



All Saints' Your Downtown Community Church!



Prepare the Way of the Lord!

**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS
AT ALL SAINTS'**

Wed. Nov. 26 at Noon
Advent Bible Study & Reflection
Mark 13:24-37. Bring your lunch!

Fri Nov 28 at 7pm Vicar of Dibley
Movie Night

Sunday, Nov. 30, Advent I
with The Rt. Rev. Bob Bennett,
Bishop of Huron
Town Hall during Coffee Hour

Tues. Dec. 2, 12:10-12:45
Christmas Music with David
Palmer Bring your lunch!
Freewill donation.

Wed. Dec. 3 at Noon
Advent Bible Study & Reflection
Mark 1:1-8. Bring your lunch!

Sunday, Dec. 7, Advent II

Tues. Dec. 9, 12:10-12:45
Christmas Music with David
Palmer Bring your lunch!
Freewill donation.

Wed. Dec. 10 at Noon
Advent Bible Study & Reflection
John 1:6-8, 19-28.
Bring your lunch!

Sun. Dec. 14, Advent III

Tues. Dec. 16, 12:10-12:45
Christmas Music with David
Palmer Bring your lunch!
Freewill donation.

more Advent & Christmas events on page 4

I would like to thank each contributor to this Advent/Christmas newsletter. You have outlined your program, but also offered us spiritual reflection on these holy seasons. Thank you for sharing holy time with us.

Advent and Christmas are linked, for sure, but they witness different aspects of human spirituality. Something about Advent wants to spring forward, to fast track to Christmas morning like an energetic six year old! Advent is the time before the stockings are stuffed and gifts wrapped. We talk about the Advent of the Lord – the Coming of the Lord. Thing is, the reality of this holy time before the Coming is that it is a time of waiting, expectation, preparation. Are we ready? Will we notice it in the midst of turmoil around the world? Is there hope in the world these days? God only knows what God has in store for us.

Steady yourselves this Advent. Be patient. Listen to the stories of God's people longing for God with us, Emmanuel. In what way have you known such longing? What is it to wait these days? Do we have this trait within us anymore? Listen for the sound of people anticipating God in life.

We surely need God's intervention. Fear abounds where only trust should dwell. Listen.

Light a candle. Prepare your heart once again. Hope will happen. Hope, Joy, Love, and Faith will once again abound. Divine Love will break through even the darkest hour. Then we will wonder what the fear was all about. Emmanuel, God is with us.

Prepare the way of the Lord, my friends. Prepare the way of the Lord.



**Ways To Prepare For
The Coming of the Lord!**

Advent booklets:
15 Minutes with God in Prayer are available in the Parish Hall. Place a donation in the white box for the booklet.

Advent calendar:
The children can be involved with the Advent adventure by using the calendar that is available in the Parish Hall.

2015 Offering Envelope!
New boxes will be ready mid-December. If you don't have a box and would like one please contact the church office.

The seasons pass quickly from spring to summer to fall and now to winter. For Chancel Guild members the church seasons pass quickly too: Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and now we look to Advent and Christmas and Epiphany. Interspersed within the church calendar are Holy Days and special celebrations in which we as a congregation come together to worship.

Advent brings with it the time of expectation and the waiting for God to act. Christmas is exciting for us because the time of waiting has ended—the Baby Jesus has come, God has acted. Epiphany brings the Light for all to see. Even the secular calendar brings light—the days are longer, we look ahead to what we hope will be a bright future.

Chancel members will be preparing our place of worship—All Saints’—for Advent. Blue will be the predominant colour throughout this time of waiting. And then all will change to white for Christmas Eve through January 11. Our tree will be decorated and the lights will be white. The crèche will be placed by the Altar. Poinsettias will bring colour to various areas in the church. As a congregation we will celebrate the Eucharist together and once again be amazed as angels and shepherds and wisemen proclaim the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I would like to thank everyone once again for all the support given to the collection of food for Christian Horizon House during Harvest and Thanksgiving. On a personal note, I was able to meet several of the residents and their caregivers. I was greeted warmly and thanks were always expressed towards the All Saints’ congregation for their love and support.

