

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Diocese of Ilsea South West, the Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (*Ibadan* Province), and for the Diocese of North East India, the (united) Church of North India.

**In the Anglican Church of Canada**, we pray for our Primate, the Most Rev Linda Nicholls; for our Metropolitan and Diocesan Archbishop, the Most Rev Anne Germond; for the Deanery of Sudbury-Manitoulin, and our Archdeacon, the Ven Glen Miller; and for our parish and the ministry of our parish clergy: Canon John, Rev Jeff, and Bishop Andrews.

**In the Diocese of Algoma**, we pray for the parish of the Church of the Holy Manger, Barkway, and the ministry of the Rev Heather Manuel; we pray for Christian vocations and candidates for ordained ministry; we pray for Pastoral Chaplains, the Rev Canon Bob Elkin (Algoma), the Rev Heather Manuel (Muskoka), the Rt Rev Tom Corston (Sudbury-Manitoulin), and the Ven Linda White (Temiskaming).

**We pray for** reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples: Merciful God, you call us to loving relationship with one another. Be with us now as we seek to heal old wounds and find joy again in this relationship. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh. Give us the gifts of honesty and openness, and fill us with your healing power and grace. We ask this in Jesus's name.

**We pray for** the following people for God's continued healing and strength during the coming week, especially – Tamara, Nancy, Marshall, Kay, Dave Fowler, Annette, Barbara, Claudette, Gerry, Mary Rose, Sarah, Jaqueline, Colin, Catherine, George, David, Dan & Marc, Gary, Lucette, Estelle, Richard, Maggie, Carol, Marjorie Morton, Michael Sheppard, Rob Caines, Spruce, Del, Vince, Helen, Chris, Lynne, Connie Lee, Bishop Tom, David Caines, Trischa, Ed, Heather, Lori, John P, and Ivan.

**We pray for** those who are living in retirement residences or nursing homes: Milt Fleming, Karin Hoffman, Laurent Constantineau, Bessie Morgan, Sybil Crawford, Marlene Moulton, Betty Bonas, and Del Gates; may they always feel God's presence in their lives.

In our parish we pray for our wardens, board members, and lay leaders; we pray for parents, grandparents, and godparents, for spouses and siblings, for children and dependents, for all families and friends, for those with whom we are hurt, angry, or at cross-purposes, and for those who might be alone, in any circumstance, that they might be comforted and know the love of God.

#### **Christmas flowers in the Church are given:**

In loving memory of husband Ron, granddaughter Christina Polifroni, and mother Therza Griffiths, from Betty Bonas and family;  
In loving memory of Don McLeod, from wife Betty and family;  
In memory of husband George, from wife Anne and family.



## ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

1476 Sparks Street, Sudbury, Ontario, P3E 2A1  
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**December 24, 2021**

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2021

Sunday morning service live-streamed on Facebook @ascensionsudbury at 10.00 am. Over Christmas week to New Year's Day, in-person Sunday mornings at 10.00 am with no more than 40 in the congregation.

**Welcome to our worship!** It is good to have you here with us today. Please know that the Anglican Church teaches that all who are baptized with water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are welcome to participate in the sacrament at the time of Communion.

#### **Christmas Eve**

##### Holy Eucharist

Friday evening 4.00 pm

Friday evening 7.00 pm

Liturgy, BAS pp. 185 – 215

(readings are per *Revised Common Lectionary*, NRSVA translation)

<b>Gathering</b>	BAS, pp. 185-7
<b>Collect of the Day</b>	BAS, p. 273
<b>First Reading</b>	Isaiah 9. 2-7
<b>Psalm 96</b>	BAS, p. 834
<b>Second Reading</b>	Titus 2. 11-14
<b>Holy Gospel</b>	St Luke 2. 1-20
<b>Sermon</b>	
<b>Confession of Faith</b>	BAS, pp. 188-9
<b>Prayers, Confession, Absolution, Peace</b>	BAS, pp. 190-2
<b>Prayer over Gifts</b>	BAS, pp. 273
<b>Eucharistic Prayer #3</b>	BAS, p. 198-200; p. 219
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	BAS, p. 211
<b>Breaking of the Bread</b>	BAS, p. 213, #6
<b>Prayer after Communion</b>	BAS, p. 274
<b>Doxology, Dismissal</b>	BAS, pp. 214-15

For arranging Pastoral Visits or participation in the Parish Prayer Chain during the Interim transition, please contact Marie at 705-560-1263 or [marievitone@persona.ca](mailto:marievitone@persona.ca)

<b>Interim Incumbent:</b>	Rev Canon Dr John Gibaut
<b>Hon. Associate:</b>	Rt Rev Dr Stephen Andrews
<b>Hon. Assistant:</b>	Rev Jeff Hooper
<b>Rector's Warden:</b>	Pat Cunningham (705) 566-1203
<b>Peoples' Warden:</b>	Jen Ames (705) 618-2319
<b>Deputy Warden:</b>	Brent Leigh (705) 524-6482
<b>Web Site:</b>	<a href="http://www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.com">www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.com</a>
<b>Facebook:</b>	@ascensionsudbury

**Collect for Christmas (Eve):** 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.

**Collect for Christmas (Morning):** O God our Father, whose Word has come among us in the Holy Child of Bethlehem, may the light of faith illumine our hearts and shine in our words and deeds; through him who is Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**First Reading** (*Isaiah 9. 2-7*)

*A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah*

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 Counsellor, 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.

**Psalm 96** (*BAS, p. 834*) **Refrain:** *All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God*

**Second Reading** (*Titus 2. 11-14*)

*A Reading from the Epistle of Paul to Titus*

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

**Gospel** (*Lk 2. 1-20*)

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke*

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 favours!”

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.

**Prayer over 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.

**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.