” between November 25th (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) and continuing until December 10th (World Human Rights Day). During that time is December 6th, the anniversary of the 1989 Massacre at Ecole Polytechnique. There will be a table of white ribbons at the back of the Church. Everyone is invited to wear one during worship services during the 16 day period, using the same ribbon which you may take home and bring back each week. Better yet, wear the ribbon during the week and tell people what it is all about. If you have a ribbon from previous years you may use that, which would be great!

St. George’s is collecting for the **Christmas Cheer Board** again this year. The Cheer Board Christmas Tree is again set up at the back of the church. You can choose an amount to donate by selecting a tree decoration or decide on any amount you wish. Please write a cheque to St. George’s Anglican Church: marked “Christmas Cheer” or give an identified cash donation; you will receive an income tax receipt. This year the need is greater than ever! St. George’s is always a generous supporter of the Christmas Cheer Board. Thanks!

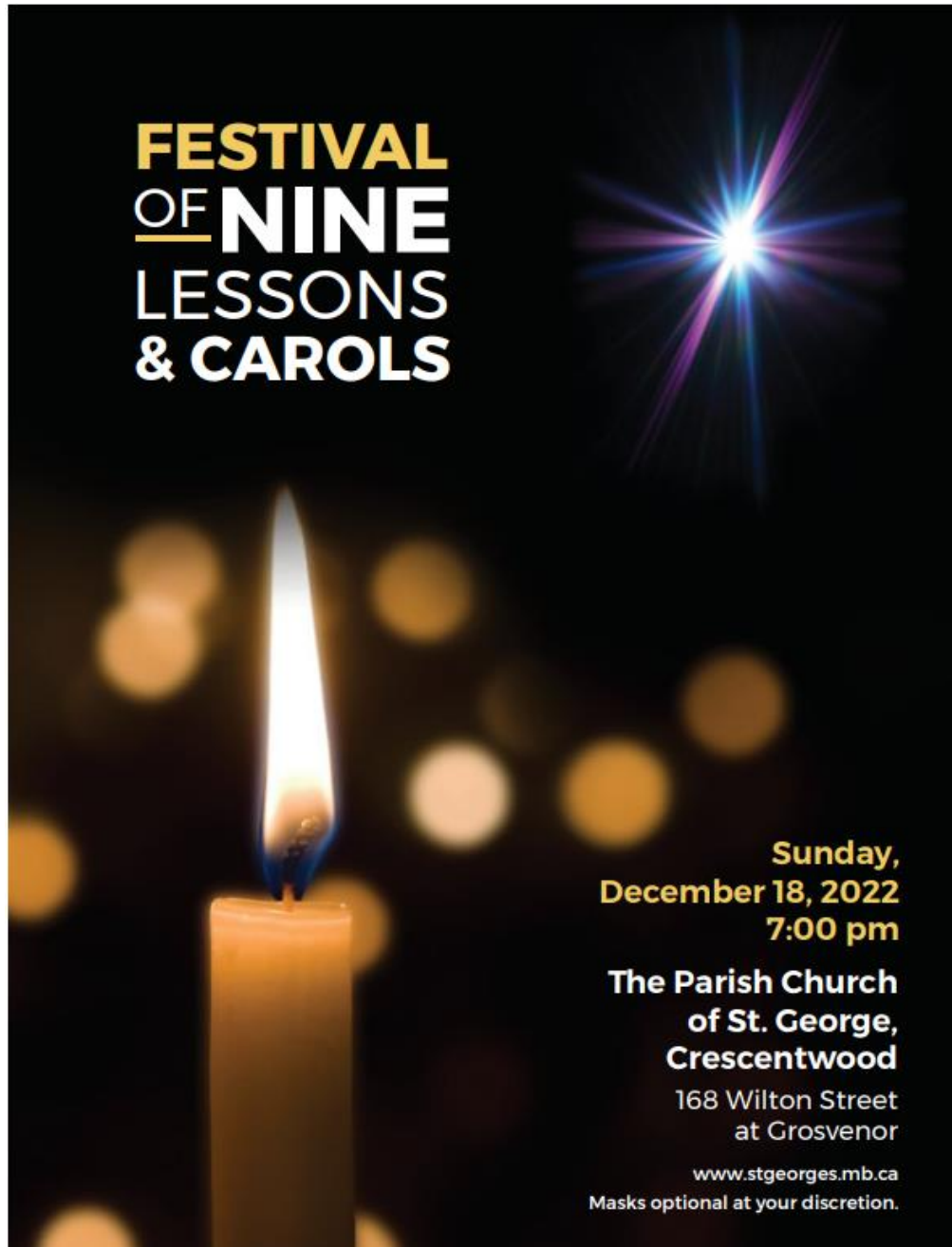
MEMORIAL FUND SPECIAL MEETING

On November 27, the Memorial Fund held a special meeting to discuss potential updates to the Fund. There was a light lunch, presentations, and questions and answers.



THE FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

