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| ***Worship Calendar*****Sunday, February 11**, **Presentation of Christ in the Temple**,  10:30 a.m. (White) Candlemas Procession & Holy Eucharist**Wednesday, February 14, Ash Wednesday,** 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist With the Imposition of Ashes**Sunday, February 18, Lent 1** 10:30 a.m. (Purple) Holy Eucharist  |

**2024 Envelopes -** If you need a new box of envelopes for 2024, please contact the parish office by email sjtetopsail@nfld.net or call 709-834-2336. We also have the option of Pre-Authorized payment or e-transfer. To learn more about these options please call the Parish Office.

**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.

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

**2024 Bulletins -** If you’d like to give a weekly bulletin to commemorate the life of a loved one or in Thanksgiving for an event in your life, please contact David in the office for the dates available.

**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**

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

February 11th Andrew B. Andrew B.

February 18th Audrey M. James S.

February 25th Rex H. Philip G.

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| Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel RoseDiocesan Administrator: The Venerable Charlene TaylorRector: The Reverend Jotie Noel, T.S.S.F. (Third Order, Society of St. Francis)Parish Deacon:  The Reverend Lisa CoxOrganists/Choir Director: Stephanie Gavell, Amanda Dawe-LedwellParish Wardens: Rex Hillier & Leanne SquireOffice Administrator: David Kelland |

 Welcome to the Parish of

St. John the Evangelist

Conception Bay South, Newfoundland

**Christingle Sunday**

**February 4, 2024**

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

Facebook: SJTE Topsail

Office email: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Office phone number: 709-834-2336

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

E-transfer: sjtetopsail@nfld.net

Rector Email: jotienoel@gmail.com

 Rector’s Cell: 709-325-2366

**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**

**Lent is Coming - The Discipline of Reckless Prayer**

The word **reckless** refers to a person or their action without thinking or caring about the consequences of an action. If we say that someone is **reckless**, we mean that they act in a way which shows that they do not care about danger or the effect their behavior will have on themselves or other people. Well indeed, you might ask **what this has to do with prayer?**

It is a good question. Many of us in our faith community pray using the prayers and forms set out in Anglican Books of Prayer, much like we do on Sunday when the community gathers. These prescribed and approved Orders of Service and Prayers keep us within a boundary and direct exactly what we say, think and believe.

**Reckless Prayer** references stepping outside these boundaries of words and form into a wilderness, an unfamiliar borderland. We seek to encounter the *“holy”* without the walls of prescribed words or actions. We seek to listen, to hear, to know, completely on our own without the filters (approved forms and words). Without the safety net of the censoring norms of the faith community we dare to bask in the presence of *‘the source of our being, the eternal word and the Holy Spirit’.*

**Our Mid-Week Lenten Observance, Wednesdays in Lent, 7:00 p.m.:**

Ash Wednesday, February 14 – **Turning from Ashes to Reckless Prayer**

Wednesday, February 21 – ***Reckless Prayer through Daily Devotions***

Wednesday, February 28 – ***Reckless prayer through Lectio Divina***

Wednesday, March 6 – ***Reckless Prayer through The Jesus Prayer***

Wednesday, March 13 – ***Reckless Prayer through Beathing***

Wednesday, March 20 – ***Reckless prayer Through Silence***

**We invite prayers for those who are sick -** Patricia B., Elaine M., Benjamin C., Doug T., Tammy H., Jeanette P., Wally H., Trudy T., Brad L., Ruby H.

*Almighty and immortal God, the giver of life and health: We beseech thee to hear our prayers for thy servants for whom we implore thy mercy, that by thy blessing upon them and upon those who minister to them of thy healing gifts, they may be restored, according to thy gracious will, to health of body and mind, and give thanks to thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Donations have been given to the Glory of God**

**and in Memory of: Remembered by:**

Theodore (Ted) Barnes Sandra Squires

**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, Canon 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 for conversation, prayers, or Home Communion.

**The Laying on of Hands** – In preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, **Sunday, May 26,** **2024**, 10:30 a.m. we plan to start Confirmation Classes in late January. Confirmation Candidates should currently be in Grade 6 or older. Please contact the Church Office to register or for more information (709-834-2336 or sjtetopsail@nfld.net). We are ready, willing and able to prepare adults for Confirmation if you may be interested. Please contact Reverend Jotie for details.

