

The Parish of Saint John the Divine

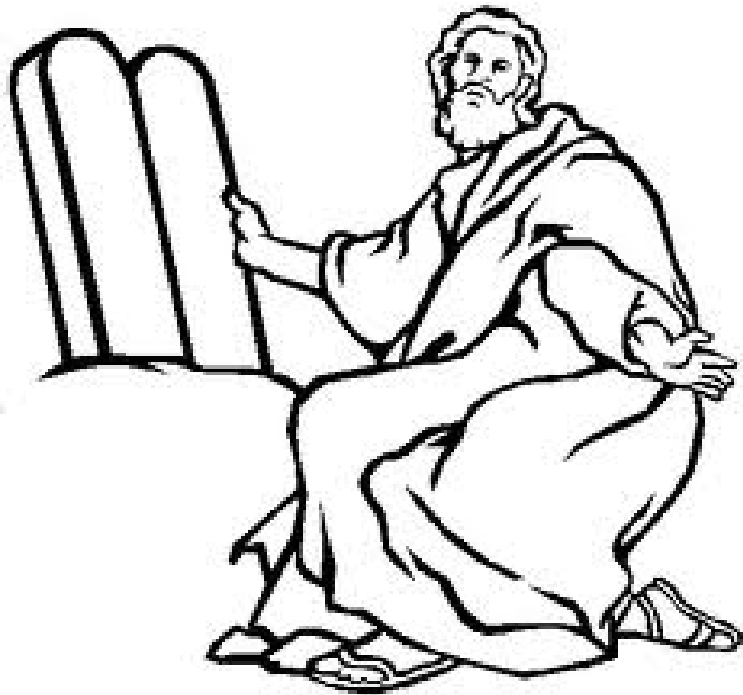
301 Main St. E, North Bay, ON, P1B 1B3

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Our primary purpose as the Church of St. John the Divine in downtown North Bay is to be a welcoming, nurturing and worshipping community which demonstrates by word and deed the love of Jesus Christ for all creation.

Epiphany IV

January 29, 2012 ✕ 10:00 AM



“Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.”

- 1 Corinthians 8. 1

Sung Matins

Book of Common Prayer

Officiant & Preacher: *The Rev. Fr. A. E. Nussey, Rector*

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➤ **Cycles of Prayer**

Anglican Cycle: Pray the Anglican Church of Burundi and the Most Rev. Bernard Ntahoturi, Archbishop of the Province of Burundi and Bishop of Matana.

Diocesan Cycle: Pray for the parish of St. Thomas' Church in Thunder Bay and the Rev. Doug McClure.

➤ **Prayer List**

The ill and recovering... Spencer Moore, Arlene Bartlett, Estelle Pelkey, Mark Kennedy, Sue, Margaret Dennewald, Sal Renshaw, Ann White Margaret Park, Margaret Johnson, Marilyn Buchanan, Wayne & Diane, Diane Barnes, Jessie Turenne, Mark Rogers, Margaret Hall, Biff Gigg, Carol Komo, Charlene Higgins, Joan Gravelle, Helen Stanton, Robert Ure, Helen Atkinson, Rob Paterson.

➤ **Next Sunday's Readings**

Isaiah 40. 21-31	Psalms 147. 1-11	1 Cor. 9. 16-23	St. Mark 1. 29-39
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➤ **Parish Calendar**

Feb. 01	11:00 AM	Friendship Group
Feb. 01	7:00 PM	Confirmation Class
Feb. 02	8:30 AM	Men's Group at Guidos
Feb. 02	7:00 PM	Solemn Evensong for Candlemas
Feb. 03	11:00 AM	Cemetery Board
Feb. 05	After service	Annual Vestry Meeting

Have an event? Please contact the Parish Office by 12:00 Noon on **Wednesdays**.

➤ **Groups and Committees**

We have various active groups in our church. If you are interested in obtaining more information, please feel free to contact the church office.