We look forward to The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols. Come to this glorious service and bring your friends and family.



It's Christmas Poinsettia time!

Donations are requested for Poinsettias to decorate the Church for the Christmas season in memory of loved ones. Please see the order form below or email the Church office for more information. Deadline for orders is Monday, December 12, 2022. This year's proceeds will go to operating.

Christmas Poinsettias

Donations are requested towards Poinsettias for the Christmas Season, in memory of loved ones. Names of those being remembered will be placed in the leaflets for Dec 18th, 24th, 25th and Jan 1st. This year proceeds will go to the operating account.

A receipt will be given for your donation with your year-end tax receipt.

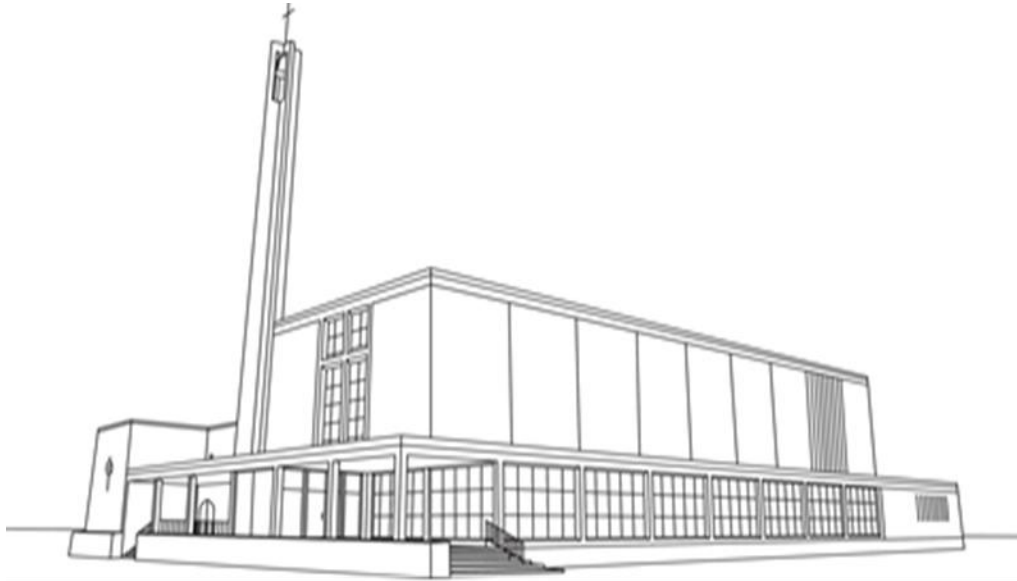
Name of Donor: _____

Amount of gift: _____

Names of those being remembered:

**** Please place your application and cheque on the Sunday Collection Plate or send your cheque to St. George's Anglican Church, 168 Wilton St., Winnipeg, MB R3M 3C3 by Monday, December 12, 2022.**





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY 1 LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and work on Treaty 1 Lands, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, and Dakota peoples and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of these lands and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.