



Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

Hallelujah! How are your top notes? I hope you are practicing them in readiness for the Sing-Along Messiah this Saturday. The singing will start at 4:00 pm. Jonathan will give an introductory chat at 3:30 pm. It will be glorious!

Also this Saturday, parishioner Edward Yankie, one of the gentlest people I know, will inhabit the skins of 34 mostly nasty characters in his one man bravura performance of Shakespeare's Richard II. Salle Claude Léveillé at 8 pm. There will be another performance in February. Do try to see this remarkable production.

There will be beautiful words and music at the candlelit service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas on Sunday, December 22, at 4:00 pm. Other Christmas services are listed on the website and at the end of this letter.

If you're on Facebook you might have seen our Dean's bilingual Advent and Christmas message posted on YouTube. In any case, you might like to hear it again using this link: <https://www.montreal.anglican.ca/latest-news/2019/12/9/dean-bertrands-bilingual-advent-christmas-message-2019>

If you would like to contribute money for flowers to decorate the church for Christmas, and want to be acknowledged, please be sure to give your name and the name of the person being remembered to the office by December 16, the deadline for the Christmas bulletins. You can make an e-transfer. If you would like to help lead the carols at the 4:00 pm service on Christmas eve, or know of a child who would like to participate please talk to Jean-Daniel. We still need two more stewards for Midnight Mass. Please contact Ann Elbourne or Bob King.

Janet King wonders whether you have noticed that the creche in front of the nave altar changes each Sunday. The first Sunday of Advent it was an empty stable and Mary and Joseph started their travels, from Ste. Catherine Street, on the University side windows. Last week the goat and chickens arrived. This week they will get more animal friends and the kings will start travelling slowly on the Bay side windowsills. Janet thanks the vergers, Jean-Daniel and his youth group and others who assist in the movements which will reach their climax on Christmas Eve.

Each Sunday in December we are being asked to bring food for the hungry. Vivian recommends the blog at Foodbanks Canada which lists the most desirable donations. Here is a summary of their suggestions:

- Whole grain foods (cereal, pasta, oatmeal)
- Baby cereals and jars of baby food
- Lean proteins (canned chicken, tuna, peanut butter, baked beans)
- Canned fruit
- Milk alternatives (powdered milk, shelf stable milk etc)

In January Deborah will be offering food for the soul in a series she is calling A Deeper Well. It will be a small anglophone group committed to participating for 7 weeks in a supportive, confidential environment. It is intended to help those who wish to grow in the spirit through contemplation and intellectual challenge. The group will be limited to 12 participants and will meet on Monday evenings at 6:30, starting on January 6th. Please email deborah.meister@montrealcathedral.ca for more information or to enroll.

We recently received some news from the Bishop which concerns Jean-Jacques Goulet who retired earlier this year: The Parish of St. Cuthbert, St. Hilda, St. Luke has decided to be known as St. Hilda's with the nickname La Petite Chappelle Rouge. A service of Dedication and also the Induction of the Rev. Jean-Jacques Goulet will be held Saturday January 4 at 4pm at 6341 Ave de Lorimier; Montreal, H2G 2P5, with refreshments following. The diocese owes a great deal to the devoted service of its retired clergy. I'm sure some of us will wish to be present to support Jean-Jacques.

Christmas is coming upon us very fast. The Diocesan and Cathedral offices will be closed between December 24 and January 2. The first January newsletter will be sent out on January 10.

Happy Advent to you all,

Ann Elbourne
December 13, 2019

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 18, 6:00 pm - Blue Christmas service, for all who find Christmas a difficult time of year.

December 22, 4:00 pm - A celebration of Carols and Readings for Christmas by candlelight.

December 24, 4:00 pm Family service with pageant
7:00 pm Messe en français
11:00 pm Midnight Mass

December 25 8:00 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am.