➤ **Chancel Guild**

The Easter-Spring meeting of the Chancel Guild will take place on Wednesday, February 22 at 1:30 p.m. in the Thornloe Room.

➤ **No Scents Makes Sense**

Some people suffer allergic reactions to scents. Please refrain from wearing heavily scented products. Thank you for your consideration.

➤ **The Diviner**

The deadline for the Lenten issue of The Diviner is Sunday, Feb. 12. Send items to Larry Claus at lclaus1@cogeco.ca or hand them to him at church.

➤ **Intinction**

It is the policy in our diocese to not permit the practice of 'intinction' (dipping the bread in the wine) during the reception of Holy Communion. This directive is from the bishop and is necessary for sanitary reasons. Thank you for your co-operation.

➤ **Solemn Evensong for Candlemas**

As we continue with our community-university partnership with the Near North Voices Choir and Nipissing University, St. John's Church will host a service of Solemn Evensong **this Thursday, February 2 at 7:00 p.m.** Under the direction of Dr. Adam Adler, the Near North Voices Chamber Choir will uplift our souls with fine musical fare as we celebrate this important feast day in the life of the Church. Incense will be used sparingly and briefly at the altar. A reception will follow the service. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. 50% of the non-designated offering will be given to the Chamber Choir. Please give generously, as you are able.

➤ **Annual Vestry Meeting**

The Annual Vestry Meeting will be held **next Sunday** after the 10:00 a.m. service. A light lunch will be served before the meeting. The Vestry Books are available today. Please take one per family and bring it with you to the meeting.

➤ **Prayer List**

We lift up people in prayer each week: the ill and the recovering. It is important to check with the person or close family member. They must give permission before the name can be placed on the prayer list. We can just mention the first name if this is preferred. Please phone the office with the name and contact person if I am out of town.

– Christine Whatmore (705.474.6736)

➤ ***St. John's Key Holders***

In order to update the church 'key register,' please phone Ed Carberry at 472.7449 or the church at 474.6070 if you are in possession of church keys.

➤ ***Daily Prayer in Lent***

The Daily Offices will begin with Matins on Thursday, February 23 and end with Matins on Thursday in Holy Week, Thursday, April 5. During Lent, Matins will be every week day at 10:00 a.m., except at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Evensong will be every week day at 4:00 p.m., except at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

➤ ***Memorial Flowers***

The Flower Chart for 2012 has been posted on the wall near the elevator. Due to Lent changing year-to-year, there are some Sundays available early in the new year: specifically January 22 to February 19 inclusive.

To reserve a Sunday to memorialize a loved one, or in Thanksgiving, you may note it on the calendar, but please place information on the collection plate and notify the church office by mail or telephone at 705.472.6070 to ensure inclusion in the bulletin. Please make cheque for \$50 payable to St. John's Church.

➤ ***The Anglican Planet***

An independent publication, *The Anglican Planet* is a Canadian Anglican journal of current news and ideas. Copies of the *Planet* are being made available to parishioners by way of an anonymous donor: please feel free to pick up a copy in the narthex. The *Planet* receives no financial assistance from outside sources. If you like the publication, please support it by taking out an individual subscription and having it mailed directly to your home.

➤ ***Kitchen cleaning***

In order that our church kitchen stay well within the health requirements, and to help keep members of our church family healthy as well as guests whom we entertain on our premises, we are asking for volunteers to share in this task. Groups will consist of 4 persons per team each month to give our kitchen that little extra "spit and polish" for approximately 1 to 1½ hours per cleaning session. A list in the narthex has been posted for volunteers to sign up. You may also speak with Phyllis Macdonald (497.3571). Thank you for helping out.