**Set Sail - Life on Board** - A Bible Study Series based on suggested Lessons for Season of Creation, “Let Peace and Justice Flow Down like a River,” will take place on **Wednesday morning, February 14, at 10:30 a.m.** Join us for an hour of conversation and discernment.

**ACW QUIET DAY**

Our ACW invite you to join us **Saturday morning Feb. 17** for a **Quiet Time** in prayer, reflection and singing as we prepare for our Lenten Journey.

This will begin at 10:30 in the church and be followed by a soup lunch in the Hall.

Our theme, **“Shaped By Love”** will be demonstrated through props and dialogue and will reaffirm and reassure us that God’s love for us has no boundaries.

Both male and female are most welcomed to come along. Enjoy some time away from phones, TV’s and the busyness of everyday life.

Contact Shirley (709-368-9504) or Betty (709-834-4736) to let us know if you are attending so that we have plenty of soup and cookies to go around!

**Annual Meeting –** The annual meeting for the parish will be scheduled shortly; This is reminder for all groups and organizations to prepare their reports and submit them to the office as soon as is possible.

**Ocean Ranger Memorial** - Gonzaga High School will be holding its annual Ocean Ranger Memorial Prayer Service to remember those who lost their lives in the tragedy 42 years ago. The service will be held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist.

***The Symbolism of the Christingle***

*Whereas the original Christingle consisted of a beeswax candle with a red ribbon, which represent the light and blood of Jesus respectively, the modern Christingle is an altogether more complex creation with added symbolism. The various parts of the Christingle represent the following:*

* ***An orange:****With its round shape, the orange represents the world.*
* ***A candle:****Pushed into the center of the orange, the candle symbolizes Jesus Christ as the Light of the World, as it does in the original version of the Christingle*
* ***A red ribbon:****The meaning of the red ribbon, which is wrapped around the orange, is also retained. It symbolizes the blood of Christ.*
* ***Dried fruits and/or sweets:****The sweets or fruits represent the fruits of the earth, which are nurtured by rain and sunshine.*
* ***Four cocktail sticks:****The sticks that are pushed into the orange represent the four seasons and also the four cardinal directions, namely North, South, East, and West.*

***Preparing the Christingle***

1. *Turn orange upside down, Push four sticks into the bottom to stabilize the orange. Think about the orange symbolising the world.*

**Creator God, thank you for the wonderful world we live in.
Thank you for homes and family, for friends and pets.
Help us to notice the good around us every day. Amen.**

1. *Add the red strip around the middle of the orange. Think about the red representing the broken-ness of the world and us.*

**Forgiving God, we are sorry for the wrong things we do that hurt your world and make things bad.
Please forgive us and help us to look after your world and each other. Amen.**

1. *Put sweets on the sticks. Think about the sweet reminding us of all the good things we have*

**Generous God, thank you for all the good food that the earth produces.
Thank you that we can eat healthy food and sweet treats.
Please teach us to be generous to those who do not have enough. Amen.**

1. *Push the sticks in to the orange between the segments. Think about the four sticks representing all of time (seasons) and space (directions).*

**Eternal God, You are with each one of us at all times: spring, summer, autumn and winter;
and in all places: north, south, east and west.
Thank you that you are always near. Amen.**

1. *Push the candle holder into the top of the orange, then add the candle. Think about the candle representing Jesus, who brings light into darkness, especially during this dark time of Epiphany, and who came to be God With Us.*

**Loving God, you sent Jesus to be the Light of the World,
so that you could be with us, and we could be with you.
Thank you for Jesus and thank you for enabling me to be a Light in the Darkness. Amen.**



**ACW SHROVE TUESDAY SUPPER**

**(EAT-IN)**

(Sausages, Baked Beans, Roll and Pancake Dessert, Tea & Coffee)

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

***Eat-in at 6:00 pm***

Cost: Adults $15.00 Children Under: 12 years $7.00

To reserve able your table please call: Shirley @ 709-368-9504

or Louise @ 709-834-7385 – no later than Friday, February 9th!

Thank you for your support!