

The Parish of Rothesay

**THE HOLY EUCHARIST
on the
NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

24 December 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Celebrant: The Rev'd Eileen Irish
Preacher: The Rev'd Canon James Golding
Assisting: Fr. Paul Rideout

Organ Prelude "*Away In a Manger*"

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional Carol *All stand.*
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest Heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'nly Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die.
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Greeting

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria in excelsis

Celebrant

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

All

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Eternal God, this holy night is radiant
with the brilliance of your one true light.
As we have known the revelation of that light on earth,
bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated for the readings.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in

blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm (96)

R. Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. O sing a new song to the LORD; sing to the LORD, all the earth. O sing to the LORD; bless his name. **R.** Proclaim his salvation day by day. Tell among the nations his glory, and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.** Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad; let the sea and all within it thunder praise. Let the land and all it bears rejoice. Then will all the trees of the wood shout for joy. **R.** At the presence of the LORD, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with justice; he will govern the peoples with his truth. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation

All stand.

The Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-20

*The Lord be with you. / **And also with you.** A Reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who

heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.
The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Prayers of Intercession

Let us pray to Jesus our Saviour.

Christ, born in a stable, give courage to all who are homeless.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, for whom the angels sang, give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds, give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt, give humility and wisdom to all who govern.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger, give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you.
Jesus, Saviour, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus, Saviour, child of Mary, you know us and love us, you share our lives and hear our prayer. Glory to you for ever. **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant

All

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,**

**and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Offertory Carol

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth
And praises sing to God the King and Peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven
No ear may hear His coming but in this world of sin
Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us, we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in be born to us today
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

Prayer over the Gifts

Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast.
May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours;
for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer (3)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The celebrant praises God for his mighty acts. All sing together:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

All kneel. The celebrant continues with the consecration. At the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer, all respond, Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power,

and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread (6)

Celebrant We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lamb of God (together)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION

If you are a baptized and communicating member of another denomination, you are welcome to receive Communion in this church. Communion is available at the Altar and at a station in the side aisle. If you wish to receive Holy Communion but are unable to come to the front, please inform a sidesperson before the service and the sacrament will be brought to you in your pew.

Hymns During Communion

"Come Night of Silence"

"The Wexford Carol"

"O Holy Night" ...A solo by Ashley Bishop

Prayer after Communion

Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven
in sending your Son to take our human nature.

May we who have tasted heavenly things
share in the life of his eternal kingdom.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Go in peace, proclaiming the Word made flesh.

All **Thanks be to God.**

"Joy to the World"

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room, and Heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, and wonders of His love.

Organ Postlude *"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"*...Stanley E. Saxton



**Flowers for our Christmas Services are given to the Glory of God and
in loving memory of:**

Marguerite & Donald Elgee and Aline & Wilmot McCluskey
by Jeffrey & Dawn McCluskey

George & Douglas Soper by the Family

Our Parents,
Captain Charles Stark
Percival & Sarah Smith,
and Dear Aunt Nancy Wilson
by Clare & Allan Smith

Our Parents,
Paul & Joan (Pirrie) Keirstead and
William & Anna May (Bell) Thorne
by Richard & Sandra Thorne

Wesley & Rita Foote, Thomas & Mary Holden
Sandra Holden and Thomas Holden Jr.
by Lloyd & Sheila Foote and the Family

Captain Randall May by his wife and family

Bert Seely,
Addison & Rilla Seely
and George & Lillian Gerow
by Marge and the Family

Helen Crawford by the Family

Fred & Olive Long by the family

Lynne Golding by Fr. Jim Golding

H. D. MacMackin
Dr. Ken & Helen Rodger
by their children

Sarah & Joseph

Fred & Olive Long by their Family

PARISH NOTES

Dear friends,

I savour the joy and happiness that seems to be in the air this time of year. The lights, the gift-giving, the carols – they never fail to lend a spirit of joy to the cold darkness of Winter. I wish Christmas could be all year round! But wait! For us Christians, we can have the joy of Christmas even after the lights are taken down and the gifts are unwrapped.

The spirit of joy we have at Christmas comes from one central reality: that in the midst of the darkest time of the year – when the sun is at its weakest, God sends to us the true Son who is the light of the world. He reminds us that even in the midst of the pain, troubles and challenges of our lives, darkness never has the last word! Light always trumps darkness, good is always victorious over evil, and life conquers death. When we draw our hope and strength from that truth, the darkness can never touch us, and the joy of this season will be ours all year.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas, and pray that the joy of this season will be yours throughout the new year.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Paul+

Congratulations to the Wood Family

Best wishes to **Matthew & Michelle Wood** on the birth of their second son **Charles Hadley** born Dec13, 2017. Charles is a brother for Henri and a new grandson for **Liz & Hadley**. Now that's a Christmas present!

Choral Scholarship

We are pleased to announce a new initiative at St. Paul's - our Choral Scholarship Programme! The program is a great opportunity to sing with a choir, learn classic choral repertoire, gain experience and enhance your musical training. Post secondary scholarship is \$2000/year and High School Scholarship is \$1000/year. For information or to apply, please contact us at 847-1812 or stpaulsrothesay@nb.aibn.com.

Donations for 2017 Income Tax Receipts

Donations for which a 2017 tax receipt is required should be received in the office by noon on **Fri, Dec 29** This will allow time for a final bank deposit to be made for the end of 2017. If you have any questions, please contact the Church Office at 847-1812.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Monthly Online Family Newsletter

Interested in what we at St. Paul's are doing for young people and families? Consider signing up for our monthly online *St. Paul's Family Newsletter*. To do so, simply contact the St. Paul's office and let us know, or email our Family & Youth Minister, Rob Montgomery (rob.montgomery@anglican.nb.ca).

St. Paul's Parish-Wide Game Night - January 5 @ 6:30 pm

Come join us in the Parish Hall, Friday January 5 at 6:30 pm, for an inter-generational (all ages) Games Night together with your St. Paul's family. Bring yourselves, your favorite games, and maybe some snacks to share. All are welcome, and hope to see you there. To register, or for more information, please contact Rob Montgomery or the St. Paul's office.

Young People at St. Paul's This Christmas Season

Our Children & Youth programs are taking a bit of a break for the holidays. Our Sunday School program will resume Jan. 14, and our Friday Night Youth Group (ages 12+) will be starting up again Jan. 12. All are welcome to join us when we begin again in the new year.

Sea Dogs vs. Quebec Remparts, Faith & Family Night Fundraiser! - January 20 at 7:00pm

Join us for a Faith-filled evening at the rink with guest speaker and NHL Hall-of-Famer Mike Gartner. Mike Gartner will be having a pre-game speaking session at Harbour Station from 5-5:45 PM. Mike is recognized as one of the top 100 NHL players of all time and remains dedicated to his faith. Tickets for the entire event are \$7 for Youth aged 5-12, \$10 for Students, and \$18 for Adults/Seniors. \$5 from each adult ticket goes back to the Church of your choice, with funds coming in for St. Paul's going directly towards helping people in need in our neighbourhood.

For more information, contact Rob Montgomery or visit:

<https://seadogs.spinzo.com/faith-family-night-fundraiser-sea-dogs-take-on-the-quebec-remparts-2018-01-20-FEKKQ>

Office Hours Between Christmas & New Years

Mon, Dec 25	Office Closed
Tue, Dec 26	Office Closed
Wed, Dec 27 - Fri, Dec 29	8:30 am - noon