**Scripture Readings for November 21st**

Last Sunday after Pentecost: The Reign of Christ

Proper 34

2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-13 (14-19); Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

**Upcoming Parish Events**

**Sunday, November 28th** – First of Advent –

Purple, Holy Eucharist

**Sunday, December 12th -** Advent 3 –

7:00 p.m. Candles in Memory

**Candles in Memory**

Our annual candles in memory service will take place on Sunday December 12th at 7:00 p.m. To light a candle or have a candle lit in memory of a loved one please call the parish office at 834-2336 or email sjtetopail@nfld.net by Wednesday, December 8th.

**Welcome to the**

Diocesan Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor

Priest-in-Charge: The Reverend Jotie Noel, T.S.S.F.

Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox

Organists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell

Parish Wardens: Sharon Smith and Rex Hillier

Office Administrator: Madonna Scott

**CBS/Paradise Food Bank**

The food bank is in need of the following items:

Tin Milk

Tin Vegetables

Sweet Cookies

Meatballs & Gravy

**Monetary donations are gratefully accepted**

**Parish of St. John the Evangelist**

Conception Bay South, NL

November 21, 2021

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

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

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

Office phone number: (709) 834-2336

Address: P.O. Box 13033, CBS, NL, A1W 2K1

E-transfer: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Priest-in-Charge Email: jotienoel@gmail.com

Rector’s Cell: (709) 325-2366

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The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God

and in Loving Memory of:

Mother, Elizabeth Hiscock, Brothers & Sister

by

**Betty & Shirley**

**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**

****Welcome to all who are joining us for worship this morning – in person and online, as we come together to praise and worship God. We hope this service will be a blessing to you. We offer the invitation for you to join our wide and varied parish family life – worship, fellowship, nurturing or mission.**

**We Never Start From Scratch!**

If you were to build/buy a new house there are many considerations before the decision to clear ground or sign for the purchase:

* What are your financial resources and long-term plans in life?
* Are there certain attractive neighbourhoods or areas you would want to avoid?
* How much house, square footage, will you need, one story or two?
* Are you a shedologist – needing a shed for storage, entertainment, hobbies?
* Do you need to go upstairs to go to bed?
* Do you need a view, space for a kitchen garden, a greenhouse or solar panels?

While the above may not even dent your intentions, if we had our drudders, there are many factors to consider a new home possibility.

Our Parish Mission Statement states: *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.*

How do we live out this Parish Mission Statement so that it reflects who we are and what we do?

I suggest that before we try to nurture a community of faith we first consider how we are nurtured in the faith. What parts of our personal, parish and public lives enable us to grow and thrive? Much like establishing a new home, one size does not fit everyone.

I believe it is only when we know what nurtures us that we can intentionally build a nurturing community that continues to nurture us and somehow reaches out to others.

Reverend Jotie, tssf

**The Anglican Cycle of Prayer**

**Tri-Diocesan Intercessions**

**Vocational Diaconate**

We pray for the college of Deacons in the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador and the Vocational Deacons serving the Dioceses of Central and Western Newfoundland. We pray that renewal will abound as we seek to recapture this historical Order of Ministry in the Church of God.

**People who are sick who have asked us to pray for them**

Salem, Michael C., Eleanor M., Fred T., Phyllis H.

A donation has been given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of: David Gill

by

Cynthia, Susan & Family and Ken & Family

**A note from the Treasurer:**

Please ensure your **envelope number is on all financial correspondence** so that we can credit your account for income tax purposes.

**Covid Update from Synod Office**

I pray you are well and continuing to stay safe. As you are aware, late Friday, November 12, 2021 Public Health made changes to our current COVID-19 guidelines.

The following changes and its impact on us as a Faith-Based Organization includes:

1. For gatherings of which all attendees aged 12 years old and over are fully vaccinated (or have an approved medical exemption) and have provided proof of the same, physical distancing is no longer required to be provided for, or maintained, between individuals who are seated. In these instances, churches may utilize all pews for worship services and attendees may feel free to sit wherever they choose and with whomever they choose.
2. While in common areas, congregating should still be avoided. Physical distancing should still be practiced while in common areas. Attendees should be informed, and reminded of, this practice.
3. Funerals, Weddings, or Baptisms held as per the Pastoral Exemption remain subject to physical distancing requirements and capacity limits as outlined in Appendix B of The New Has Come document.

