

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 10, 2023 - Year B

**A Call to Intentional Discipleship,
360th Anniversary Celebration of the Mission**

6:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST

First Lesson	Isaiah 40: 1 - 11	Patrick Palmer
Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13	Refrain :(all sit) “ O Lord, show us your mercy, and grant us your salvation. “	
BCP page 5		
Epistle	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Wendy Robertson
Gospel	Mark 1:1 - 8	
Intercession	Form B Page 107	

8:00 a.m. SOLEMN EUCHARIST AND SERMON

Procession	34 Come, thou long expected Jesus	
First Lesson	Isaiah 40: 1 - 11	Frank James
Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13	Chanted - all stand	
Epistle	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Olivette Spence
Gradual	633 Baptized in water	
	<i>(Children leave for Sunday School)</i>	
Gospel	Mark 1:1 - 8	
Sermon	Canon Serrano Kitson	
The Creed	page	
Intercession	Form C Page 108	
Offertory	42 On Jordon’s bank the Baptist’s cry	
During Communion	625, 598	
Recessional	36 Christ is surely coming	

Intentional Discipleship Prayer of the Diocese

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you have awakened Your Church to hear again, the call of our Saviour Jesus Christ to come to Him and learn from Him. Grant that as we say “Yes” to discipleship, your Holy Spirit will enable us so completely to commit all areas of our lives to His service, that in our personal, family and church lives, our work, recreational and social lives, we would act as Jesus would have acted if He were in our place; in His name and for His sake we pray. **Amen.**

Connecting to the streaming link for 8:00 a.m. Service

<https://www.facebook.com/sapcjamaica>

The 8 a.m. service can also be viewed on YouTube.

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

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Chapel of Ease:

St. Thomas - Majesty Gardens 10:30 a.m. and St. Clement's - Kencot 10:30 a.m.



INTENTION FOR THE YEAR:

**A Call to Intentional Discipleship,
We are Baptized to Walk by Faith and Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus**

CLERGY

Rector/Curate The Very Revd. Canon Serrano Kitson, D. Min.

Assistant Curate

Rev. Fr. Bertram Gayle

Supplementary Clergy

Rev. Fr. Claude Campbell

Church Army

Sister Andrea Taylor-Smith

Wardens

Rector's Warden

Mr. Dwayne McKenzie

Email (dwayne_ja@yahoo.com)

People's Warden

Miss Lisa Campbell

Email

(PeoplesWardenSTAPC@yahoo.com)

Administration

Office Administrator & Ops. Officer

Mrs. Merle Thomas

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Hortense James

Verger - Miss Ann Morrison

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

President: Today is the Second Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of Love.

Last Sunday we lit the First Candle in our Advent Wreath, and celebrated the patriarchs. This First Candle reminded us of our Hope in Christ.

Today we light the Second Candle of Advent, the Candle of Love. In their old age God gave to Zechariah and Elizabeth a son called John. John spoke to the people bravely in the desert denying his own comforts and prepared to die for what he believed. John taught that we should share what we have with others, treat each other kindly and show God’s love. He did this because he cared for people and wanted them to repent and find God's forgiveness.

The Candle of Love

In His teachings, Jesus said “I give you a New Commandment: **Love** one another as I have loved you, so you are to **love** one another.” (St. John 13:34). He demonstrated this **love** through forgiveness and laying down His life for humanity. “Greater **love** has no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends” (St. John 15:13). Jesus taught that if there is **love** among us, then all will know we are His disciples. (St. John 13:34-35).

We light the candle of **Love** to remind us that **love** is the fulfillment of the law and through Christ we experience the **love** of God, which has been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given to us. (Romans 5:5).

**O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.**

2.

Birthdays for this week: Rev. Vincent Murdock 10/12, Aaron Casserly and Joy Patel 11/12, Rev. Winston Blake and Maydene Dunn 12/12, Rev. Harold Jones and Beverly Taylor 13/12, Vivienne Jones, Lisa Campbell and Robert Williams 14/12.

Wedding Anniversary - Congratulations to Delano and Juliet Fields who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on the 15th.

Condolence is extended to Rosardo Booth and family on the passing of his mother, Susan Welch-Booth. To Cardia Rigg and family on the passing of her father, Rudolph Rigg. To Shirley Tomlinson and family on the passing of her husband, Clement Tomlinson. The funeral service for Canon Abner Powell will be on Thursday 14th at St. Luke’s at 10:00 am and for Robert Martin on Friday the 15th at 11:00.

Our Annual Gift Days will be from December 10 - 17, 2023.

Tuesday Charity Committee wishes to thank all who contributed to their Christmas Treat. Special thanks to the Lions Club of St Andrew who along with their members who assisted, donated generously to the event. Gratitude also to the Policemen from Half-Way-Tree station who assisted with crowd control.

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

We express thanks to our members who continue to give sacrificially to ensure that the ministry and mission of the church are sustained as we continue to witness and minister in these challenging times.

