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| ***Worship Calendar***  **Saturday, September 30, 2:00 p.m. St. Francis Blessing of the Animals Service.** Our Service this year will take place at the **Classroom** in **Chamberlain’s Park**. All pets are welcome.  Sunday, October 1, Pentecost 18, 10:30 a.m. **Morning Prayer** followed by a **Cup O’ Tea** in the **Parish Hall**  Sunday, October 8, Harvest Thanksgiving, 10:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**  Exodus 16: 2-15 Ps. 105: 1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1: 21-30 Mt. 20: 1-16  Sunday, October 15, Pentecost 20, 10:30 a.m. **Morning Prayer** |

**A Note from the Treasurer:** Please ensure your **NAME & ENVELOPE NUMBER** are onall financial **correspondence** so that we can credit your account for income tax purposes.

**Regular Parish Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Parish E-mail List** – We have begun e-mailing the Sunday Bulletin on the previous Thursday and will be sending other information of Parish Life from time to time. If you would like to add your name to this Parish List, please call the Office or email us at [**sjtetopsail@nfld.net**](mailto:sjtetopsail@nfld.net)

***Service Roster:*** Sidespersons Sound Room

October 1st Betty P. Michael G.

October 8th Gail T. Philip G.

October 15th John C. Robert D.

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| Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose  Diocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene Taylor  Rector: The Reverend Canon Josiah “Jotie” Noel, T.S.S.F. (Third Order, Society of St. Francis)  Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa Cox  Organists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-Ledwell  Parish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Leanne Squire  Office Administrator: David Kelland |

**Welcome to the**

**Parish of St. John The Evangelist**

**Conception Bay South, Newfoundland**

**September 24, 2023**

17th Sunday after Pentecost



This Bulletin is given to the Glory of God

and in Loving Memory of

our Daughter, Kim Mercer

by Shirley & Dave Glynn

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

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***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***

***“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Matthew 20:1***

There was a farmer who had a job to be done, so the farmer went back and forth, back and forth, all day until every able-bodied person in town was at work in the vineyard. Our job is to work for God; God’s job (according to my interpretation of the parable) is to

recruit, invite, baptize, confirm, entice each of us as laborers in the vineyard.

If we had the opportunity, I bet if I could ask:

“How did you get here?

What led you to this place?

How did you know that God wanted you, of all people, to be a citizen of the kingdom of heaven?”

I am sure your stories would all have a common theme. In some way or another God found a way to get into your life and give you the invitation. Come, be part of a different realm. Come, take up your place and do your part in the kingdom of heaven.

We asked Jesus to show us what is God like. Is God for us or not?

And in another Gospel (Luke 15) Jesus responded with other stories:

God is the relentlessly seeking shepherd out beating the bushes looking for one lost sheep.

God is the woman who tears apart her house in search of one lost coin.

God is the father who waits for the one lost son to come home and be part of the family again.

God is on the road.

And guess who God is searching for, seeking, ready to save? *Jotie, TSSF*

*O God, from your providing hand*

*even the dissatisfied and grumbling*

*receive what they need for their lives.*

*Teach us your ways of justice*

*and lead us to practice your generosity,*

*so that we may live a life worthy of the gospel*

*made known through your Son*

*Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen. (ACC)*

***Parish Home Visits*** – The dynamic of the times still provides many issues for clergy home visit ministry. As we continue to emerge out of the pandemic and still live with it, Reverend Jotie is ready, willing, and able to visit you in your home. Under the circumstances, this offer comes with the understanding that he will respond to invitations. Please call him to invite him to visit your home if you wish.

***Endowment Fund*** – Our parish has established an Endowment Fund to enable you to offer a gift for the future life of our parish family. Pamphlets at the back of the Church describe options for your prayerful consideration.

***Food Bank Giving Tree*** – Take a decoration, purchase the item, drop it off in our basket.

***Prayer Corner*** – Please avail of the Prayer Candles and Prayer Net Ribbons as needed. We are open to adding persons to our Parish Prayer List. Please contact the Parish Office or one of the Clergy.

***Parish Companions*** – This Parish Ministry offers support to persons who are suffering grief and loss after the death of a loved one. If you would like to avail of the service of this ministry or have questions about it, please contact Canon Jotie or Gail Trewhitt, 834-3909, [gtrewhitt@gmail.com](mailto:gtrewhitt@gmail.com).

**Senior Choir Practices:** The Senior Choir will resume its practices on **Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 7:30 PM** in the church. Please note the change of day from Wednesday to Thursday evenings. Practices run for about an hour but no longer than an hour and a half. We would love to have some new members join us. We will switch to Thursday morning practices when the days get shorter to accommodate those who may not drive at night. You do not need to read music to be part of the choir. We will teach you what you need to know. Singing is good for your overall health and well-being. As well, the social aspect is uplifting.

