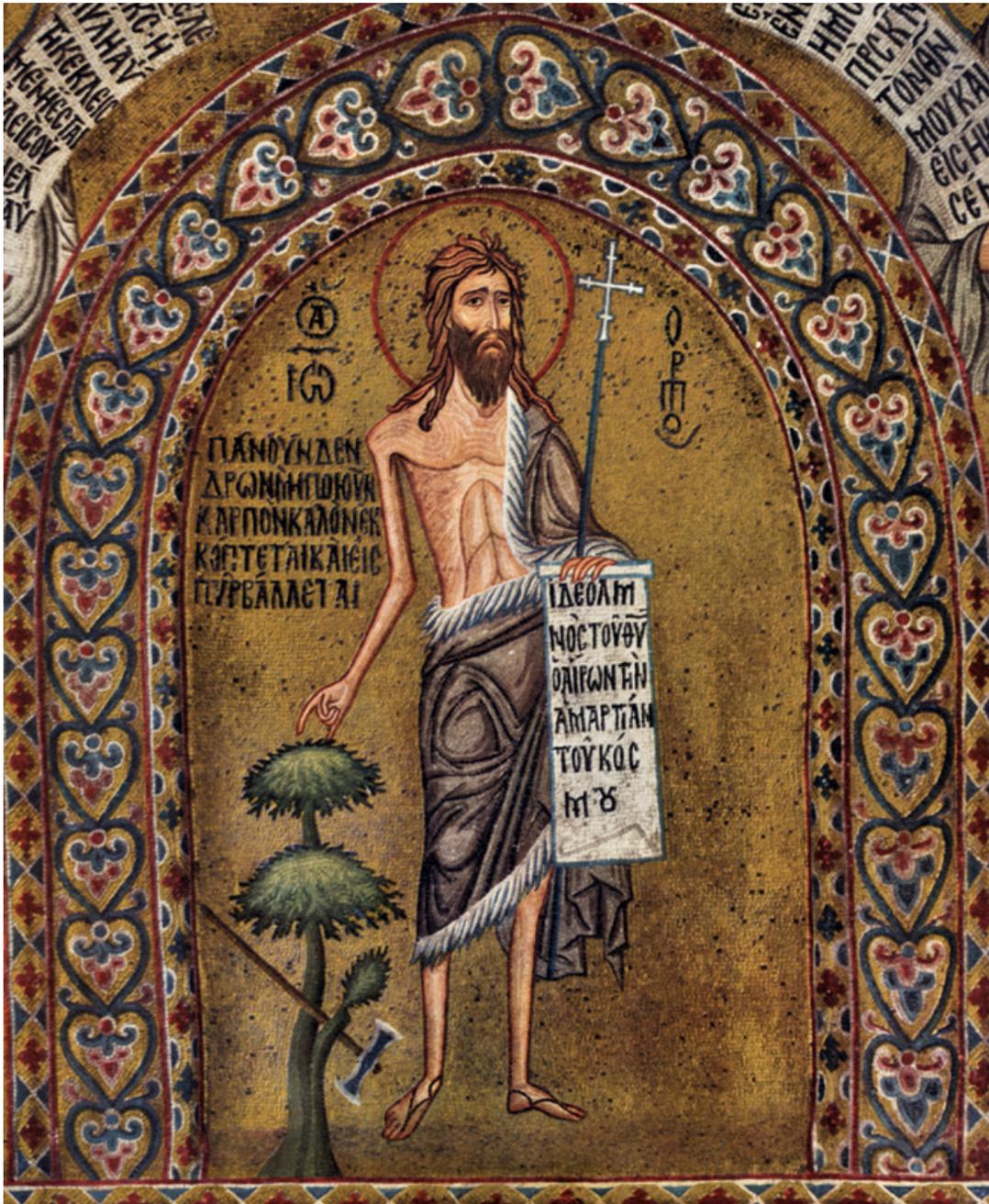


# Saint John the Evangelist, Port Hope

The Third Sunday of Advent - December 16, 2018



8:30AM Said Eucharist

10:30AM Sung Eucharist

**Welcome to St. John's Church.** We are a Christian community dedicated to knowing God's love in our lives through worship, learning, and caring for others.

We celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM, and on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM (together with our brothers and sisters from St. Mark's Church). We also gather for worship throughout the year on feasts and holy days.

This order of service has the readings from the Bible and some of the prayers we say together during worship. You will find a green Book of Alternative Services in your pew along with a blue Common Praise hymnal. Page numbers and hymn numbers are indicated throughout. We invite you to participate fully in our worship. If you have any difficulty following along, please do not be shy about asking for help.

