**Sunday Bulletins**

***If you would like to give the bulletin in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving of an event in your life please call the parish office (834-2336) to book a date.***

**2021 Envelopes**

Your 2021 contribution envelopes are available at the registration desk. If you currently do not have envelopes but would like to contribute financially to our parish in this way please email the office [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net) or call 834-2336. A reminder that we also have the option of Pre-Authorized payment or e-transfer. To find out more about these options please call the office.

**Queen’s College Appeal**

In consultation with the Executive Archdeacons of each of the Anglican Diocese in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Finance Committee of Corporation has decided to postpone the Queen’s College Appeal until the Fall of 2021. We all recognize and appreciate the current financial pressures. Thank you for your support in the past, we look forward to your support in the fall, and we certainly appreciate donations at any time.  You can contribute to Queen’s College by

* Donating on line at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/16498>,
* Mailing a cheque to 210 Prince Philip Drive, Suite 3000, St. John’s, NL A1B 3R6, or
* Call the General office (709 753-0116) to use your credit card.

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

**Welcome to the Anglican Parish of**

Diocesan Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor

Priest-in-Charge: Archdeacon Gregory Mercer

Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox

Organist/Choir Director : Stephanie Gavell

Parish Wardens: Sharon Smith and Rex Hillier (Acting)

Office Administrator: Madonna Scott

**St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

February 7, 2021

[www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com](http://www.stjohntheevangelistnl.com)

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Twitter: @StJohnEvang

Office email: [sjtetopsail@nfld.net](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)

Office phone number: (709) 834-2336

Priest-in-Charge Email: archdeacon.gregory@anglicanenl.net

Cell: (709) 325-2366

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**The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God**

**In and Loving Memory of:**

**Beatrice, Shirley & Buck Eason**

**By**

**Linda & Family**

**Our Parish Mission Statement We believe in nurturing a community of faith dedicated to inclusion, support and sharing the story of God's love with all people regardless of the stage of their spiritual journey**

****CANDLEMAS**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate *Candlemas*, a very old traditional Christian festival that commemorated: 1) The ritual purification of Mary forty days after the birth of her Son; and 2) **The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple.** The actual feast day is February 2nd.

Candlemas is a festival of light. By the middle of the fifth century candles were lit to symbolize that Jesus was the Light, the Truth, and the Way. The early Christians made a big celebration out of Candlemas, especially new converts. This particular feast of The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple was also called Candlemas because that was the day on which the year’s supply of candles for the church were blessed.

The service begins with the blessing of candles followed by a liturgical procession. Traditionally the church would meet somewhere apart from the church building and then process to the place of worship with lighted candles singing hymns and psalms commemorating Christ’s entrance into the Temple. Once the candles were blessed, they were then lit during the singing of the Nunc Dimittis, i.e., the words of old Simeon from the Gospel for today. The procession made its way to the Altar followed by more prayers and the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis. The service would continue with the Liturgy of the Word followed by the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Candles were sometimes lit again at the end of the service while people processed out of the church.

Candlemas is truly a wonderful celebration recognizing Jesus as the Light of the World. However, let us not forget that we are “children of the light,” commissioned to “let our light shine before others that they may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.” Unfortunately, because of the Covid-19 restrictions and protocol much of what would make this service a great and joyful celebration, like singing, and the procession, and the handling of candles, etc, we are not permitted to do. But what is more important is it’s meaning for us as his followers. Jesus is the Light of the World, and we are “children of the Light,” committed to his service of love. In His Service,

Archdeacon Greg+

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Parish of Bay d’Espoir**

Rector – The Rev. Hubert Vallis

**Parish of Bay de Verde**

Priest-in-Charge – The Rev. Michael Carruthers

**The Sick**

Michael, Salem, Paul, Horace, Michael C, Randy S, Eleanor M., Fred T.

**\*\*\*\***

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of a dear friend: **Elizabeth Morris**

By **Kelvin, Marg & Family**

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of **John Hillier**

By **Maurice & Loretta O’Brien**

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of **John Hillier**

By **Philip & Stephanie Gavell**

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of **John G. Hillier**

By **Philip & Stephanie Gavell**