



Dear Friend of the Cathedral,

First, some good news from the Dean!

### Advanced Registration for Services no Longer Required

'We have been advised by the diocese that, following changing provincial regulations, we are no longer required to maintain a log of event attendees. Corporation has therefore agreed that we would stop registration for services for the time being. This will give more spontaneity to decide whether to turn up at the Cathedral on Sundays, and therefore we hope to continue to see many more of you in person on Sundays.'

### Next, a message of hope as a new Christian year begins



This coming Sunday is Advent Sunday when we bless the Advent wreath and light the first candle. We will pray *"Eternal God, as we await the coming of our saviour, give us the courage to hope."*

The cathedral is offering two special ways to observe Advent this weekend

1. **A special day of reflection on the Eve of a new Christian year**, this Saturday from 10am – 3pm in the Cathedral. Vivian Lewin urges

'If you or someone you know might benefit from a day of contemplation & gentle thought, do take advantage. Let the office know so that there will be enough handout sheets for all the participants. We will be masked and distant, physically, yet most assuredly together in spirit!'



#### A Quiet Day at Christ Church Cathedral

With four teaching sessions, time for reflection, prayer and communion. Led by the Ven. Ralph Leavitt, Honorary Associate Priest. There will be an hour set aside for you to have your lunch outside the Cathedral. To register contact the office [administrator@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:administrator@montrealcathedral.ca), 514-843-6577 ext. 241.

We will be studying the "O Antiphons"

*O Wisdom, come and teach us.  
O Lord and Ruler, come and redeem us.  
O Root of Jesse, come and deliver us.  
O Key of David, come and free us.  
O Dawn of the East, come and enlighten us.  
O King of the Gentiles, come and deliver us.  
O Emmanuel, come and save us.*

2. **Sunday at 4pm Lessons and Carols for Advent** - diverse music by Canadian, African-American, British, and Italian composers plus readings, prayers and congregational hymns.

Raise your voices in person or listen to the service being streamed live <http://montrealcathedral.ca/live> or on Radio VM



## More ways to celebrate Advent

1. **Christian Foundations: The Apostles' Creed.** Deacon Ben Crosby will be leading an Advent study over zoom on three Wednesdays in December, the 1st, 8th and 15th, at 7pm. For information [benjamin.crosby@montrealcathedral.ca](mailto:benjamin.crosby@montrealcathedral.ca).
2. **Advent for Kids.** Stories, songs, crafts and activities in the spirit of Advent and Christmas for the whole family. Registration deadline Dec 11 | [mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca](mailto:mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca)



The Anglican Diocese of Montreal is partnering with Christ Church Cathedral and St Thomas Church, NDG for a special Advent Celebration for Kids & Families!

On **Saturday December 18th from 10-noon** you are welcome to join us at **Christ Church Cathedral** (1444 Union) in the morning or St Thomas Church from 2-4pm (6897 Somerled NDG) in the afternoon.

What to Expect? Stories, songs, crafts and activities in the spirit of Advent and Christmas for the whole family! Find meaning, hope and joy ...

### 3. Making your Christmas Cake and perhaps a pudding

Last Sunday we celebrated the feast of Christ the King. That Sunday used to be called Stir-Up Sunday, getting its name from the collect of the day in the Book of Common Prayer which starts "Stir up, we beseech you, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people." Most recipes for Christmas pudding require it to be cooked well in advance of Christmas and then reheated on Christmas Day, so the collect of the day served as a useful reminder.

You might enjoy looking again at the bi-lingual video made last year by Dean Bertrand and Gabrielle Boyd which showed us how to make an excellent gluten-free, lactose-free Christmas cake. I made one after watching the video and it was delicious.



You will find the recipe in the newsletter for November 20th, 2020 [Click here for recipe](#)

Video link: [Stir Up Sunday November 22 2020](#)  
Whatever your recipe, ESJAG hopes that you will be able to find fair trade ingredients

### 4. More about the **liturgies for Advent**, a message from the Director of Music, Nick Capozzoli:

One way of signaling a new liturgical season is singing new music. During the four weeks of Advent, our choir and organists will lead us through texts you normally don't get to say and hear. We will sing the Kyrie eleison (Greek for "Lord have mercy") in place of the jubilant Glory to God. We will hear two of the ancient "O Antiphons" every week - sung as a hymn at 9am and chanted by the choir at 10:30am. To mark the beginning of this season, the 10:30 Eucharist begins with a solemn chant traditionally known as the "Advent Prose." It is a translation of the Gregorian hymn "Rorate coeli" ("Drop down, ye heavens"). The text comes from various passages in Isaiah, and this chant sets up themes we hear throughout Advent: penitence, expectation, and hope.