Whatever your age, education, background, income, church experience, marital status, ability or disability, you are welcome here. Whether you are a lifelong Anglican, just visiting for the day, or just checking out what church is about, you are welcome here. We are blessed by each other. All are welcome here.

If you are interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Anglican Church, our parish and its ministries, or if you would like to speak to a priest for any other reason, please get in touch using the contact information below:

Office phone: 905-885-2171

Office email: [stjohns@stjohnschurchph.ca](mailto:stjohns@stjohnschurchph.ca)

Website: [stjohnschurchph.ca](http://stjohnschurchph.ca)

Address: 33 Pine St. North, Port Hope, ON L1A 3G5

Our parish's ministry is sustained by the offerings of our members, visitors, and friends. Please contribute however much you can. For information on Offering Envelopes or Pre-Authorized Giving please contact the Parish Office.

# **The Third Sunday of Advent - December 16, 2018**

8:30 A.M. Said Eucharist

Presiding Celebrant and Homilist: The Rev'd Jesse Parker

*The liturgy begins on page 230 of the green Book of Alternative Services.*

Collect of the Day *(said together)*

**God of power and mercy,  
you call us once again  
to celebrate the coming of your Son.  
Remove those things which hinder love of you,  
that when he comes,  
he may find us waiting in awe and wonder  
for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Readings *(full text found on following pages)*

Zephaniah 3.14-20; Philippians 4.4-7; Luke 3.7-18

Prayer over the Gifts *(said together)*

**God of hope,  
renew in us the joy of your salvation  
and make us a living sacrifice to you,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer After Communion *(said together)*

**Merciful God,  
may this eucharist free us from our sins,  
fill us with unending joy,  
and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

# **The Third Sunday of Advent - December 16, 2018**

10:30 A.M. Sung Eucharist

Presiding Celebrant and Homilist: The Rev'd Jesse Parker

*Organ Prelude: Creator of the Stars of Night by Gerald Near*

Announcements and Gathering Prayer

Introit - *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

*Hymns are found in the blue Common Praise hymnal*

Processional Hymn - **Hark the Glad Sound! The Saviour Comes #98**

*The liturgy begins on page 185 of the green Book of Alternative Services*

The Gathering of the Community

Greeting and Collect for Purity

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Third Candle - *St. John the Baptist*

*Celebrant:* We light this candle to show that Jesus, the light of the world is coming, and to remember John the Baptist who prepared the way of the Lord.

*All:* **Blessed be the Lord, our strength and our salvation.**

*Celebrant:* Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever. Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth as a burning and shining light. May we your servants rejoice in his light, and so be led to witness to him who is the Lord of our coming kingdom, Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages. Blessed be God for ever.

*All:* **Blessed be God for ever. Amen.**

The Advent Prose *(If you are able, please kneel.)*



Cantor: Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity forever: Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation: our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. *Refrain*

Cantor: We have sinned and are an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf: and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away: and thou has hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. *Refrain*

Cantor: Ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen; that ye may know me and believe me: I, even I, am the Lord, and beside me there is no Saviour: and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. *Refrain*

Cantor: Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, my salvation shall not tarry: I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions: Fear not, for I will save thee: For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer. *Refrain*

*The presiding celebrant then says the Collect of the Day.*

The Proclamation of the Word *(please be seated)*

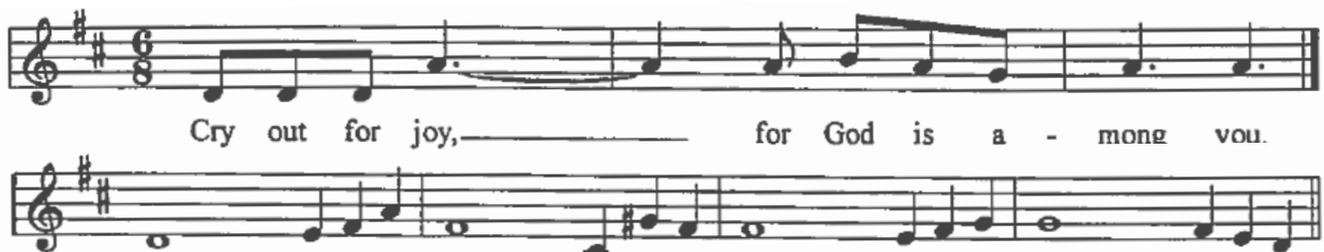
## First Reading - Zephaniah 3.14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle - Isaiah 12.2-6



Surely, it is • **God** who saves me;  
I will trust in him and • **not** be a-fraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my • **sure** de-fence,  
and he will • **be** my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water • **with** re-joicing  
from the springs • **of** sal-vation.  
And on the day • **you** shall say,  
Give thanks to the Lord and call up-**on** his name;

make his deeds known a-**mong** the peoples;  
see that they remember that his • **name** is ex-alted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for • **he** has done great things,  
and this is known in • **all** the world.