Blessings on your day,

*The Venerable Charlene Taylor,*

Diocesan Administrator

**Eastern Health Grief and Bereavement Session**

Carolyn Jones is offering a **"Grief and Bereavement Information Session"** scheduled on **Thursday, November 25, 2021 from 12:00 P.M. – 01:30 P.M**. via Zoom/teleconference.

**Details to connect:**  **Join Zoom Meeting:**<https://zoom.us/j/97921578686?pwd=UEF4R1VOOGdFVGNaNjBxdE1NbG1Jdz09> **or Join by phone:** Call Canada Toll Free: 1- 778-907 2071 or 1-204-272-7920 Canada Meeting ID: 979 2157 8686 - Passcode: 077561

**Bishop’s Pastoral Letter**

**International Transgender Day of Remembrance**

**November 20, 2021**

My dear friends,

November 20th is the International Transgender Day of Remembrance. It began in the late 1990s to commemorate the life of an African-American trans woman named Rita Hester, who was brutally murdered in Boston in 1998. Her murder and the lack of media attention to her death drove a candlelight vigil to begin in San Francisco.

While we acknowledge that violence happens for many unjust reasons, today, we honour the lives of those who were victims of violence because of their gender identity and gender expression. Due to the widespread ignorance and erasure of the experiences of trans people, this day is an important opportunity for us to bear witness to the hardships of the trans community intentionally.

On this Transgender Day of Remembrance, we are asked:

● To remember and mourn all trans people who have been victims of homicide, violence, and suicide;

● To honour the lives of those who might be forgotten or erased;

● To restore dignity to those who have suffered extreme violence;

● To become more aware of the most vulnerable in our community;

● To recommit ourselves to taking action to “transform unjust structures” and to “challenge violence of every kind.”

We recognize that there are many diverse people in our churches and communities. Some of us may just be beginning to learn and understand the reality of violence against trans people. We pray for courage, open minds and hearts, and persistence as we continue our journey. We pray for love, healing, and justice in the face of oppression.

As Christians, we are called to transform unjust structures of society; challenge violence of every kind, and pursue peace and reconciliation. As the Anglican Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador, I call on all members of our Diocese to stand against all forms of discrimination, violence, and hatred, specifically against members of the LGBTQ2+ community, which violates our baptismal covenant to respect the dignity of every human being. Jesus calls us to love God and to love our

neighbour, as ourselves. Let us be people of love and refuse to allow any form of discrimination or hatred to enter our hearts.

I am grateful to Sydney Brouillard-Coyle (Ney/Nem/Nir) for bringing this important Day of Transgender Remembrance to my attention, and I offer this prayer from the Diocese of Huron:

*God full of mercy, bless the souls of all who are in our hearts on this Transgender Day of Remembrance. We call to mind today young and old, of every race, faith, and gender experience, who have died by violence. We remember those who have died because they would not hide, or did not pass, or did pass, or stood too proud. Today we name them: the reluctant activist; the fiery hurler of heels; the warrior for quiet truth; the one whom no one really knew.*

*As many as we can name, there are thousands more whom we cannot, and for whom no prayers may have been said. We mourn their senseless deaths, and give thanks for their lives, for their teaching, and for the brief glow of each holy flame. We pray for the strength to carry on their legacy of vision, bravery, and love.*

*And as we remember them, we remember with them the thousands more who have*

*taken their own lives. We pray for resolve to root out the injustice, ignorance, and*

*cruelty that grow despair. And we pray, God, that all those who perpetrate hate and*

*violence will speedily come to understand that Your creation has many faces, many*

*genders, many holy expressions.*

*Blessed are they, who have allowed their divine image to shine in the world. Blessed is God, in whom no light is extinguished.*

*Be with us tonight, and in the days and weeks to come. Amen.*

In Christ’s Love,

The Rt. Revd. Samuel V. Rose (He/Him/His)

Bishop

Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador