



Thursday, November 27, 2025

You have received this weekly E-News as a means of communicating events at

St Mary & St Bartholomew's Anglican Church
646 Westmorland Road, Saint John, NB E2J 2H4
(506) 696-1347 Email: smsb.church@bellaliant.com

***Building Up the Body of Christ,
Reaching Out with the Love of Christ.***

**In Church &
Live-streamed via
You Tube or our website:
www.smsbchurch.com**



First Sunday in Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025

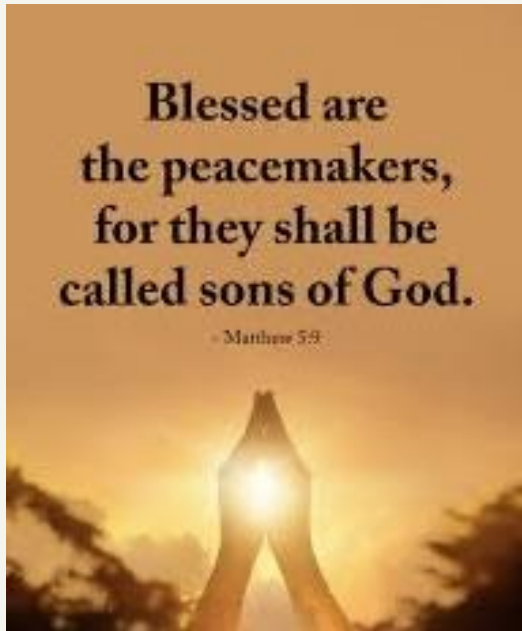
9:00 am
**Traditional Service of
Holy Communion**

11:00 am
**Contemporary Service of
Holy Communion**

Monthly Men's Breakfast
This Saturday (Nov 29)
8:00 am - 9:00 am

Come join us for a hot breakfast and
fellowship!

The Message:



Pastor Greg McMullin



Pastor's Perspective

Enlivened Expectancy!

The Week Ahead...

Monday, December 1

2:00 pm Coffee & Conversation

Tuesday, December 2

12:00 pm Noon Bible Study

7:00 pm Mothers' Union

Wednesday, December 3

9:30 am Holy Communion

10:30 am Time Out for Women

12:00 pm Tea Committee Meeting

4:30 pm Food for Life

Thursday, December 4

7:00 pm Impact Youth Ministry

Saturday, December 6

10:00 am The Piecemakers'

10:00 am Choir Practice

4:30 pm Saturday Supper Ministry

Sunday, December 7

9:00 am Traditional Service
of Holy Communion

11:00 am Family Friendly
Service of Worship
Kids Church &
Impact Youth Session

Less than a month from today, many of us will awaken to the sounds of Christmas Carols, gather around the family Christmas tree, take the gifts that will have laid for days beneath its branches, hand them out to the person bearing his or her name and let the unwrapping begin.

I remember as a small boy how my grandfather, days before Christmas morning, would search out his presents under the tree, pick them up, handle them, attempt to discern their weight, then give them a little shake. It was all a part of his effort to try to guess the contents beneath the wrapping-paper and bows. Whether or not his guesses were accurate, my grandfather's guessing-game added to the mounting excitement of our family's anticipation of Christmas morning.

In a sense, my grandfather's eager anticipation of the unwrapping of Christmas speaks to the importance of Advent.

The word Advent comes from the Latin word, "advenire", conjugated as "adventus" which is a combination word of "ad" meaning, "to" or "toward" and "venire", "come". Combining them gets us literally, "toward the coming." The Latin definition is, "(a thing) about to happen." Expectation would be the appropriate synonym. When the excitement of expectation swells, celebration, when the event arrives is enhanced.

That is why in the Church year the Season of Advent always precedes Christmas. And yet, unfortunately, in a number Christian circles, it is a season that is nonexistent. And so, I challenge our entire church community at SMSB to observe Advent, not only in our public worship on Sundays but in our homes. And by so doing, that there would be instilled in us an *extraordinary* yearning for the One who has, mysteriously, already come lowly in a stable and who promises to come again in glory.