Cry aloud, inhabi-**tants** of Zion,  
ring • **out** your joy,  
for the great one • **in** the midst of you  
is the Holy • **One** of Israel.

## Second Reading - Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el.

The Spirit of the Lord God is u - pon me, because the Lord God has anointed me to bring good tidings to the af - flicted.

## The Holy Gospel - Luke 3.7-18

*Reader:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they

asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

*Then at the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,*  
The Gospel of Christ.

*People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

## Homily

The Apostles' Creed *p. 189*

**All: I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People (*As announced. You may kneel, stand or sit.*)

Confession & Absolution *p. 191*

The Peace

*All stand, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you. *People: **And also with you.***

*The members of the community greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

The Celebration of the Eucharist

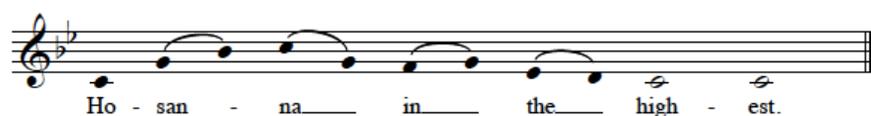
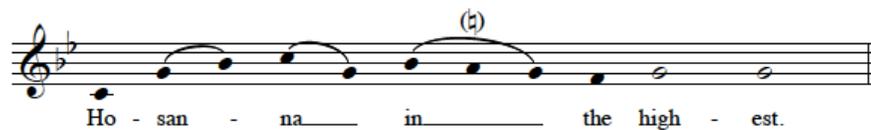
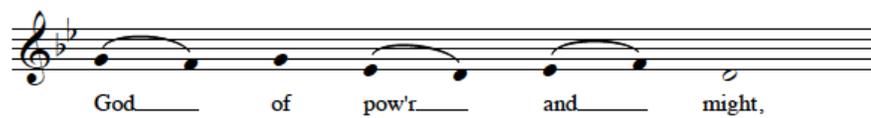
Offertory Hymn - **O Come, Divine Messiah**

**#95**

*The presiding celebrant then says the Prayer over the Gifts*

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer 3

*p. 198*



The Lord's Prayer *p. 211*

The Breaking of the Bread

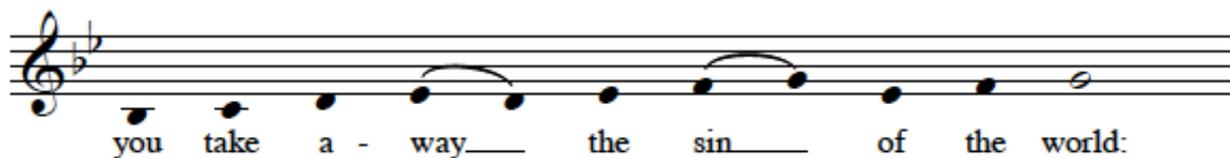
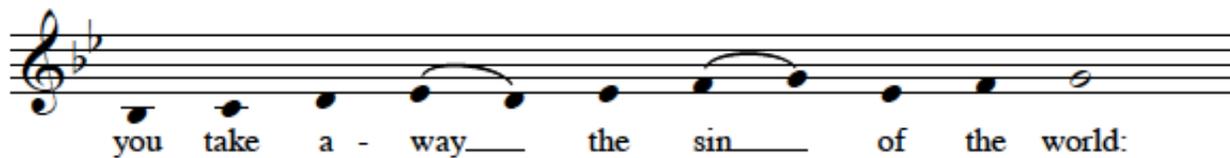
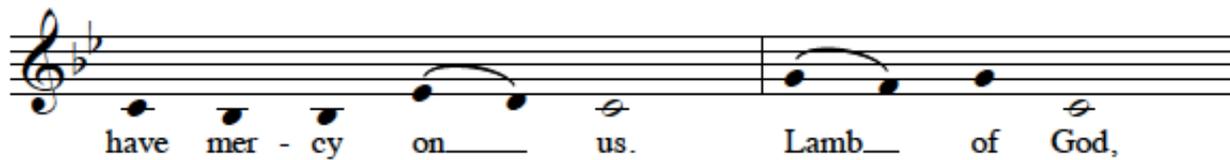
*Celebrant* God of promise,  
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom

