

St. Mary's Anglican United Church

Sorrento, BC

“Keeping in Touch” -- December 2, 2021



A MESSAGE FROM THE REV. ALFRED MAIER

O Come, O Come

A blessed Advent 1 week is what I can affirm having been blessed by the readings, hymns, liturgy and message of the past Sunday. I badly need this season!

In our Victoria suite at our daughter's house we lit the first candle of Advent. I love Advent - especially this year in which time itself has been pureed by this thing we have crowned in name and focus: corona.

The Church Year ended the Sunday before with the exclamation mark we name the Reign of Christ. Time now starts out with Advent's hope and expectation of Christ's three-fold coming: in Bethlehem; in our lives; in yet to come again.

Jesus is with us as Inge and I are have walked the month of gruesome cancer treatment of her younger sister in Vancouver, with the recent set-back due to a vicious bacterium attacking her lungs, and a collapsed lung. She asked for Christ's word: "Let not your hearts be troubled" to be hung on her ICU wall. Christ is with us! He is with us the in the joys and celebrations of whatever the day may bring.

As our Dr. Laura wrote this morning:
*"Here I sit, watching and listening,
while the gray sky weeps its persistent tears.
I know there is a bright sun out there, and
I trust we will see it again before too long."*

continued ...

Advent: anticipation, expectation, hope and life is ours to grasp as offered by our gracious God in the various ways of Christ having, and continuing to, come and dwell with us - O come, o come Emmanuel and ransom captive us.

Peace be with you,
Alfred Maier

PRAYER LIST

Peter Grout	Anabel Strand
Karen Grout	Dave Nitsche
Michael Shapcott	Ted Strand
Joan and Keith	Reuben Pauls
Ida Webb	Len Lidkea
Mandy Gravells	

This space will be for those in our community who we would especially like to remember in prayer. If you are requesting prayers for someone other than yourself please make sure that the person is comfortable with their name being sent out to others ... then email the information to Kathy (kwk4141@gmail.com).



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

As part of our annual Ladies Christmas Lunch, we have always donated gifts for the **Christmas Hampers** distributed by the Sorrento Food Bank. This year the lunch is cancelled but will be collecting gifts at the church service again this Sunday, December 5th. Please leave gifts in gift bags on the table at the front of the sanctuary. They will be delivered to The Food Bank on Dec. 8. All gifts will be appreciated but special requests are for adult games, jigsaw puzzles, crossword or word search books and card games. If you have any questions or concerns, call Verna at 250-675-4900.

Vaccination Passports at St. Mary's

St. Mary's Church is asking everyone to sign in each week (for contact tracing) and to present their vaccination passport and wear a mask at all times in the church. Please practise social distancing, especially in the aisle as this is an area of possible congestion in our little church. This is to ensure that safety is enhanced for all who come to worship.

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON

10AM

SUNDAY MORNINGS

AT ST. MARY'S, SORRENTO

*Covid safety protocols include wearing a mask
and presenting your vaccine passport.*

OUR VIDEO LIBRARY

The video archive of the St Mary's on-line showcase
can be browsed here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/8252414>

Special Services in December

Advance notice on December services:

December 20, 7 pm longest night.

December 24, 7pm Christmas Eve

December 26, a Diocesan Service is being
provided on-line

The next "Keeping in Touch" newsy-letter will
be emailed on Thursday, December 16th.
Send any news items to Kathy
(kwk4141@gmail.com) no later than that
morning to be included.

NATIONAL LESSONS AND CAROLS

After a successful national service of Lessons
& Carols in 2020, and again under the
leadership of Archbishop and Primate
Linda Nicholls, General Synod is
working with Anglican churches across
Canada this year to offer a national
service of Lessons and Carols in the
season of Advent. The service can be
viewed online

Lessons & Carols:

From Coast to Coast to Coast

Friday, December 17, 2021

5pm PST

online at: anglican.ca



*Thanks to Heather for this Advent meme on St. Mary's
Facebook page*