

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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

January 7, 2024 - Lectionary Year B

6:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST

O.T Lesson Genesis 1:1 - 5 Deryke Smith
Psalm 29 Refrain: (All sit) " **Ascribe to the Lord the glory
due His name.** "
BCP page 502
N. T Lesson Acts 19:1 - 7 Hilary Phillips
Gospel Mark 1:4 - 11
Baptismal Renewal page 4

8:00 a.m. SUNG EUCHARIST AND SERMON

Processional 104 Song of thankfulness and praise
O. T. Lesson Genesis 1:1 - 5 Paulette Hollingsworth
Psalm 29 BCP page 502 Chanted: (All stand)
N. T. Lesson Acts 19:1 - 7 Fae Duncan
Gradual 633 Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit
Gospel Mark 1:4 - 11
Sermon Rev. Canon Serrano Kitson
Baptismal Renewal page 4
Offertory Hymn 103 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness
During Communion Eat this bread and drink this cup, pg 6, 588, 615
Anthem Seek ye the Lord Jesse McClure Soloist
Recessional 94 Father let me dedicate

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

<https://www.facebook.com/sapc-jamaica>

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

**Readings for Jan. 14, 2024: 1 Samuel 3:1 - 10 (11-20),
Psalm 139: 1 - 5, 12 - 17; 1 Corinthians 6: 12 - 20, John 1: 43 - 51.**

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

Patron Saint Andrew The Apostle

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Chapels of Ease:

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



360th Anniversary Celebration

CLERGY

Rector The Very Revd. Canon Serrano Kitson, D. Min.
Assistant Curate Fr. Bertram Gayle
Supplementary Clergy 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 Rector is out of Office on Mondays

The infant is always a symbol of the vulnerable and the weak in society and yet, it is through a helpless babe that God chose to reveal his presence and activity on behalf of his distressed and oppressed people.

In a world in which military, economic, technological and social power rule, we must remind ourselves that our God did not have to match Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, or Herod and their military and political power to win the day. Neither will our God need to match or defeat the powers of darkness of our time with anything other than the light which comes from the birth of a seemingly vulnerable baby.

Perhaps, we may consider the fact that our Lord continues to come to us in the faces, the smiles, the innocence, the cries, or even the screams of the vulnerable infants and children we see on our television each day, and all the children who are victims of violence in our world.

The Christmas story in Luke includes the shepherds as primary actors. They were numbered among the poor in that era, barely eking out an existence from animal husbandry, which was their livelihood. Yet, it was the poor, symbolized by these shepherds, who heard the message of the fulfillment of centuries of human longing and hope in the birth of Jesus.

The Incarnation and Its Significance

In the Incarnation, God took the initiative to subject Himself to the conditions of mortal life and to take violence, suffering, and evil onto Himself, even to the point of the Cross, thereby opening up a channel for humanity's relationship with Him and with implications for the eternal future. Through the Incarnation, therefore, God shows himself as a God of the abandoned, the rejected, the downtrodden and the despairing, and is present wherever men and women experience themselves and their situation as one of darkness.

Christmas then, is not about the celebration of a trouble-free world but, even in this world of violence, suffering, challenges and depression, it is an affirmation of the hope which is ours because of the Incarnation which took place in the birth of Jesus.

One of the popular Christmas hymns captures for us the profound significance of what happened on that first Christmas as announced by the angels in the words, "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight."

So this Christmas as we recall the birth of the child Jesus, may we see in a new way in the face of our children and in those who cry and are traumatised across the world, something of the Christ child who brings light and hope in a troubled world, and further commit ourselves to protect and nurture them, while also receiving and embracing the way of peace, love, and hope, so that we can join our voices with those angels who sang that first Christmas bringing a ray of light into our world.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

Birthdays for this week: Pauline Bryan and George Lowe 07/01, Chris Gordon 8/01, Desda Kerr 10/01, Jacinth Wright, Hope Hinds, Malik Thompson and Yolande Whately-Guthrie 11/1, Anthony Grodger 12/01 and Rev. Delroy Coley 13/01.

Condolence is extended to the family of Ava Haynes who lost her mother, Vinnis Haynes. Her funeral service will be at Falmouth Baptist Church on Saturday, Jan. 27 at 10:00a.m and Melissa Silvera will be on Friday the 12th at 11:00 a.m.

The Marian Service with Holy Cross Church will be held at Holy Cross on Wednesday January 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Members are invited to join in this Ecumenical Service.

Monday Bible Study. Bible Study will resumes on 8th. January 2024.

Your 2024 envelopes can be collected from the Conference room.

The Church's Annual Congregational meeting will be held on January 28, 2024, after the 8:00 a.m. service. Reports are due by the 21st.

Mr. Audley Davidson invites you to "A New Year Blessing" featuring the Jamaica Youth Chorale today, January 7, 2024, at Saxthorpe Methodist Church at 5:00 pm. Tickets are available at the gate, \$3,500.