*All* **Happy are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.**

*Celebrant* The gifts of God for the people of God.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)



*The presiding celebrant and people then receive communion. The sacrament is given with the following words: 'The body of Christ (the Bread of Heaven).' 'The blood of Christ (the Cup of Salvation).' To which the communicant responds each time, 'Amen.' All baptized persons are welcome to receive communion. Please do not dip the host in the chalice. If you do not want to receive the chalice, please cross your arms over your chest after receiving the host. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please indicate this to the priest by crossing your arms over your chest.*

Communion Hymn - **O Thou Who Camest from Above** #624

**Motet** - *Creator of the Stars of Night*

*The presiding celebrant then says the Prayer After Communion.*

*Celebrant:* Glory to God,

**All: whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The presiding celebrant then blesses the people.*

Recessional Hymn - **Hark, A Herald Voice is Sounding** #108

*Minister:* Go forth in the name of Christ. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Organ postlude: Lob sei dem allmächtigen Gott, BWV 602, by J. S. Bach.**

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The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
David Kelly, Audrey & Reg Pomeroy and Ruth & Jack Rowden.

The chapel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Helen Croft,  
Louise Gibson and Honor & Jack Meeking.

The Kids' Club and J.A.M.(Sunday School) are gathering for worship and learning today.  
All children may go directly to the lower parish hall at 10:30 AM.

There is a comfort room at the bottom of the stairs for any children who need a break or  
diaper change during the service.

Worship this week:

Wednesday, December 19  
10:00 AM, Said Eucharist at St. Mark's

Thursday, December 20  
8:00 AM, Morning Prayer at St. John's

Next Sunday: The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM Said Eucharist  
10:30 AM Sung Eucharist

The choir will rehearse on Thursday, December 20 at 7:15 PM

**Christmas Services at St. John's**

Monday, December 24  
Christmas Eve  
4:00 PM Children's Service - The 'ABCs' of Christmas with Holy Communion  
9:30 PM Sung Eucharist

Tuesday, December 25  
Christmas Day  
9:30 AM Holy Eucharist with Hymns and Special Music

Sunday, December 30  
First Sunday After Christmas  
8:30 AM Said Eucharist  
10:30 AM Sung Eucharist

## Announcements

**A big “Thank You!” to all those who made the 59th annual presentation of *The Christmas Story* such a resounding success!**

**Church Library** - Do you take some quiet time to read during the Advent and Christmas seasons? That would be a great idea! Some more new books have been added to our church library. Three are by Canadian authors, including “GOD: The Rumours Persist!” By Bishop Bill Hockin. “A Cup of Comfort” is “a powerful new collection of inspiring stories, meditation, psalms...”. Then there’s Catherine Marshall’s book on the Holy Spirit, “The Helper”. It’s hard to imagine that there isn’t a book for you! Take a look either in the church entrance above the stairs, or at the cart in the parish hall.

**Cinema St. Mark** 7.30 pm–Fridays, December 7, 14, January 18 and 25–be entertained, challenged, amused and enjoy a lively discussion afterwards – mezzanine at St. Mark’s parish hall, King Street.

**Trinity College School** would like to invite any St John's parishioners to join us for one of their Nine Lessons and Carols. Today, Sun. Dec. 16, at 4pm (and ending around 5:30pm). There is no admission charge, but an offering is received for their charitable Pat Moss Society. The Chapel will be beautifully decorated, and there is plenty of room for guests.

**Daily Advent Meditations** - Tired of all the spam in your email inbox? How about some spiritual wisdom instead? Throughout Advent, Fr. Jesse will send daily meditations by email. Please sign up to receive these daily meditations by sending Fr. Jesse an email at [therevjesseparker@gmail.com](mailto:therevjesseparker@gmail.com), there is also be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church.

**We are in need of two sidespersons for the 10:30 service.** If you are interested in volunteering for this ministry please call Steve Sanders at 905-376-3202.