## Reminders

- ✓ November 28, 12:15 pm **Queer Space**, regular Fourth Sunday of the Month meeting on zoom. [https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/event/queerspace-sunday-1215-pm/?event\\_date=2021-11-28](https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/event/queerspace-sunday-1215-pm/?event_date=2021-11-28)
- ✓ November 28 **Last Sunday of the Month Lunch** for those in need, sponsored this month by a Cathedral member who wishes to remain anonymous.
- ✓ November 29<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon **Brown Bag Bible Study** (on zoom)  
Gen 32:22-33:11; Gen 50:15-21; Matt 25:31-40; Luke 10: 25-37, McLaren Ch. 8



**December 6, 12pm Eucharist service remembering the Polytechnique victims and praying for an end to violence against all women.**

- ✓ December 7 **Forum**, 5:15 on zoom. **Please note the change of date and time.**

## Beyond our doors

**Monday, November 29 at 5:15pm, ESJAG** is meeting to finalise their submission to December Forum about the Cathedral's outreach donation this year.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82984929870?pwd=OTFQWE9BOExqNWFHeHpSM2tTbjd6QT09>



Several ESJAG members recently attended a memorial for Elisapie Pootoogook, an Inuit woman who died last week on a construction site at Atwater. ESJAG flowers were placed with the other tokens.

Photo from Kamloopsthisweek.com



In the past few days, we've all been heartbroken to learn about the massive flooding in British Columbia, which has required whole towns to be evacuated and has left portions of the area entirely cut off from the rest of Canada.

There are several ways you can help

- Our prayer partner, St. Paul's Cathedral in Kamloops, is collecting funds for the people from Merritt displaced into Kamloops after the whole city was evacuated. To participate, copy this link: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/53639> and write "Merritt Emergency" where it asks for a dedication.
- The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund is now accepting donations towards an emergency response in British Columbia. For information and a suggested prayer see <https://www.abbotsfordanglican.ca/news/pwrdf-has-set-up-a-b-c-disaster-fund> This web site reminds us that the need for funds will grow in the weeks and months ahead as the flood waters recede and people begin the work of rebuilding, restoring and healing.
- The Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of B.C. and Yukon have released a statement asking Canadians to join them in prayer.
- Last Sunday, Primate Linda Nicholls joined Indigenous Archbishop Mark MacDonald in an online vigil for B.C. You can replay it on You Tube [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5\\_yb2NY7qk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M5_yb2NY7qk)

## Christmas is coming! Some dates for your calendar

- Celtic Christmas Concert featuring the Wedd Choral Scholars December 11, 4pm
- Blue Christmas Service Dec 16, 6pm, for all who find Christmas a difficult time of year.
- Lessons and Carols for Christmas, Dec 19, 4pm In-person, Livestream and on Radio VM
- Christmas Eve, December 24  
8pm Messe de Noël / Christmas Mass (fr)  
10pm Choral Christmas Mass / Messe de Noël
- Christmas Day, December 25  
10:30am Choral Christmas Mass / Messe de Noël
- First Sunday after Christmas, December 26  
10:30am Eucharist / Messe

## A final thought

From the readings you will hear this Sunday –

*"It is time for us to wake out of sleep, for deliverance is nearer to us now than it was when first we believed. It is far on in the night; day is near. Let us therefore cast off the deeds of darkness and put on our armour as servants of the light."*



The series of disasters BC has suffered this year – fire, deadly heat and now floods have probably made us all acutely aware of climate change and the urgent need for action, so these words are both inspiring and comforting. Taddy Stringer was an invited virtual attendee at the recent Cop 26 conference in Glasgow. She has been asked to do a presentation to the congregation (date TBD) Brenda Linn suggests that the two most important messages from COP 26 are that we need someone or something, human or divine, to stir up our (political) wills, so that we won't take no for an answer and that we need a deeper understanding of the situation.

***"Take courage. Do not fear. Be ready for the coming of Christ."***

Ann Elbourne,  
with thanks to Bertrand Olivier, Deborah Meister, Brenda Linn, Nicholas Capozzoli and Vivian Lewin for their suggestions and contributions.

November 26, 2021