

# Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands ST. ANDREW PARISH CHURCH

*Patron Saint Andrew The Apostle*

**Half - Way -Tree, Kingston 10. Telephone: 968-9366, 926-6692 , 926-0988**

**Office hours 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon.- Fri.**

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## Chapel of Ease:

**St. Thomas Mission - Majesty Gardens and St. Clement's Mission - Kencot**



**INTENTION FOR THE YEAR:  
A Call to Intentional Discipleship,  
Sustained by the Holy Spirit**

## **CLERGY**

Rector Revd. Canon Serrano Kitson, D. Min

Curate

Revd. Olando Gayle

Church Army

Sister Andrea Taylor Smith

## **Wardens**

Rector's Warden

Mrs. Ruby Anderson

Email ([rubyelaineanderson@gmail.com](mailto:rubyelaineanderson@gmail.com))

People's Warden

Dr. Nigel Elliott

Email ([nelliottdvm@hotmail.com](mailto:nelliottdvm@hotmail.com))

## **Administration**

Office Administrator & Ops. Officer

Mrs. Merle Thomas

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Hortense James

Receptionist -

Verger - Mr. Vernon Miranda

Asst. Verger - Miss Ann Morrison

**The Rector is out of Office on Mondays**

We celebrate as a church family our Patronal Festival on this First Sunday of Advent 2017. It is a celebration after 353 years of witness to those who traverse Half-Way-Tree and the people who live in its surrounding housing communities. As a church, we have established various ministries for worship – Sunday school, the youth fellowship and young adult movement. Although with the passing decades the environment and ‘culture’ has changed, our mission and witness remain the same, “To proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to inspire the parish family to unity with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit and each other.” In order to maintain this mandate, which is connected to the life and mission of Jesus, there is the need for our renewed commitment, resources and personnel. Jesus recognized the necessity for human resource in His ministry, and called the twelve and many women and men to “Follow Him” and to participate in the enterprise of Salvation.

As our worship week after week continues to be dynamic with the support of your presence and your tithes and offering, we have been able to maintain the many and varied ministries of our church. This is pursued for the purpose of proclaiming the presence of God’s Kingdom within the human challenges that we have to face. Can we recognize the boundless riches of God’s grace in our lives and in our community? In spite of the presence of the blessings, we continue to face the challenge of some of our members who are inconsistent in their participation in the mission, worship and ministry of our church. The reality of being a disciple of Jesus is seen in the call ‘to walk with the Lord, to love him, and serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.’ (Deut10:12b). In this covenant relationship of our Baptism, we have promised to be faithful in our witness and devoted to worship and prayer and minister in the name of Jesus. The intention for us as Christian disciples is for God’s glory and presence to be seen among us. Intermittent participation is not an option, as we are accountable for our commitment to be Christ’s light in the world.

Although we live in a technological and diverse society, our people especially children, adolescence and young adults, still need to hear afresh the transformative Good News of God’s love revealed in the life and person of the crucified Jesus. This demands that we pursue a lifestyle of the spiritual practices, in which we become the Gospel we proclaim, the song that we sing and the Story that we tell. Our lives must be marked by deliberate discipleship sustained by the Holy Spirit, so that the Story of Jesus lives through us, as we witness to what we have experienced of Jesus and God’s love for us.

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors ,especially Rev. Fr. D.K. Blackwood and his wife Simone. Also The Independent Jamaican Council for Human Rights.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### *Processional Organ Voluntary*

#### AT THE ALTAR

*The Celebrant Prays,*

May this incense, blessed by You, O Lord, ascend to You. And may your mercy descend upon us in the name of (+) the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

*(During the incensing of the Altar)*

The Choir Sings ***Behold he Lord will Come ( Music Colin Mawby)***

Celebrant: *Let us go forth in peace*

**People: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

#### **HYMN AT THE PROCESSION: 56** (Tune Ode to Joy)

*Station At The North Door*

Celebrant: *I Will Exalt You, O God My King,*

**People: and bless Your name forever and ever.**

Celebrant: *Let us pray...*

We stand outside time, in a place not of earth. As our ancestors before us bade we join together and are One.