Beginning this Sunday, November 30th, may our yearning be deepened and our sense of expectancy enlivened as we participate in a host of spiritual disciplines. This includes setting up an in-home Advent Wreath with daily family Bible readings and prayers (see attached file in your email), daily live-streamed offices of Morning and Evening Prayer, 8:30 am and 4:30 pm (Monday-Friday) along with other

Services, Bible teaching series and special events (see schedule below).

And so, as it was for the hymn-writer so may it be for each one of us. Let the excitement of expectancy swell in our hearts as we sing,

O come, divine Messiah!
The world in silence waits the day
When hope shall sing its triumph,
And sadness flee away.
Dear Savior haste;
Come, come to earth,
Dispel the night and show your face,
And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

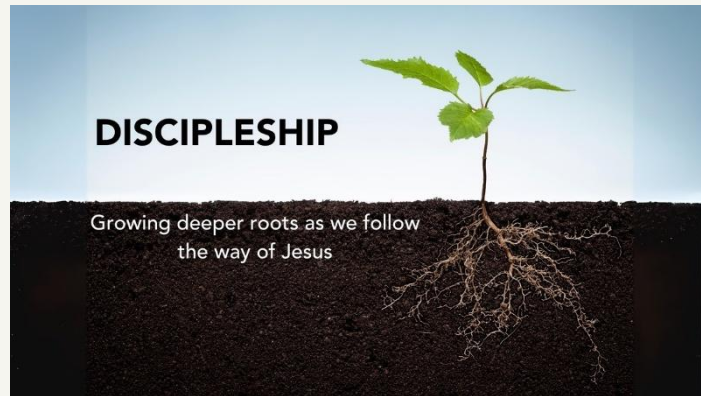
A Holy Advent to us all.
Greg+



Scripture Readings for Sunday, November 30

Romans 13: 8-end
St. Matthew 21: 1-13

Continues this Sunday...



The Beatitudes

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus delivered a series of teachings known as the *Beatitudes*. They're like a roadmap to living a good life, showing us how to be better people and make the world a better place. Striving to live-out the beatitudes is fundamental to our growth as followers of Jesus.

We continue to focus on the *Beatitudes*, from the Sunday morning message into *some* of our LIFE Groups. Bible study material can be found on RightNow Media, the *Beatitudes* with Pastor Matt Chandler.

This Sunday, Nov. 30th –
“Blessed are the Peacemakers”