➤ ***Lenten Bible Study: "The Freedom of Forgiveness"***

Lent is such a wonderful time for us to look at forgiveness as we experience God's forgiveness through the life and death of Jesus. This is a six-week Wednesday morning Bible Study starting Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 9:00 a.m. and ending Wednesday, March 28. We will be discussing what forgiveness is not, what real forgiveness looks like, how do I get from here to there, forgiving myself and God, and reflecting on the process—the process of forgiveness increases our awareness of the miracle of God's grace for us. This Bible Study, which will be led by Peggy Morrison, is open to both men and women and the Rector will be participating. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

➤ ***Atlantic Theological Conference***

The topic of the 2012 Atlantic Theological Conference will be "The New Atheism." The keynote speaker at this conference will be Peter Hitchens award-winning British columnist and author of such books as "Rage against God," which details his journey from the militant atheism of the far political left to Christianity. Peter Hitchens' brother, Christopher, was a key champion of the New Atheism movement. The conference will take place at St. Peter's Cathedral in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, from Tuesday, June 26 (evening) to Friday, June 29 (noon). Further details about the speakers at this year's conference, as well as more specific topics of individual papers, will be posted on the conference Website at <http://www.stpeter.org/conf.htm> as information becomes available.

➤ ***Swiss Chalet***

Did you know that you can financially support your church by eating out? Did you know that you can make Swiss Chalet tithe to our church? When you dine at Swiss Chalet here in North Bay, keep your receipts and provide them to the church office. We will submit your receipts and Swiss Chalet will kindly give the church 10% of what you spent. Thank you for your support.

➤ ***Cemetery Board***

There will be a Cemetery Board meeting **this Friday** at 11:00 a.m. in the Thorneloe Room.

➤ **Parish Lenten Book Club**

Beginning the Thursday before Ash Wednesday

The Rector will be hosting a six-week study of the Archbishop of Canterbury's book *Christ on Trial: How the Gospel Unsettles Our Judgement*. The trial, conviction, and death of an innocent man 2,000 years ago has particular resonance today. Atrocities from around the world shake us nearly every day, and each of us also experiences trials in our own lives. In this book the Archbishop of Canterbury looks in depth at the trial of Jesus, using it to teach readers how to face the challenges of life in a world like ours. Bringing the biblical accounts of Jesus' trial vividly to life, Archbishop Rowan Williams highlights what is to be learned about Jesus from each of the four Gospel portraits.

We will meet on the following Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.: Feb. 16, Feb. 23, March 1, March 8, March 22, and March 29. If you wish to be a part of the Book Club, please notify the Rector **by no later than next Sunday**, at which time the books will be ordered. Each participant is asked to purchase the book, which the Rector will order, at a cost of \$13 each.

➤ **Confirmation**

God willing, the bishop will Confirmation on the feast of St. Mark, Wednesday, April 25. Please remember in your prayers the candidates who are being prepared for Confirmation on this date: Cameron Cleator, Colin Cleator, Vincent Cyr, Gillian McCann, Grant Hatherley, William Hatherley, Colton Point, Mashall Point, Liam Smith, Cassandra Wagner, and Shelby Wallace.

➤ **We welcome the Ottawa Celtic Choir**

St. John's Church and Near North Voices are pleased to welcome the Ottawa Celtic Choir for a shared concert with the newly formed Near North Voices Chamber Choir **this Saturday, February 4 at 7:30 p.m. at our church**. Admission is free. A freewill offering will be accepted following the performance.

Formed in 2008 by conductor Ellen MacIsaac, the Ottawa Celtic Choir is a not-for-profit, non-auditioned community chamber choir whose focus is the music of the Celtic nations and the Celtic diaspora. Its goal is to provide an opportunity for members of the community to learn and sing Celtic music, and to encourage singing in general.

➤ **A Note from a Parishioner**

I joyfully surrender \$6,784.99 to the work of the Lord through the Parish of St. John the Divine. I will write an initial cheque for the money in my savings account to be placed on the offering plate on Sunday, January 29. I will give away the money from my GICs, including any interest that accrues between now and then, after their maturity dates next month, in March, and in July.