For more information, please call Stephanie Gavell at 709 834-3445 or drop by after church up to the organ for a chat. Thank you.

**Making your Communion** – After more than three years we are introducing the opportunity to receive Communion in both kinds from the Altar Rail. As always, you are welcome to receive in both or one kind (Bread and/or Wine). Please respect the space that some people may require for comfort and convenience. You may wear a mask if you wish. It may be appropriate to wait until communicants leave the Chancel before proceeding to the Altar Rail.

**Letter to the Diocese**

**National Day for Truth and Reconciliation**

**September 30, 2023**

My dear beloved in Christ,

I am honoured to share with you a letter from our Diocesan Canon for Indigenous Ministries and Advocacy, Tom Mugford, which appears in the September issue of Anglican Life regarding the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, commonly called "Orange Shirt Day." I thank Canon Tom for this vital message and for stressing to us the opportunity to deepen our relationships and walk in truth and reconciliation with the First People of the Land.

I ask that his message be shared in our parishes and Diocese. As a sign of our commitment to walk together, I encourage all those attending worship on Sunday, October 1, 2023, to wear an orange shirt or article of clothing. The orange shirt symbolizes the experiences and resilience of Indigenous children forced to attend residential schools. In his letter, Canon Tom provides other ways to educate ourselves and actively engage in the journey of truth and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Remember, these responsibilities extend beyond one day, and it's crucial to continue learning, supporting, and advocating for Indigenous rights and reconciliation throughout

the year.

I offer this prayer written by Honarine Scott, who is Omushkego Cree from Fort Albany First Nation:

**Today we wear orange**

**to remember and honour all the Indigenous children**

**who went to residential schools.**

**Today we wear orange and we pray**

**for the residential school and intergenerational survivors**

**who are still struggling.**

**Today we wear orange and we are thankful**

**for those who speak the truth,**

**and who work to shine a light on injustice.**

**Today we wear orange in the name of compassion**

**and the spirit of truth and reconciliation.**

**Help us, God, to remember and act on this every day. Amen.**

The Right Rev. Samuel Rose

Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

***St. John the Evangelist***

***Fall Lasagna Take Out***

**Saturday,**

**September 30th**

Pick up between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Includes: Lasagna, Caesar Salad,

Roll & Dessert

Adult - $15.00 under 12 - $7.50

**To Order call:**

Louise at 834-7385

Or Shirley at 368-9504

**Order deadline: Monday, September 25th**

Pay on pickup or by

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

***St. John the Evangelist***

***Topsail, C.B.S.***

***Set Sail - Life on Board***

A logo for a church

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***Exodus 3: 1-15 – God is Calling***

**Hybrid Bible Study\***

***Wednesday, October 18, 10:30 a.m.***

A Bible Study Series based on suggested Lessons for

**Season of Creation 2023**

***“Let Peace and Justice Flow Down like a River”***

\*Please Note:

This Bible Study Series will be onsite on Wednesdays, at 10:30 a.m., in the Parish Hall and via zoom to our parish family who want to be a part of this conversation but cannot be physically present.

If you wish to attend via zoom, please contact Canon Jotie, he will send you a link to join us virtually.

*This gathering is part of The Parish of St. John the Evangelist’s commitment “to offer a variety of opportunities for people to explore communicating with God, living with their neighbour and serving the world.”*

***Holy Eucharist (B.A.S.), Pentecost 17, September 24, 23***

Sentence – *Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son.*

**The Gathering of the Community**

Processional Hymn 388 CP *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*

Collect for Purity p. 185

Glory To God p. 186

Collect of the Day p. 381

**The Proclamation of the Word**

Exodus 16: 2-15 Donald Sparkes

Psalm 105: 1-6, 37-45 p. 845

**Refrain Remember me, O Lord, with the love you have for your people.**

Philippians 1: 21-30 Rosalind Sparkes

Gradual Hymn 555 CP *O God of Bethel, By Whose Hand*

Gospel – Matthew 20: 1-16

Sermon

Nicene Creed p. 188

Prayers of the People #7 p. 116

Confession and Absolution p. 191

The Peace

**The Celebration of the Eucharist**

Offertory Hymn 565 CP *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Prayer over the Gifts page 382

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 4, p. 201)

Lord’s Prayer p. 211

Breaking of the Bread #3 p. 212

Communion

Prayer after Communion p. 382

The Blessing

**The Dismissal**

Mission Hymn 503 CP *Fight the Good Fight*