

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2024 - Lectionary Year C

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

6:30 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST

Old Testament	Micah 5:2 - 5a	Douglas Folkes
Canticle 15	Magnificat The song of Mary - page 4	
Epistle	Hebrews 10:5 - 10	Karen Buchanan
Gospel	Luke 1:39 - 45	
Prayer of Intercession	Form D page 111	

8:00 a.m. SOLEMN EUCHARIST AND SERMON

Processional	37 Come, thou Redeemer of the earth	
Old Testament	Micah 5:2 - 5a	Julianne Teape
Canticle	Magnificat -The song of Mary - page 4	
Epistle	Hebrews 10:5 - 10	Dawn Ruddock
Acclamation	<i>Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel</i>	
Gospel	Luke 1:39 - 45	
Sermon	Rev. Fr. Bertram Gayle	
Prayers of Intercession	Form D page 111	
Offertory	553 You have all our future in your hands	
During Communion	593, 608	
Recessional	750 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!	

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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Website: www.standrewparishchurch.com

Chapel of Ease:

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



**INTENTION FOR THE YEAR:
360th Anniversary**

CLERGY

Rector	The Very Revd. Canon Sirrano 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
Norval West
Email (ministry@norvalwest.com)

Administration

Administrative Officer

Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Hortense James
Verger - Miss Ann Morrison

The Rector is out of Office on Mondays

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 fourth Sunday of Advent and we will light the Candle of **Peace**.

Last Sunday we lit the third Candle in our Advent Wreath. The First Candle reminded us of our **Hope** in Christ. The Second Candle reminded us that **Love** is the fulfillment of the law and through Christ we experience the love of God. The third candle of **Joy** reminded us that when Jesus is born in us we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting **Joy** on earth.

The Candle of Peace

Today we light the fourth Candle of Advent, the Candle of **Peace**. We remember the prophets who spoke of the coming of Christ, of how a Saviour would be born, a King in the line of King David. The prophet Isaiah called Christ "**the Prince of Peace**". They told us how He would rule the world wisely and bless all the nations.

When Jesus came He taught people the importance of being peace-makers. He said that those who make **peace** shall be called the children of God. When Christ comes to us He brings us **peace** and He will bring everlasting **peace** when He comes again. We light the Candle of **Peace** to remind us that Jesus is the **Prince of Peace** and that through him **peace** is found.

(Fourth Candle, the Candle of Peace is lit)

The following is sung:

**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.**

PARISH NEWS

Birthdays for this week: Noel Anderson and Lorna White 22/12, Nicola Elliott and Monique Bowie 23/12, Toni Dilworth and Annette Webb-Samuels 24/12, Revd. Ula Ruddock, Carol Logan and Natalie Smith 25/12, Victor Elliott 26/12, Ludlow Bowie 27/12, John McGarry, Everard Dixon and Kaylor Scott 28/12.

Condolence is extended to Fr. Ralph "Jim" Parkes and family on the passing of his brother, Neville Parkes. To Terri-Ann Wilson and family on the loss of her brother, Melbourne Wright.

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

The Tech Team is seeking **new volunteers**. Interested persons can contact Nigel Elliott at 876-352-4805.

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

If you encounter any difficulties with the transfer, contact your own bank.

Tuesday Charity Ministry will be held on the 7th January 2025. We welcome gifts of non-perishable items

This Year's Carol Service will be held on December 22, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON 2024

Dec. 22	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 22	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
Dec. 22	5:30 p.m.	Carol Service
Dec. 24	11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Mass - Blessing of the Manger
Dec. 25	8:00 a.m.	Christmas Day - Solemn Eucharist
Dec. 27	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 29	6:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 29	8:00 a.m.	Solemn Eucharist
Dec. 31	11:00 p.m.	Watch Night - Holy Eucharist
Jan. 5	6:30 a.m.	2nd Sunday after Christmas - Holy Eucharist
	8:00 a.m.	2nd Sunday after Christmas - Solemn Eucharist

The Diocesan Bishop has indicated by letter his retirement as of the 31st December 2024.

Interior Restoration - As we continue the interior painting project with a focus on the Nave, All Souls Chapel and the Choir Area, we would like to thank all who have contributed and encourage continued support to reach our target. Please continue to write the word PAINT on the envelope/cheque.

The Jamaica Youth Chorale in concert “*A New Year’s Blessing*” at the Church of St. Margaret, Liguanea, January 5, 2025. Cost \$3,500 tickets are available from Audley Davidson, the ushers and at the gate.

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

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

All: As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Christ.

Leader: Let us pray:

All: Lord Jesus, Light of the World, the prophets said you would bring peace and rescue your people from sin and death. Deliver us from conflict and strife, give peace in our hearts at Christmastide. We ask that as we wait for you to come again, that you would remain present with us. Enable us today, and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask this in your name 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.**

President: The Lord is here.

People: His Spirit is with us!

President: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at His coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for Himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Canticle: The Magnificat (1662 BCP)

1. My soul doth magnify the Lord : and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
2. For he hath regarded : the lowliness of his handmaiden.
3. For behold, from henceforth : all generations shall call me blessed.
4. For he that is mighty hath magnified me : and holy is his Name
5. And his mercy is on them that fear him : throughout all generations.
6. He hath showed strength with his arm : he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
7. He hath put down the mighty from their seat : and hath exalted the humble and meek.
8. He hath filled the hungry with good things : and the rich he hath sent empty away.
9. He remembering his mercy: hath holpen his servant Israel
10. As he promised to our forefathers: Abraham and his seed, for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:

World without end. Amen

Did you know that?

The specific date of Jesus' birth is not explicitly mentioned in the Bible, and there is no definitive biblical evidence indicating that he was born on December 25th. The Gospels in the New Testament do not specify the exact date of Jesus' birth but provide accounts of the events surrounding his nativity. The Church ultimately settled on December 25 at the end of the third century. One theory is that the date was selected to coincide with the Roman Empire's celebration of the rebirth of Sol Invictus (Roman god of the sun) on the same date. According to, Prof. Candida Moss, however, "The real reason for the selection of Dec. 25 seems to have been that it is exactly nine months after March 25, the traditional date of Jesus' crucifixion... As Christians developed the theological idea that Jesus was conceived and crucified on the same date, they set the date of his birth nine months later."

Quote for reflection

"Christmas holds the key to unlocking the deepest mysteries of our lives: Who are we, where did we come from, is there meaning to our lives, and where are we going? Granted, we focus at this time on the birth of Jesus, on the exchange of gifts and the place of joy and triumph even when days are dark and foreboding. But the enormous truth of Christmas rests in the revelation of God's self to humankind. At least we can talk about God in terms we understand, human terms. Because of Jesus, we can make sense of our lives and understand more fully who we are and where we are going." ~ Norman Shawchuck, *Rueben Job, A guide to Prayer for All Who Seek God*

Question for reflection

How does the story of Jesus' birth help you comprehend your own identity and purpose in life?

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK Dec. 22 - 28

Dec. 24th	Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Dec. 25th	Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Christmas Day
Dec. 27th	Friday	9:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist St. John Apostle

WE PRAY ESPECIALLY FOR....

Percival Lynch	(Priest)	Marjory Stewart	Lorna White
Cynthia Stennett		Isolyn Hall	Richard Neckles
Lolita Elliott		Emily Hemmings	Gwen Waugh
Shirley Deavers		Blossom Williams	Heron Wright

Readings for Dec. 29, 2024 Year C: Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Psalm 147:13-21, Galatians 3:23 - 25; 4:4 - 7; John 1:1 - 18.