Dec. 7th – *“Blessed are the Persecuted.”*

***May the world know that we are His disciples
by how they see us live.***



Advent & Christmas Events & Services

Advent 1 - Sunday, November 30

9:00 am - Traditional Service of Holy Communion

11:00 am - Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

Advent 2 - Sunday, December 7

9:00 am - Traditional Service of Holy Communion

11:00 am - The Service of the Word

**6:30 pm - Advent Evensong & Teaching Series Part 1:
*"The Call to Wait"***

Thursday, December 11

7:30 pm - St Mary's Band Christmas Concert

Advent 3 - Sunday, December 14

9:00 am - Traditional Service of Holy Communion

11:00 am - Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

**6:30 pm - Advent Evensong & Teaching Series Part 2:
*"Waiting through Worship"***

Wednesday, December 17

6:30 pm - Blue Christmas Service

Advent 4 - Sunday, December 21

9:00 am - Traditional Service of Holy Communion

**11:00 am - The Service of the Word & Christmas Pageant:
*"The Nativity Story"***

6:30 pm - Advent Candlelight Service

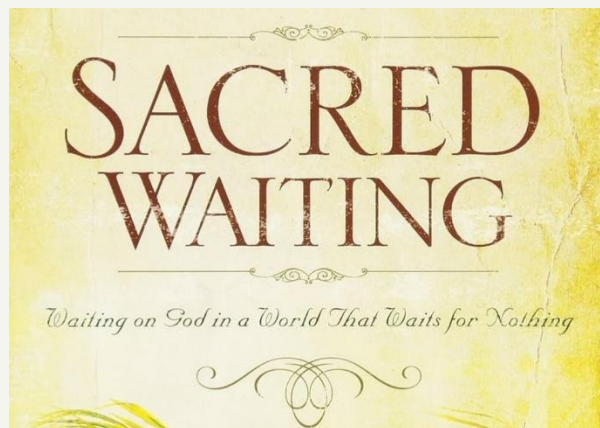
Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24
**6:00 pm - Family Service: Setting the Creche,
Holy Communion & Carols**
11:00 pm - Candlelight Communion & Carols

Christmas Day - Thursday, December 25
The Nativity of our Lord
10:30 am - Holy Communion and Carols

Sunday after Christmas Day & the Feast of the Innocents -
Sunday, December 28
9:00 am - Holy Communion & Carols
11:00 am - Service of Lessons & Carols

Celebration of Epiphany - Sunday, January 4
9:00 am - Traditional Service of Holy Communion
11:00 am - Contemporary Service of Holy Communion

Advent Sunday Evensong Teaching Series:



We live in a high-placed world that tells us that waiting should not be tolerated. The *instant* is what we look for and demand. Everything from our tap and pay purchases to our lightning speed fibre-op downloads to our immediate microwave dinners - whatever it is that we want, we want it now. We easily fall prey to the message that bombards from all directions in the culture today, the kingdom of the

world, is that waiting is for wimps and the instant is for the up and coming.

However, the scriptures remind us of quite the opposite. That life lived God's way, in His Kingdom, requires waiting, waiting that fills us with great expectancy, waiting that draws us closer to God, waiting that is *sacred*.

This Advent, as we await our Lord's coming, you are invited to join us for a two-part teaching series in the context of beautiful Sunday night Evensong at 6:30 p.m. on:

December 7th - “*The Call to Wait*” (Isaiah 40:25-end) and,

**December 14th – “*Waiting through Worship*”
(1 Samuel 16:1-13)**

The culmination of the Advent Season will be our Candlelight Service on December 21st at the same time.

Do come and worship with us as we wait upon the Lord in expectation of one day beholding the glory of His coming.



Condolences

We extend our heartfelt sympathy
to the family of **the late Allan Price**.

Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord.



RISE UP Against Domestic Abuse is a Mothers' Union campaign to raise awareness about domestic abuse. We wish to ensure that as many church members as possible have information about domestic abuse, and how to respond to it.

The brochure you were handed this past Sunday gives suggestions on how to observe the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (Nov 25-Dec 10) as well as how to respond if someone discloses abuse to you. Please join Mothers' Union members world-wide as we observe these 16 Days of Activism.



Annual Christmas Pageant

Kids church is preparing for the annual Christmas pageant to be held Sunday Dec 21st at the 11 am service.

**Practice Sunday Dec. 14th ~ 12:15-2:00 pm
(lunch of pizza provided in class at 11:45)
Dress Rehearsal Saturday Dec 20th 11:00-1:00pm**



Christmas Concert *With* St. Mary's Band

ST. MARY'S &
ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH
646 WESTMORLAND RD, SAINT JOHN

DEC **11** 2025

Starts at 7:30PM

*Admission: Financial Donations
Taken at the Door*





2026 Ministry Teams Budget Review

Ministry Team Leaders are requested to review their budgets and complete the budget form by the end of December, listing your needs/priorities for 2026 and estimated costs associated with these projects. Please see forms at back of church or ask for one at the Church office.

Spotlight on Ministry. . .



Ecumenical Saturday Supper Ministry
of East Saint John

Do you know what this Ministry is all about?

Since April 2005, the Saturday Supper Ministry has provided a hot nutritious meal (including meat, potatoes and vegetables) at no cost to underprivileged residents living in the local community of Forest Hills and Glen Falls of Saint John, and beyond.

