



Anglican Parish of St. George “Serving Christ in our Neighbours”

10029 – 99 Avenue, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 1R6

Phone: 780-998-3620

Email: parish@stgeorgefortsask.ca

www.parishstgeorges.wixsite.com/fortsask

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we come to the end of November, we are moving into a new Church year and the start of Advent. Even though this year has been strange and none of our usual events has taken place, we pray and hope that next year will be different. That said our Advent and Christmas season will also be different this year.

In regards to services from now until December 20, 2020 Bishop Jane has come to the hard decision to close in person services. This was not a decision the Bishop took lightly but needs to be done. That said on November 28, 2020 I will be having an online Evening Service to celebrate the end of this Church year and moving into the Advent and starting the New Church Year. Throughout the weeks I will continue with doing morning prayer and evening prayer from home.

I will also be sending out information regarding what happening around the diocese. This came out from our meeting with all the clergy. I will be supplying information of the different activities and events that other churches are doing via online. Some ideas that will be happening are longest night services, blue Christmas and lessons and carol services.

In regards of Christmas Eve services, before the closures, corporation and vestry had decided that due to the number of people allowed at services at one time that Christmas Eve service will also be online this year. As much as we would love to celebrate the coming of Christ together, we understand that many people come to these services and one thing I don't want to do is turn people away, therefore for this year the service will be pre-recorded and available for you to all watch.

During Advent and leading up to Christmas it be a great time for us as we journey through to remember that many of us are struggling and are unable to do Christmas the ways we usually do it, and maybe are not able to be with family. That said please keep each other in mind. In regards to pastoral care due to the closure, if anyone wants to meet with me it will be by appointment only. Please contact me via email prieststgeorge@gmail.com or via a call (587)985-8509. I will also be in contact with you all over this time to see how you all doing?

Lastly, Advent is a time of waiting for light to appear in the darkness. This is perhaps especially suitable this year. While we wait for Christ's coming and while we wait for relief from the pandemic, may we be light to each other and to our neighbours. Let us hold onto light where we can find it, and know that darkness will never overcome it. You have certainly been a light to me in these past months!

Yours In Christ,

The Reverend Aaron Parsall-Myler
Rector.