I am handing over my entire life's savings. This money represents my control over my life. Having this amount locked away meant to me that I could do what I wanted when I wanted. If I didn't like the situation in which God placed me, it was all right since I always have had a way out. By surrendering this money not only do I get the privilege of financially supporting the good work happening at St. John's, but I am also surrendering to the fact that it is an illusion and a lie that I am in control of my life. The call to give my savings away is a call from God to truly know what it means to trust that He will provide and lead me where He needs me to be. Biblically and historically, God's people do not win battles with huge armies and plenteous resources. It is, in fact, the opposite: God intentionally sends His people into situations with resources so sparse, with the odds so sorely against them, that the only possible explanation for success would be by the Hand of God. From here on out, I get to experience that. Biblical living is full of striking paradoxes: with my life out of the clutches of my feeble hands, I have never been so secure. "I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest; for it is thou, Lord, only that makest me dwell in safety." (Psalm 4:8) - An Anonymous Parishioner

➤ **Thanks to the choir**

I would like to extend my personal thanks to all the choir members who participated in the massed choir for the Prayer for Christian Unity service held at the Pro-Cathedral last Sunday. We were able to offer an impressive half-dozen choristers! Music is a fantastic way to build community, and last Sunday was no exception. There was an infectious joy in the choir loft with Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and United Church choir members as they enjoyed each other's company while making music in the wonderful acoustics of the Pro-Cathedral. I would also like to thank these choir members for their service above and beyond their Thursday night and Sunday morning duties. The commitment you have to your local church community and offering worship through music is truly inspiring!

- Kayla Krasnor, Interim Choir Director

“Who hath ears to hear, let him hear”

From Father's Desk

LAST SUNDAY TWO PEOPLE ANNOUNCED TO THE CHURCH that they were giving away their life savings to the church. In this morning's bulletin, we read that someone else has chosen to do the same thing. Our reactions to news like this can be varied. It might make some people uncomfortable to hear announced the amount of money being given. I deliberately chose to have the dollar figures announced in church last Sunday to demonstrate the real cost of discipleship: it makes real, and drives home, the acts of faith. It might make some people anxious, as this news might challenge where our focus should be: if we are not required to worry about finances, our focus will have to shift. If we are not going to worry about our survival, what do we now have to worry about? It might make some people jealous that they are not being singled out for their charity, as if what happened last Sunday was meant to be an opportunity for human praise. In an attempt to avoid their own consciences, it might make some people proud to find fault in some way in which the announcements were made. The list is potentially endless. The bottom line is that what happened last Sunday spoke to our consciences, and how we deal with our consciences is a spiritual challenge each of us must face and deal with for our own spiritual health.

Many people have reacted in love and charity to what happened last Sunday, and their consciences have prompted them to respond in faith. They had ears to hear, and they heard. As I previously mentioned, someone else has given up her life savings to the church. Two people have indicated to me that, based upon what happened last Sunday, they are committing themselves to increased church attendance. One person has offered to give his time to the church. One person has recognized her need to relinquish a desire for control over her life. These are merely a few examples directly relayed to me from people whose consciences spoke to them based on the witness offered last Sunday. This was the intention of what happened last Sunday.

This signals a new era for the Parish of St. John the Divine if we seize the opportunity before us. It is a bold move of faith to invest in mission and ministry without fear of lacking resources. We, as a church, now have the opportunity to imitate the examples that individuals have laid out for us and move in the same direction of faith as a church community. Will we now be chiefly interested in being anxious about our

survival, or will we boldly do the work of God—shall our focus be on maintenance or mission? I call us all to abandon our fear and step out in faith. We are a church family that is called to respond to the invitation of Jesus Christ to follow Him. This means letting go of those things which hinder our ability to be faithful followers. This is an opportunity for us to challenge negative attitudes and to embrace positive ones.

This is an opportunity for us to embrace a proper understating of what it means to be a steward entrusted by God to care for His resources. We do not, for instance, place money on the offering plate as a matter of pride or as a means of control. It is, in fact, a letting go of those sins. We do not use money to make a statement, to channel our anger, or in an attempt to hurt our church family because we do not get our own way. Neither do we use money to pat ourselves on the back or to purchase the “services” of the church. The resources we offer back to God (not only money, but also our time and talent) are in direct proportion to our relationship with Him—nothing more, nothing less. If we choose to use or misuse God's resources for our own agendas we need to talk to God about that.