Some of you may know that one of our former Chancel members, Claudette Henry, recently visited the Holy Land. She has brought a beautiful gift back—a small flagon set—to be used at the Girl Guide Chapel on Holy Days. The small chalices can also be used for home communion. Thank you Claudette. This is a most meaningful gift that will be used for many years to come at All Saints’.

Calls will soon be made enquiring as to whether you wish to donate towards poinsettias as thank offerings, in memory of loved ones... If you do not receive a call, feel free to contact the Office (519-253-8001) or Alice Lord (519-973-7800) to tell them of your wishes.

As well as, or in addition to the above, you may want to donate to the candle lighting of the traditional Advent Wreath. A suggested donation would be \$20.00 per week. More than one family or person can be involved in this. Again, call the Office (519-253-8001) with your intention.

It is important that you indicate on your cheque or special offering line “Chancel Guild, floral donation”.

Thank you All Saints’ for your continued support to the Chancel Guild and the work of its members.

...continuing in the Lord’s service and in the care of his Sanctuary

Nancy Plantus, Chancel Guild

From the Organist!

As Advent approaches and we prepare for the coming of Our Lord, music can play a significant role in deepening our sense of anticipation and waiting.

Our music in worship will reflect this as we adopt a more meditative attitude, with Taizé refrains and periods of intentional silence.

In this way, our joy at God's Incarnation in Jesus will carry joy borne of a sense of fulfillment. Music will be part of our outreach as well. "Christmas in the Square" is a series of half-hour organ recitals at 12 noon on Tuesdays Dec 2, 9 and 16, open to all. Come, bring a friend and your lunch as well.

Donation at the door will go to benefit All Saints' ministries.

Warm wishes to all,

David Palmer

A Special Time of Year

Advent and Christmas are a special time of year for awaiting the birth of Baby Jesus. A time of great anticipation. A celebration of His birthday and receiving of gifts. A tiny babe wrapped in warmth with Mary his mother, gazing lovingly at her Son! The Son of God has finally arrived and people from all lands near and far come to see this wondrous sight; a child born in a stable among livestock and straw for a bed. Rich and poor alike brought gifts that had a significant meaning. A joyous reflection in the lives of Christians everywhere. Take a few minutes in quiet contemplation to ponder for yourselves the real meaning of Christmastime and for all that His coming means to you. Christmas Blessings to all of you this coming Advent and Christmas.

Submitted by: Cynthia Shepley

Loaves, Fishes and Cabbage Rolls!

We hadn't had much time to promote this aspect of our Patronal Service the other Sunday, but my goodness, that Pot Luck lunch to honour our guest homilist, the Rev. Canon Todd Townsend and his father, Bishop Bob Townsend exceeded all expectations. But we shouldn't be surprised; hospitality at All Saints' is always above and beyond. Thanks to all who contributed, served, or cleaned up after a wonderful lunch.

And speaking of cleaning up and miracles: we have a new dishwasher! Our old dishwasher finally gasped its last breath (and if you ever stepped foot in our kitchen, you know that dishwasher, gasped, wailed, screeched), but now we have a new-to-us, easy-to-use model. Lesley and Jeff Wilkinson researched, negotiated and delivered the new dishwasher. The ACW's hard work paid for it, and the Wilkinsons spent hours upon hours installing the new machine while renovating that area of the kitchen to accommodate it. Amazing! (Although Jeff did take the odd break to sing with the tenors during choir practice.)

And speaking of Property issues! While we pray for the recovery of our custodian Terry, others have quietly stepped up to fill in for this multi-skilled member of our parish family. Victoria McKinlay has taken on custodial duties, and Art Roth, Joan and Gale Carter, and the whole property committee has come to the rescue by offering themselves for a "job jar" rota. Bless you all, and thank you for your talents. Special thanks to Jim Fowler, who is stepping down from that committee, for all his advice and skills over the years.

