



ST. PETER, QUAMICHAN ANGLICAN CHURCH

The **BEACON** Newsletter for December 20, 2020

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LEGEND OF THE CANDY CANE

Look at the Candy Cane, what do you see?
Stripes that are Red like the blood shed for me.
White for my Saviour who is sinless and pure.
“J” is for Jesus, my Lord that’s for sure!
Turn it around, and a Staff you will see,
Jesus my shepherd was born for me.

“...by His stripes we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday December 24 until Tuesday January 5th at 9 a.m.

CHURCH DONATIONS

To be eligible for a 2020 tax receipt, all donations must be received by December 31st or **postmarked** for December 31, 2020. Donations can be brought in during parish office hours (see above) or put in our secure mail slot at the bottom of the stairs leading to the office.

VIRTUAL SERVICES during December

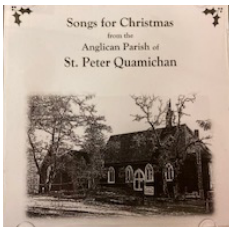
All of our services during the Christmas Season are emailed to parishioners with computer access, posted to our website <https://www.stpeterduncan.ca> and put on our Facebook page, (The Anglican Parish of St. Peter, Quamichan). On our website, look for the heading **WORSHIP SERVICES**, scroll down to **CURRENT SERVICES** for the **most recent posted service**. All other services dating back to the beginning of November can be found by scrolling down to the **ARCHIVED SERVICES** heading. The link AND accompanying bulletin for each service can be found in this section. As these services are online, you can watch them at your leisure AND in your pajamas with a cup of cocoa. Enjoy!

UPCOMING Services:

- **The Longest Night Service** – This is a special service of Comfort and Light in the Midst of Darkness. Many loving hands came together to bring this service to you during these uncertain days. (December 21)
- **Christmas Eve Family Service** – an early Christmas Eve service with a focus for young families
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** – a candle lit service featuring harp music and quiet reflection
- **Christmas Day** – a Service of the Word for Christmas Day! A day of joy and celebration that we can share together, from the comfort of our own homes.

A MUSICAL Gift

This year has been so different on so many fronts, and our Pastoral Care Team has risen to the challenge! They explored some creative ways to spread a little Christmas cheer amongst our most isolated and vulnerable parishioners. As a result, the team sent out over 40 handmade cards donated



by a card making guild in Nanaimo and also included a gift of music! Our Music Director, Barry DeSilva and Kirsten, our seminary student along with the amazing skills of Mark Hird-Rutter, produced a **CD of Songs for Christmas**. These CD's have been delivered along with the cards and the feedback has been wonderful.

Now, we wish to spread this musical gift a little wider. Kirsten has created an online version of the CD through SoundCloud and **the link will be provided in the email accompanying today's Beacon**. There are also a few remaining copies for purchase (by donation) at the office. Contact Monica or Rev. MJ for more information.

Some HAPPY CHRISTMAS NEWS



Did you know that we continue to host the Maple Bay Preschool 5 days/week in our Lower Hall? Over these last few months their chattering voices and forever wriggling little selves have been a source of laughter and joy for those of us still keeping our parish as operational as we have been allowed. This year, the Preschool wanted to introduce the children to the seniors living in Crescent Homes. With gusto, the children and teachers



prepared 14 bags of goodies and this week, the bags were delivered. At each door, the children rang door bells, retreated back and with their delightful and enthusiastic voices, they sang carols.

We all know that Christmas will look and feel different this year; however, the excitement, wonder and smiles of those young folks will never change! For these young ones, their teachers and the magic of Christmas, we are most thankful!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE for the Week of December 20

Members of our Congregation: Rocke, Don, Audra, Cindy, Ruth, John, Bill, Jane, Peter, Vera, Sandee, Jennifer, Dorothy, Audrey, Vital, Theresa, Bob, Frank, Doris, Pearl, Connie and Brandon.

Anglican Cycle:

- Anna, Bishop-elect, Diocese of BC
- Barry and Ansley, Diocesan Leadership Team
- Mark, National Anglican Indigenous Archbishop
- Lynne, Bishop, Diocese of Kootenay
- Penelope, Priest, Holy Trinity, North Saanich
- Pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union around the world.
- MJ, Chris, Jim and Norah, our Clergy, Kirsten, our Seminarian

Government Leaders: Justin, our Prime Minister, John our Premier, Dr. Bonnie Henry, William, Chief of the Cowichan Tribes, and Al and Michelle our Mayors.

Parish Families: Debbie and Don, Nancy

Birthday Blessings coming up: Adele MacLeod (Dec 21), Carmen Allen (Dec 27)