**Morning Prayer at St. John’s.** Start your day praying in common with Christians and the Church worldwide, using a variety of orders of service suited to personal and group prayer (BCP, BAS and others). Thursday mornings 8:00-8:30 am

**Join other parishioners in daily Bible reading!**

This week’s readings: Monday - Micah 5.2-15, Tuesday - John 8.1-11, Wednesday - John 13.1-20, Thursday - John 13.21-38, Friday - John 16.16-33, Saturday - Titus 1.1-16, Sunday - Titus 2.1-15

## **An Advent Prayer for those who live with grief.**

*This can be a difficult time of the year for those of us who are missing departed friends and family members. We are not alone, this season is difficult for so many. Let us pray this prayer together,*

Lord, how can I enter into this season of joy? In my head I celebrate your birth into this world, but in my everyday life, I am filled with a grief that runs so very deep. You blessed me with a loving relationship and now it is gone from my life. How can I be faithful to that love and the memory of that love and my sorrow in this season of "Rejoice!"??

Tears are so close to the surface all the time and helpful friends who want to "keep me busy" don't seem to really understand that I need to embrace my grief. I am afraid of letting go of the sadness and losing the deep love connection I had.

Instead of entering into the "Rejoice" of Christmas, I long for the sorrow of Lent. I beg you Lord, show me how the two are connected. I ponder the name Emmanuel and know that it means "God with us." With us. With me in this world, in this sorrow. If I look beyond my pain, I know that you, too, suffered so much in this world. I never understood so clearly before that Emmanuel is what your nativity is really about. You are in my world, in my pain.

Thank you, Lord, for the loved one you blessed my life with. Grant me now in my grief, a peace. Give me a comfort that might not make the tears go away, but that lets me feel your presence as you take up a place deep in my heart, with me. Amen.



## Parish Directory

Parish Office - Laurie Woodruff, Administrator	905-885-2171
Incumbent: The Rev'd Jesse Parker	905-885-2171
Rector's Warden: Taran Wharram	905-372-9740
People's Warden: Steve Wright	905-885-2171
Deputy Rector's Warden: Ward McCance	905-885-2171
Deputy People's Warden: Gerry Chapman	905-885-2171
Sunday School: Penny Nutbrown	905-885-2171
Interim Music Director: Elizabeth Barlow	905-885-2171
Administrator & Treasurer: Laurie Woodruff	905-885-2171
Lay Pastoral Visiting: Diane Fraser	905-885-6950
Outreach: Penny Burgess	905-885-5679
Servers' Guild: Shane Watson	905-885-8622
Chancel Guild: Taran Wharram	905-372-9740
Communications Committee: Betty Curtis	905-885-5304
Memorial Flowers: Diane Fraser	905-885-6950
Parish Life: Taran Wharram	905-372-9740
Sidespersons: Steve Sanders	905-885-8466
Sexton: Cec Reesor	905-885-2171
Spiritual Development: Deb Chapman	905-885-7158
Treasure Trove: Suzanne Finnie	905-800-1068
Trinity Group: Monica Miller	289-675-5896

The Parish Office is open from 9:00 – 12:00 noon Monday through Friday.

Baptisms and weddings are scheduled by appointment with the Incumbent. They are celebrated in accordance with the guidelines of the Anglican Church of Canada.

## FROM THE WIDER CHURCH AND THE WORLD



Today in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we lift up **the Diocese of Kivu in Rwanda and its bishop, the Right Rev'd Augustin Ahimana.**

Missionaries came to Rwanda as recently as the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the Anglican Province of Rwanda now consists of 11 dioceses, one being Kivu. According to a Wikipedia listing, “the 1994 genocide and war left the Church and the nation in ruins. Since peace has returned, the Church has embarked on a program of spiritual healing for thousands of traumatised people.” It further notes that the Province has been active in the establishment of the breakaway Anglican Church in North America.

Researching individual dioceses is sometimes difficult. The Diocese of Kivu does not have a website but does have an active Facebook page (English and Swahili) which includes its work with Mothers Union, youth and outreach. The picture is of an outreach music team from the Cathedral.

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**On the cover** - *John the Baptist Announcing the Messiah (Mosaic: mid-12th century)*  
*Cappella Palatina di Palermo, Sicilia.*

"John spoke like the prophets of old, saying that the people must turn from their sin to avoid punishment and turn to God to experience his mercy and approval. this is a message for all times and places, but John spoke it with particular urgency -- he was preparing the people of the coming Messiah. Important Roman officials of this day were always preceded by an announcer or herald. When the herald arrived in town, the people knew that someone of prominence would soon arrive and they would be called to assemble. Because Mark's audience was comprised of primarily Roman Christians, he began his book with John the Baptist, whose mission was to announce the coming of Jesus, the most important man who ever lived." (Barton, Bruce B., *Life Application New Testament Commentary*, p. 138).

