|  |
| --- |
| ***Worship Calendar*****Sunday, January 21, Epiphany 3**, 10:30 a.m. (Green) Holy Eucharist **Sunday, January 28**, P.W.R.D.F. Sunday, 10:30 a.m. (White) Holy Eucharist**Sunday, February 4, Epiphany 5**, 10:30 a.m. (White) Christingle Family Service followed by a Cup O’ Tea in the Parish Hall**Sunday, February 11**, Presentation of Christ in the Temple, Candlemas Procession & Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. (White) |

**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

January 21st Leanne S. James S.

January 28th Tracey C. Philip G.

February 4th Robert D.

|  |
| --- |
| 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

**The Baptism of the Lord**

**January 14, 2024**

****

The Bulletin is given to the Glory of God

and in Loving Memory of

Mother, Vivian Upshall

by

Her Children

[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**

***‘A voice came from heaven, saying, “This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.”*** *Matthew 3.17*

You will note in the story of Jesus’ baptism that Jesus shows up on the banks of the Jordan River as a passive recipient of John’s baptism. This is the first time in the gospel that we have seen Jesus in action and he is not really in action, not preaching or healing, but rather receiving.

John the Baptist, who seems to know who Jesus really is, is troubled by Jesus coming to him for baptism. Is this any way for a Messiah to act? Coming out here in the desert and subjecting himself to the baptism of this wild desert preacher?

Jesus says that he does this to “fulfill all righteousness.” What is “righteousness”? In this instance, to be righteous means to submit to the will of God, to align oneself with God’s intentions. And remember, that’s what happened in **your** baptism. This was a public sign, just as Jesus’ baptism was a public sign, of an intention to submit your life to God’s desires and intentions for your life.

Remember, the life you live is not your own.

Remember, your life has been commandeered by the God who gave you life.

Remember, God not only wants to give you life but also wants to give you meaning in your life, a vocation, a sense of direction, a part to play in the grand panorama of God’s work in the world.

One reason the church offers weekly worship of God is because it’s so easy, in your life in the world, to forget what matters, to lose sight of who you really are and are meant to be.

So whenever we baptize anyone, we invite the congregation to join in the vows because, as the baptized, these are your vows. You have promised, or it has been promised in your behalf, to submit to the righteousness of God in your life. Canon Jotie, T.S.S.F.

*God of the heavens, whose holiness is unveiled by one who is submerged*

*in all the pain and sin of the earth:*

*give us faith to follow him who goes to the heart of darkness*

*bearing only the Spirit of gentle, insistent peace;*

*through Jesus Christ, the promised one. Amen.*

*(Prayers for an Inclusive Church)*

**Guest Presider – This morning we welcome the Reverend Emeline Coffin, a member of our congregation, who is our guest Presider while Canon Jotie is away today.**

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

**Set Sail - Life on Board** - A Bible Study Series based on suggested Lessons for Season of Creation 2023, “Let Peace and Justice Flow Down like a River,” will take place on **Wednesday Morning, January 17, at 10:30 a.m.** Join us for an hour of conversation and discernment.

**St. John the Evangelist Vestry Meeting**, **Thursday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m.** In the Parish Hall.

**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.

**DIOCESAN ANGLICAN MEN’S ASSOCIATION [DAMA] -** There will be a service and dinner meeting of DAMA at St. Philp’s Anglican Church on **Sunday, January 28, 2024**. Dinner is at 5:00pm. The meeting will begin at 6:00pm and will be followed by a service at 7:00pm. Bishop Sam Rose will be the guest speaker. This is open to all men of the diocese. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by JANUARY 25, 2024 to Gary Kink at 709-691-3902 or Harvey Hiscock at 709-697-5280.

**Volunteers Needed -** If you’re interested in becoming more involved in the life of your Parish, why not consider volunteering to serve on a **“Counting” Team** or as a **Technician** in the **Sound Room**.? Training is provided, and the time commitment would only be an hour or two, every month to 6 weeks. Many hands make light work! If this sounds like something you’d like to do, contact David in the Parish office at sjtetopsail@nfld.net or at 709-834 2336.

**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.

***Family Ukulele Group*** - The Family Ukulele Group is a music ministry of the parish and is open to ALL ages. No prior musically knowledge or experience is needed. Practice lessons are the first and third Sundays of each month immediately following the 10:30 service. We resume lessons in January 2024.  Ukuleles are available for purchase through the office for approximately $50. To register for the group call David at the office. Be sure to let him know if you will be needing a Ukulele. If you are unable to purchase

one, please contact Canon Jotie.