By Blessed Mary and Blessed Apostle Andrew our Patron Saint,

By all Your holy angels,

By all Powers of Light and Shadow,

We call You to guard and defend us from all perils, O Most High.

**People: Amen.**

#### **The Procession Continues Hymn 36**

#### **THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Celebrant:** Jesus says, "Surely I am Coming Soon!"

**All:** Amen, Come, Lord Jesus!

(+) Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Celebrant:** Today is the First Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Hope.

**Introduction to the observance of Advent - Sunday School**

**THE BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (All stand)**

**Celebrant:** Dearly beloved, now we stand in the house of the Lord, at the center of a universe which is not ours as we know it. As we prepare to worship the living God, let us call to mind in silence the divine Presence that surrounds our lives. It is our Holy God who calls us by name and draws us into the mystery of Christ Jesus who is alive and in our midst.

*Silence*

**Celebrant:** You are just, O Holy One, great and amazing are your deeds, Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, King of the nations! As you reveal your majesty in your son Jesus Christ at His first coming, so may this Advent Wreath and Candles be to us a sign of your presence this Advent tide Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen**

**The Candle of Hope**

The Christian Hope is rooted in Christ risen and ascended, who will come again in glory and in power to judge. He will make all things new. "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats." (Matthew 25:31-32) Our hope also is to live with confidence in newness and fullness of life, and to await the coming of Christ in glory, and the completion of God's purpose in the world. (BCP pg.413)

**Celebrant:** Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Hymn: O come, Emmanuel (first stanza only)**

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the son of God appear.

**Refrain** Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

**Celebrant:** On this First Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Hope.  
(First Candle is lit)

**Celebrant:** Hope is like a light shining in a dark place.

**People:** As we look at the light of this candle, we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray:

**All : God of Abraham and Sarah and all the Patriarchs of old, you are our Father too. Your love is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and son of David. Help us today and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with others. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen**

## **THE TRISAGION**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and Immortal One,  
Have mercy upon us.

**Celebrant:** The Lord is here.

**People: His Spirit is with us!**

President: Let us pray.

### **The Collect: First Sunday of Advent**

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when He shall come again in His glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### **Saint Andrew the Apostle**

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ, and brought his brother with him: Give us, who are called by your holy Word, grace to follow Him without delay, and to bring those near to us into His gracious presence; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD** (All sit)

**Old Testament**                    Isaiah 64:1 - 9

**Psalm** 80:1-7,16-18            **Refrain:** (All sit) *“Restore us again, O Lord, show us your light, and we shall be saved.”*  
BCP (page 641)

**Epistle**                                1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9

**Gradual**                            755 (The Kindergarten Children leave for Sunday School)

**Gospel**                                Mark 13: 24 - 37

**Homily**                                Rev. Fr. Dwane Blackwood

Leader: We shall pray for Christ’s Catholic Church and for the mission and witness of St. Andrew Parish Church, and for every member in their vocation of discipleship and ministry.

Leader: Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer**

### **Renewal of Baptismal Vows & Promises**

**Leader:**

In our baptism we died with Christ and were buried with Him, so that we might rise with Him to a new life within the family of His Church. We can never be baptized again, but we can, in response to a movement of God’s Spirit, and after careful preparation, renew the promises made at our baptism.

As we look forward to the return of Christ as Lord and Judge, I invite you who are ready to do so to reaffirm your baptismal promises.

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept Him as your Saviour?

**Answer: I turn and accept Him.**

Question: Do you put your trust in His grace and love?

**Answer: I so put my trust.**

Question: Do you promise to love God and obey Him as your Lord?

**Answer: I promise.**

Question: Do you renounce Satan, and all the spiritual forces of wickedness?

**Answer: I do.**

Question: Do you renounce injustice and all the evil powers of this world?

**Answer: I do.**

Leader: Now in allegiance to Christ, you must declare before God and His Church that you accept the Christian faith into which you were baptized, and in which you will continue to live and grow.

Question: Do you believe and trust in God the Father who made the universe?

**Answer: I believe and trust God.**

Question: Do you believe and trust in God's Son, Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption?