Thanks also go to Ms. Minelle Toussaint-Greene, Ms. Lonnie Palmer and the whole Church School Agents of Jesus for your efforts to raise money for those suffering from the unrest in South Sudan. Lonnie and Minelle are taking advantage of a government matching grant incentive to raise funds. \$40 raised so far – and counting!

Welcome to our Parish Administrator, Jane Crosby (also Deanery Treasurer, and Warden and Treasurer at St. Augustine of Canterbury. Ms. Crosby shares her insights and suggestions with tact and kindness.

Respectfully,
Sarah Jarvis



Peace starts with a smile!

Christmas Giving Store!

For the sixth year in a row, All Saints' will be offering a Giving Store. Unemployed and underemployed adults identified by the parish office will be invited to visit our "store" by appointment, select complimentary gifts for their kids, wrap them on the spot and take them home. Every shopper is treated to cookies, punch, Christmas music, and of course, the friendly faces of our gift-wrapping volunteers. Every shopper is treated with respect.

We are accepting gifts for kids ranging from 0 to 18 who might not otherwise receive anything this Christmas. Look for our large, gift-wrapped donation boxes in the parish hall and at the back of the church November 23rd through December 14th, and if you are able, please donate an *unwrapped* toy, gift or gift card. Gift cards are ideal for teens, allowing them to have a fast food meal with friends, go to the movies, or pick out their own clothing. Cash donations marked "Giving Store" will also work: our volunteers can shop for you!

In addition, we will gratefully accept donations of gift wrapping supplies (especially gift bags, gift tags, ribbons, and bows.) Clean, sturdy, large shopping bags are also helpful so that our guests, of whom many use public transportation, can carry gifts home with ease.

Volunteers are needed to help set up the Giving Store on December 14^h after service, or to serve as greeters and gift wrappers at the store on December 19th and 20th. Please contact me at (519) 890-4316.

If you can afford to donate gifts for children and adolescents this year, please do. Thanks to your generosity last year, we were able to provide gifts to over one hundred children in need. After families recommended by the All Saints' office had shopped, the remaining gifts were distributed to families in the Reginald low-income housing area.

Thank you once again, people of All Saints', for your generous spirit.

Irene Moore Davis



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS'

Wed. Dec. 17 at Noon
Advent Bible Study & Reflection
Luke 1:26-38 Bring your lunch!

Sunday, December 21 Advent IV
Church School Pageant during 10 a.m.
sermon time and Parish Christmas
Potluck follows worship.

Wed. December 24 at 8 pm
Christmas Eve Festival Candlelight
Service with Children's Procession to
the Manger.

Thurs. December 25 at 9:30 am
Christmas Morning Communion
Merry Christmas One and All!

Sun. December 28
First Sunday after Christmas

Sun. January 4
The Epiphany of the Lord

Sun. January 11
The Baptism of the Lord

*Church Calendars!
2015 Calendars
are still for sale!
See Lesley Wilkinson!*



Eric Gilbert Thanks You,
In His Own Words!

It is quiet a long time since I was accepted
to the Anglican Church Windsor
(previously Church of England).

Windsor has been good to me, especially All
Saints', I really appreciate the friendship of
all the good people of the church, which has
been my savior. Cheered me up, listened to
my **ENGLISH HUMOUR**, without saying
the silly old guy, there he goes again.

Thanks for your friendship!
Thanks for all the goodies (tea & biscuit)!

MAY YOU **ALL SAINTS'**
GO MARCHING ON!
HAVE A HAPPY CHIRSTMAS!
ERIC GILBERT!



Church Office Hours

During the Holiday Season!
December 24 - December 29
closed

Pastoral Emergency - Please call the Rector
at 519-944-7551

Regular hours will resume on
Tuesday December 30 8:00 am - 12:30 pm
330 City Hall Square

Windsor, ON N9A 1J3 519-253-8001

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