Electronic payment instruction JAMAICAN DOLLARS

Bank Name: NCB - Half-Way-Tree
Beneficiary Name: St. Andrew Parish Church
Beneficiary Account #: **301045077**
Account Type: Current Account

SICK AND SHUT - IN

Alton Tulloch	(Priest)	Flavia Dickson	Lola Murphy
Percival Lynch	(Priest)	Christene McDonald	Loyle Herdsman
Neville Hendricks		Leonard Green	Myrtle White
Hyacinth Elliott		Myrtle Gordon	Jean King

360th Anniversary Celebration of the Mission
and
Ministry of ST. Andrew Parish Church

Faith Formation and Christian Education

Did you know?

The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The laurel (leaves) signifies victory over persecution and suffering; the prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns; the circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ, and if any pine cones, nuts, or seedpods are used to decorate the wreath, they symbolize life and resurrection. All together, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ Jesus our Lord. (*The History of the Advent Wreath*, Rev. William Saunders)

Quote for Reflection

The growing light of the Advent Wreath is a symbol of Christ who shatters the darkness of sin and death. Each week as the light grows stronger, we grow stronger too in our reverence for and commitment to Christ. The growing light helps us recognize Christ, not only in the historical event we celebrate at Christmas, but in our lives today and in the hope we carry as we prepare for the coming fullness of God's reign. (*The History & symbolism of the Advent Wreath*, n.d.)

Question for Reflection

- What joy has the risen Christ bestowed on your life, as you await his second coming in glory?

Carol Service will be this afternoon the 10th of December at 6:00 pm.

A congregational meeting to nominate eligible persons to the Church Committee will be held today, December 10, 2023. At this nomination meeting each eligible voter may nominate **not more than two persons** for election to the Church Committee.

Readings for December 17, 2023, : Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, 1 Thessalonians 5: 16 - 24, John 1: 6 - 8, 19 - 28.

Refrain

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

Second Candle, the Candle of Love is lit.

Leader: Love is like a light shining in a dark place.

People: As we look at this candle we celebrate the love we find in Jesus Christ.

President: Let us pray:

All: Lord God, Your witness John the Baptist grow up strong, and prepared people for the coming of the Lord. He loved your people and baptized them in the River Jordan to wash away their sins. Help us to have the same love so that we will be your witnesses and spread the good news of Your love, through the One who loved us and gave Himself for us; Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

THE COLLECT

Celebrant: The Lord is here.

People: His Spirit is with us!

President: Let us pray.

The Collect: Second Sunday of Advent

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen** 3.



Message

“All good gifts around us are sent to us from God.” The gifts we have received from God include our health, minds to think, hearts to love, talents and abilities and monetary resources. The most precious gift we have received from God, is Time. “O Lord, my time is in your hand.” (Ps. 31:1b) These blessings we have received demand an openness of our hearts for us to express our gratitude to God.

We have also been given the Gospel to proclaim with our speech, and the use of our time to minister to the “least of these” in the name of Jesus. In order to fulfill our Baptismal commitment we support our Outreach Ministries, including, The Home for Girls, St. Andrew Settlement, Tuesday Charity Ministry, St. Clements and Moreton Park Home. It is through our giving willingly and with gratitude that we participate in the enterprise of the Mission of God. “When we share God’s gifts and are willing to share a portion of them with others, we seem to flourish and to be full of life. When on the other hand, we cling and so not share, we often appear to stagnate and become lifeless.” (A way of life, Rev. Joseph Champlin) Our relationship with God must be saturated with a flourishing faith marked by giving thanks for what the Lord has done for us, and with hearts permeated by God’s love and grace.

Although we have a large debt incurred for our Church’s ministry, our efforts to meet these obligation can only be met with our sacrificial giving. Our tithe and offering for Gift Day must reflect our trust in God as we acknowledge the blessing that God has bestowed on us. This opportunity to participate in Gift Day has implications for our stewardship. It must be a demonstration of our faith and commitment to the Lord of the Church, His Kingdom and the Ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ which is our sacred responsibility, a sign of our faith and gratitude.

“Let us give thanks with gratefulness out of the Treasures of our Hearts.”

Fr. Serrano +

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK Dec. 10 - 16

Dec. 12th	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 13th	Wednesday	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 15h	Friday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist

The Sunday School will make it's Christmas play presentation on **Sunday December 17, 2023** during the 8:00 am service.

The Kingston College Chapel Choir Christmas Concert will be held on Sunday 17th at UWI Chapel, at 5:00 p.m. Tickets \$3,500 at the Church Office.

Monday Bible Study resumes this week, December 11 at 5:30 pm .

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON 2023 - 24

Dec. 24	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
		No Mid-Night Service	
Dec. 25	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
Dec. 31	Christmas Sunday		
	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist -	
	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist	
	11:00 pm.	Watch Night service Holy Name	
Jan. 1	No Services on New Year’s Day		
Jan. 6	9:00 a.m.	Solemn Mass	The Epiphany
Jan. 7	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist - 1st Sunday after Epiphany	
	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
Jan. 14	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist	
Jan. 28	Congregational Meeting		