



The Anglican Parish of St. Francis

The Diocese of Rupert's Land

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Dear family and friends,

Greetings to you on this cold winter day as we embark upon the liturgical season of Advent. I have always loved Advent. Perhaps it's the music or the darkness of December illuminated by the lights of Christmas on our city streets. Perhaps it is the vastness of the vision it holds, a vision of justice, peace and mercy as we celebrate together the coming of the "prince of peace" into our lives. In this season I imagine our forebears, gathered together in the darkness of our church around flickering flames of candles, singing, sharing cookies, snapping pictures, telling stories, dreaming and watching in the night. Advent celebrates the mystery of God who is ever among us, warming our hearts with a message of hope as we await the day when "lion will lie down with lamb" and "swords will be made into ploughshares". Oh, the mystery of Advent!

I am sending this email to let you know that following our service this Sunday, December 8th, we will be having our Annual Christmas Tea. This will be the first time that we have chosen a Sunday for our Christmas Tea and we are hoping to see as many of our friends and family as possible. What better way to spend a Sunday afternoon than to gather with loved ones, some of whom we have not seen for a long time, and enjoy a cup of tea and Christmas cookie.

The time for the tea will be from 1 to 4, December 8, though I would encourage you to join us for our Advent Sunday Eucharist at 11. That way, you will have the opportunity to get a good seat downstairs and first dibs at the bake table. Speaking of which, if anyone would like to donate some baked goodies for our bake table, that would be wonderful. Just call Diana and let her know. Diana can be reached at 204-334-7250.

One last but important note, our Christmas Eve Mass will take place December 24th at 7 pm this year. We will also have a Christmas morning Mass, beginning at 11 am.

This letter comes with my warmest personal wishes to you and your loved ones. Hoping to see you very soon during this joyful season.

Blessings and peace,
Fr Wayne, St. Francis Church