These kinds of considerations challenge our identity as a church and as a family. I ask that we all lift up our hearts and to draw near to God in faith with thanksgiving.

➤ *Rector's Office Hours*

The Rector is making himself available for drop-in visits at his office in the church on Wednesdays from 9 am to 11 am. If you wish to meet with the Rector at other times, please feel free to contact the office to arrange an appointment

➤ *Visit Requests*

If you or someone you know would like a visit from the Rector, please inform the office or the Rector directly so that he may have opportunity to respond to pastoral needs. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

➤ *Parish Website*

If you have not yet checked out the Parish Website, please do so! There is a lot of up-to-date information posted. And if you have Facebook, remember to "Like" us! Thanks for stopping by: www.stjohndivine.ca

Children's Hymn: "Jesus, Friend of Little Children"

Jesus, friend of little children,
Be a friend to me;
Take my hand, and ever keep me
Close to thee.

Teach me how to grow in goodness,
Daily as I grow:
Thou hast been a child, and surely
Thou dost know.

Hymn: "Brightly Gleams Our Banner"

1. Brightly gleams our banner,
Pointing to the sky,
Waving on Christ's soldiers
To their home on high!
Marching through the desert,
Gladly thus we pray,
Still, with hearts united,
Singing on our way –

*Brightly gleams our banner,
Pointing to the sky,
Waving on Christ's soldiers
To their home on high!*

3. All our days direct us
In the way we go,
Lead us on victorious
Over every foe;
Bid thine angels shield us
When the storm-clouds lower,
Pardon thou, and save us
In the last dread hour.

Brightly gleams...

2. Jesu, Lord and Master
At thy sacred feet,
Here with hearts rejoicing
See thy children meet:
Often have we left thee,
Often gone astray:
Keep us, mighty Saviour,
In the narrow way.

Brightly gleams...

4. Then with saints and angels
May we join above,
Offering prayers and praises
At thy throne of love;
When the march is over,
Then come rest and peace,
Jesus in his beauty,
Songs that never cease.

Brightly gleams...

THE PARISH OF SAINT JOHN THE DIVINE

THE DIOCESE OF ALGOMA / THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Church Office

Usual office hours: Tuesday – Friday / 9 am to 12 noon

Address: 301 Main St. E, North Bay, ON, P1B 1B3

General Inquiries: stjohnanglican@on.aibn.com

Bulletin Submissions: sjdbulletin@gmail.com

Telephone: 705.472.6070 / *Parish Hall:* 705.472.2667 / *Fax:* 705.472.8315

Parish Priest & Rector

The Reverend Father Andrew Nussey

Email: rector@stjohndivine.ca ← **PLEASE NOTE THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS**

Urgent Pastoral Concern: 705.978.2277

Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Father Grant Churcher

Email: churcher@vianet.ca

Telephone: 705.476.6677

Churchwarden

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Email: pamhandley@onlink.net

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Churchwarden

Ed Carberry

Email: ecarberry@efni.com

Telephone: 705.472.7449

Deputy Churchwarden

Phyllis Macdonald

Email: N/A

Telephone: 705.497.3571

Sunday Worship Schedule – 10:00 AM

First & Third Sundays: Holy Eucharist, *Book of Common Prayer*

Second & Fourth Sundays: Holy Eucharist, *Book of Alternative Services*

Fifth Sunday(when it occurs): Sung Matins, *Book of Common Prayer*

Welcome to worship at St. John's!

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today.

Please join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall after the service.

Newcomers are kindly asked to make themselves known to a greeter—we would be pleased to assist you however we can.

Special "Welcome Envelopes" are available in the pews should you wish to use one. Nursery facilities are available.