Electronic payment instruction JAMAICAN DOLLARS

Bank Name: NCB - Half-Way-Tree
 Beneficiary Name: St. Andrew Parish Church
 Beneficiary Account #: **301045077**
 Account Type: Current Account
 If you encounter any difficulties with the transfer, contact your own Bank

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK Jan. 7 - 13

Jan. 9 Tuesday 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 Jan. 10 Wednesday 6:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 Jan. 12 Friday 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

SICK AND SHUT - IN

Percival Lynch	(Priest)	Hopeton Fraser	Ellonia Gordon
Neville Hendricks		Muriel Smith	Joyce Chin
Norma Allen		Emily Hemmings	Mildred Johnson
Frederick Green		Pauline Christie	Richard Frater

Did you know?

The Season of Epiphany begins on January 6 and continues through to the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday. The liturgical colour for the period between the Feast of the Epiphany and Ash Wednesday is green. This period centres on the revelation and manifestation of Jesus Christ, epitomized by the Magi's visit, symbolizing his recognition as the Saviour for all. Additionally, it emphasizes the symbolism of light, portraying Christ as the illuminating force, bringing enlightenment and hope to humanity. The season underlines the Church's mission, highlighting God's inclusive love and the call to spread the gospel universally. Moreover, it focuses on individuals' witness and testimony to Christ's significance in their lives, echoing the actions of those who acknowledged Jesus' presence. Lastly, it commemorates Jesus' Baptism, marking the beginning of his ministry and affirming his divine identity as the Son of God. These intertwined themes feature prominently in liturgical practices, encouraging contemplation on Christ's revelation and its universal implications.

Quote for reflection

“Epiphany is the day and season in the church year when we patiently watch and listen as God is quietly revealed before us once again. Sometimes, even when we try hard to do so, we just don’t see God in our everyday lives or in the events of our world. Epiphany gives us the time and the resources to watch, wait, listen, look, and anticipate the light, life, and truth of the Lord’s presence in our midst.” ~ *Norman Shawchuck & Ruben Job in A Guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God*

Question for reflection

- What practices or habits could I adopt to become more attentive to the quiet revelations of God in my surroundings?

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,

**Refrain: Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,
Come To Me And Never Be Hungry.
Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,
Trust In Me And You Will Not Thirst.**

1. I Am The Bread Of Life,
The True Bread Sent From The Father.
2. Your Ancestors Ate Manna In The Desert,
But This Is The Bread Come Down From Heaven.
3. Eat My Flesh And Drink My Blood,
And I Will Raise You Up On The Last Day.
4. Anyone Who Eats This Bread,
Will Live For Ever.
5. If You Believe And Eat This Bread,
You Will Have Eternal Life.

SEASONAL SENTENCE

President: For the God who said...

President: (+) Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**People: And blessed be God’s Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

President: O Christ, you have manifested yourself and enlightened the world.
Alleluia!

**All: We are baptized to proclaim your light of Salvation to all people.
Alleluia!**

President: Our Saviour is made manifest for the redemption of the world.
Alleluia!

All: All nations of the world will gather to worship you, Alleluia

President: Come let us worship the Lord who is proclaimed as the Beloved
Son of God. Alleluia!

**All: Christ is anointed to deliver the afflicted, emancipate the
enslaved and to bind up the broken hearted. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

The Collect for Purity BCP pg 101

ALL: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open...

Gloria in Excelsis

Refrain:

***Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth***

Lord God, heav’nly King; to you O God we sing.
We worship, thank and praise you for your glory. **R**

Christ, the Father’s Son, the lamb, God’s chosen one.
You cleanse and take away our sin, have mercy. **R**

At your Father’s side, you sit with pow’r and might.
You take away our sin, receive our prayer. **R**

Spirit, Father, Son all holy, you are One.
To You be all the glory, praise and honour. **R**

Celebrant: The Lord is here

All: His spirit is with us.

Celebrant: Let us pray... **Amen**

The Collect of the day

The Prayers of Intercession

President: We shall pray for Christ's Catholic and Apostolic Church and for the mission and ministry of St. Andrew Parish Church. Lord in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer

President: We pray for the clergy, the nation, our leaders and the family.
Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows and 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 in God.

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

Answer: I believe and trust in God

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. Alleluia, Alleluia

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:

Wonderful Grace

1. Wonderful grace

That gives what I don't deserve,
Pays me what Christ has earned,
Then lets 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.

Refrain:

And all that I have

I lay at the feet

Of the wonderful Saviour

Who loves me.

All: Eternal God you have declared in Christ the completion of your purpose of love. May we live by faith, walk in hope and be renewed in love, until the world reflects your glory and you are all in all. Even so; come, Lord Jesus. Amen

All: O Lord we commit ourselves to support the ministry of our church with our tithes and offerings, with our time and abilities and to witness to the Saving Grace of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

President: We are the body of Christ...

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