**Answer: I believe and trust in Him.**

Question: Do you believe and trust in God's Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God?

**Answer: I believe and trust in God.**

Leader: This is the faith of the Church.

**People: This is our Faith. We believe and trust in One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Leader: We shall be sprinkled with Holy Water as a sign of the renewal of our Baptismal Vows and promises.

### **The aspersion with Holy Water**

*During the sprinkling of the people with Holy Water the following shall be sung:*

### **Hymn: Wonderful Grace**

1. Wonderful grace That gives what I don't deserve, Pays me what Christ has earned, Then let me go free. Wonderful grace That gives me the time to change, Washes away the stains That once covered me.	2. Wonderful love That held in the face of death, Breathed in its latest breath Forgiveness for me. Wonderful love, Whose power can break every chain, Giving us life again And setting us free.
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### **Refrain:**

*And all that I have  
I lay at the feet  
Of the wonderful Saviour  
Who loves me.*

## Covenant Renewal

Leader: Will you live in obedience to God's laws, as a loyal member of His Church?

**All: With God's Help, I will.**

Leader: Will you support the Church, by coming together week by week for corporate worship; giving personal service and work and pray for the spread of the Kingdom of God?

**All: With God's Help, I will.**

Leader: Will your life be marked with self-denial and self-giving and permeated by love of God and our fellow human beings?

**All: With God's Help, I will.**

Leader: Let us in sincere dependence on God's grace, and trusting in God's promise, yield ourselves again to God.

**All: Almighty God and heavenly Father, as part of my personal response to You, I promise that I will more readily accept the guidance and direction of your indwelling Holy Spirit in every part of my life; that I will become more involved in the life of your Church and use more of my time and abilities for your work and witness by telling others about Jesus, like Saint Andrew our Protector. I will also, as an expression of my gratitude to you, support the work of our Church by contributing funds from my earnings on a regular, systematic and proportionate basis through my tithes and offering. This is my solemn vow to further the mission of God.**

Leader: Almighty God who gives you the will to do these things, grant you grace and power to perform them, that God may complete the good work begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all those who have been baptized in your name. Keep us faithful in our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

## The Peace

Leader: We are the body of Christ...

**All: Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.**

**The Service Continues with the Offertory Hymn ... 346**

**During Communion:** Such Love

**1.** Such love, pure as the whitest snow  
Such love, weeps for the shame I know  
Such love, paying the debt I owe  
O Jesus, such love

**2.** Such love, stilling my restlessness  
Such love, filling my emptiness  
Such love, showing me holiness  
O Jesus, such love

**3.** Such love, springs from eternity  
Such love, streaming through history  
Such love, fountain of life to me  
O Jesus, such love

**Your Grace and Mercy**

His grace and mercy brought me through  
I'm living this moment because of You  
I want to thank You and praise You, too  
Your grace and mercy brought me through

### **SICK AND SHUT - IN**

Lena McDonald  
Joan Reader  
Heron Wright  
Rema Watt

Lucille Campbell  
Veril Blake  
Sybil Shirley  
Ilene Thomas

Phyllis Brown  
Jemima Austin  
Evan Grant  
Fredrick Green

*Kindly inform the Church Office when you become aware of members who are ill at home, in hospital, or absent from Church for a while.*

**Faith Formation and Christian Education**

## Did you know?

The word 'Advent' is from the Latin '*Adventus*,' which means 'coming.' Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year (in the Western churches), and encompasses the span of time from the fourth Sunday before Christmas, until the Nativity of Our Lord is celebrated. The first Sunday of Advent is the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (which is November 30th), and so it will always fall somewhere between November 27<sup>th</sup> at the earliest and December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the latest. Like Lent, Advent is a preparatory season. It has significance because it is a season of looking forward and waiting for something greater; both for the annual celebration of the event of Christ's birth, and for the time when Christ will come again. (*Aquinas and More*, 2017).

## Quote for Reflection

“Optimism and hope are radically different attitudes. Optimism is the expectation that things - the weather, human relationship, the economy, the political situation, and so on - will get better. Hope is trust that God will fulfill God’s promises to us in a way that leads us to true freedom.” (Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*, 1996)

## Question for Reflection

What is your Ministry within the Church for the growth of the Kingdom of God?

## ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK Dec. 3 - Dec. 9

The Church is open **Monday to Friday**  
between **9 a.m. and 5 p.m. for prayer**

Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	4:00 p.m.	Moreton Park
Wednesday	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
	9:30 a.m.	Holy Communion to sick and shut-in. (Clergy)
	5:30 p.m.	Property and Building
Thursday	5:30 p.m.	SAPC Choir Rehearsal
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Little Brothers
	2:00 p.m.	Alleluia Choir Rehearsal
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship

## **PARISH NEWS**

**Birthdays for this week:** Gloria Laing and Michael Grant 12/03, Andrea Livingston-Prince, John Lopez, Andrea Robins and John Levy, 12/4, Marilyn Lawrence-Wright 12/05, Senga McDonald 12/06, Calvin Murray and Amanda Hutchinson 12/07, Stephanie Murdock 12/08, and Minnette Brown, Hyacinth Chin and Anneke Newman-Russell 12/09.

**Congratulations to** Leonard and Stephanie Green who celebrated 65 years of marriage on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Condolence is** extended to the family of Horace Spence. His funeral service will be on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon. Also to the family of Adlington Findlay. To Christene Johnson-Kelly on the passing of her sister Pearlette Thompson in Florida.

**Our Annual Gift Days** will be from December 10 - 17, 2017

**The Friends of the St. Andrew Parish Church Sunday School's** annual Christmas Cake & Pudding sale is on every Sunday from November 9 - December 17, 2017.

**This year's Carol Service** will be held on December 10 at 6:00

**The Altar Guild** is asking those who wish to **donate Poinsettias** for the Christmas decorations to contact the Church Office.

**A congregational meeting** to nominate eligible persons to the Church Committee will be held on Sunday, December 10, 2017. At this nomination meeting each eligible voter may nominate **not more than two persons** for election to the Church Committee.

There will be **NO LEGAL** advisory service on Saturday December 9.

**The Church's Annual Congregational meeting** will be held on January 28, 2018, after the 8:00 a.m. service.

**"Daily reflections for Advent and Christmas"** St. Jude's writers, are available at the church Office.

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2017 - Year B

## A Call to Intentional Discipleship, Sustained by the Holy Spirit

**7:30 a.m.**

### SOLEMN EUCHARIST AND SERMON

Processional	56 - Ode to Joy
Old Testament	Isaiah 64:1 - 9 Marilyn Lawrence-Wright
Psalms 80:1-7,16-18	<b>Refrain:</b> (All sit) <i>“Restore us again, O Lord, show us your light, and we shall be saved.”</i>
BCP (page 641)	
Epistle	1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9 Jeffrey Foreman
Gradual	755 (The kindergarten children leave for Sunday School)
Gospel	Mark 13: 24 - 37
Sermon	Fr. Dwane Blackwood
Renewal of Baptismal vows	
Offertory Hymn	346, Thanks, Thanks, We give you Thanks.
During Communion	754, 525, Such Love, His Grace and mercy, 551, [612]
Sunday School	652
2nd Collection	667
Recessional	239

**11:00 a.m.**

### Kingston Region Launch of Intentional Discipleship at St. George's Church, East Street.

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON 2017 - 18

Dec. 10 - 17	<b>Gift Days</b>
Dec. 10 6:00 p.m.	Carol Service
Dec. 21 9:00 a.m.	Feast Day St. Thomas the Apostle
Dec. 24 6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist and Sermon
11:00 a.m.	Mass for homebound and elderly
	Please assist with invitations and transport
11:00 p.m.	Carols/Blessing of Manger and First Mass of Christmas
Dec. 25 8:00 a.m.	Sung Eucharist & Sermon
Dec. 26 9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist St. Stephen's Day
Dec. 27 9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist St. John the Apostle's Day
Dec. 28 9:00 a.m.	Holy Innocents
Dec. 31 6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist- Bishop Howard Gregory
11:00 p.m.	New Year's Eve – Watch Night Service
Jan. 1 8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist & Sermon