Volunteers are represented by membership from a number of local churches: Forest Hills United Baptist, Silver Falls Ulumni, Stella Maris Catholic and St. Mary & St. Bartholomew's Anglican.

How does the Saturday Supper Ministry happen?

With the help of God - in answer to our prayers. God has stirred the generosity of local churches, organizations and individuals to give to

this program since its inception.

We invite you to **click the link below** and view this short video highlighting this ministry and how you might be able to help out.

[Saturday Night Supper Video](#)



Christmas Families 2025

The need is great and our Church family is being called upon to help 30 families this year. Gift cards will be distributed to our Christmas Families. A Superstore gift card will be given to provide a Christmas dinner; as well as a gift card for the children from Walmart. Please consider donating to this project financially, please place your donation in the special envelope in the pew, marked "Christmas Families" or in your giving envelope or send your donation via E-transfer or mail (indicating what the donation is for).



The Mission Centre's Kings Closet clothing bank is looking for donations of warm winter coats - all sizes, for children and adults. Donations are accepted at the Mission Centre on Tuesdays & Fridays (12 noon-3 pm) or arrangements can be made through the Church office (506-696-1347).



Get Connected!

RightNow Media is a wonderful resource for Bible study, LIFE Group study and home entertainment, freely provided by our Church. If you're not already connected, please contact the church office to get set up - 506-696-1347 or email: smsb.church@bellaliant.com.

"Building Community Together" **The SMSB Mission Centre**



**If giving by offering envelope, please indicate
"Mission Centre" on the 'Other' line of the envelope.**

**If you have any questions about this, please contact
the office (506-696-1347).**

For more information on the SMSB Mission Centre, please visit our website at: <http://smsbmissioncentre.com> or visit the Facebook page: SMSB Mission Centre.



How Do We Give When We're Not in Church?

There are options.

1. E-Offering (to begin or modify). Choose weekly or monthly giving. The amount or frequency can change with a quick message or phone call to our Church Secretary, who will provide you with options on how to start this method of giving.
2. Interac E-Transfer - via email: donation.smsbchurch@gmail.com. Please check that the etransfer is being directed to "*The Corporation of Anglican Parish of Coldbrook St Mary.*" Please make a note when you send your etransfer if you wish to have your donation sent to a specific fund.
3. Pay Pal via our Church Website - An easy, safe and secure method of giving is available through our church website via *Pay Pal*. Log into the website: www.smsbchurch.com. Go to the bottom of the home page, to the link 'Donate' and follow the instructions for Pay Pal.
4. Hand deliver or surface mail your offering to the Church Office, 646 Westmorland Road, Saint John NB E2J 2H4. Mail will be picked up each day.
5. Point of Sale - Donations may be made on Sundays prior to each service. Also, the church office will be open Monday to Friday (9 am-1 pm) for anyone who wishes to make a donation during the week.

We want to do everything we can to make consistent giving as easy as possible.
Contact the Office (506) 696-1347 if you have a question.

Thank you so much for your tithes and offerings.



'YouTube' - SMSB Church (streamed services)

Church Website - www.smsbchurch.com

'Facebook' - St. Mary & St. Bartholomew's Church

Church Office - Email: smsb.church@bellaliant.com

Donations - donation.smsbchurch@gmail.com

Phone: 506-696-1347

Weekly E-News

We hope you enjoy receiving your weekly E-News in your email. For full details on announcements and upcoming events, please refer to your weekly E-News (emailed on Thursdays). If anyone who does not have access to the internet and would like a copy, please let us know so we may drop one off to you.

If you would like to begin receiving the E-News electronically, please give your email address to the office 506-696-1347 or smsb.church@bellaliant.com.

Communications

Submissions for the E-News and other publications or requests of communication during services can be sent to the office via email: smsb.church@bellaliant.com or phone 506-696-1347 by Wednesday at noon.

Our Mailing Address:

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Pastoral Contact: Canon Greg (506) 645-7517

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