



St. Ambrose Anglican Church



Gladstone & Carmichael Roads

Rector: Fr. Lynden Douglas

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Mission Statement

The Parish of St. Ambrose exists to be servants of God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to build up the community of faith so that all may become whole persons in Christ.

Archbishop of The Province of The West Indies

The Most Rev'd Howard Gregory, *B.A., S.T.M., S.T.D., D.D.*

Diocesan Bishop

The Rt. Rev'd Laish Boyd, *B.A., D.D.*

Assistant Bishops

The Most Rev'd Drexel W. Gomez, *B.A., D.D., C.M.G.*

The Rt. Rev'd Gilbert A. Thompson, *C.M.G., S.Th., M.A., J.P*

West Central Archdeaconry

The Venerable Dwight H. L. Rolle, *B.A., S.T.M., J.P.*

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday - 7:00 am Said Mass

Sunday - 9:30 am Sung Mass

Wednesday - 6:30 am Said Mass



Diocesan Theme

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 - Year B

Liturgical Colour - Purple

Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, for this is the House of God.
Before the service, speak to the Lord; during the service,
let the Lord speak to you; after the service, speak to one another.

Introit Hymn

Great God, What Do I See and Hear

Great God, what do I see and hear! The end of things created! The Judge of mankind doth appear on clouds of glory seated! The trumpet sounds; the graves restore the dead which they contained before: prepare, my soul, to meet him.

2 The dead in Christ shall first arise, at the last trumpet's sounding, caught up to meet him in the skies, with joy their Lord surrounding; no gloomy fears their souls dismay; his presence sheds eternal day on those prepared to meet him.

3 But sinners, filled with guilty fears, behold his wrath prevailing; for they shall rise, and find their tears and sighs are unavailing: the day of grace is past and gone; trembling, they stand before the throne, all unprepared to meet him.

4 Great God, what do I see and hear! The end of things created! The Judge of mankind doth appear on clouds of glory seated! Low at his cross I view the day when heav'n and earth shall pass away, and thus prepare to meet him.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Today we begin our celebration of Advent. On these four Sundays leading up to Christmas, we will rejoice in the great gift that is ours in Jesus Christ. To help us celebrate, we will be lighting the candles of the Advent wreath. The candles signify that Jesus is the Light of the world. The evergreens remind us that He is life and brings life to us. All these are arranged in a circle because life in Christ has no end. Each Sunday we will light an additional candle. Then on Christmas Eve, we will light all the candles, including the center one, the Christ candle. As we do, we will rejoice that Jesus Christ has come to us. He is Immanuel – God with us.

Celebrant: Today we light the candle of hope. The people of Israel hoped in God's promises and were not disappointed. Again and again God delivered Israel from its enemies. We too have the same experience of salvation. That is why we believe in God's promise to send Jesus to us once again to judge the world and establish his kingdom for ever. **(Light the Candle of Hope)**

Hope is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Let us pray:

All: Loving God, we thank you for the hope you give us. Hope is our assurance that you will finish all you have started. As we wait

for all your promises to come true, and for Jesus Christ to come again, we ask that you remain present with us. Enable us today, and every day to worship you, to hear your Word, and to do your will by sharing your hope with each other. We ask these in the name of the one whose coming we await; Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Advent Carol (*hymn Tune Cpwi 400*)

This candle shines with glorious light, A word of hope to those in night,
It brightly shines in night's dark day, And shows the hope God gives today.

Give hope, O Lord, to us this day, Make in our hearts a ready way. That Christ, our Hope, our King, may come. Into our hearts and make His home. *Thomas F. Fischer*

Opening Sentence	Advent	BCP 97
Collect For Purity.....		BCP 101
The Ninefold Kyries.....		BCP 102

THE COLLECTS

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

DIOCESAN THEME 2023

Almighty Father, You call Your people to be in communion with you and each other. Hear the prayers of the Parishes & Communities within this Diocese, that are faced with many challenges. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, strengthen and inspire us to live lives pleasing to You. Help us to remain faithful as we use the gifts and talents You have given us for the building up of Your Church and the Communities it serves; for the sake of Him who came among us as one who serves, Your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Reader: A Reading from Book of Isaiah chapter 64 verses 1 to 9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brush-wood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who

works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks Be To God

(We pause for a moment of personal reflection on the reading)

PSALM 80:1-7,16-18

(The psalm is read responsively or sung by the choir and congregation)

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Reader: A reading from First Corinthians chapter 1 verses 3 to 9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks Be To God

(The congregation stands for the singing of the Gradual Hymn)

Gradual Hymn

Ye Holy Angels Bright

CPWI 799

(The following chorus is sung before the Gospel)

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,

They resound with God's own heart

Oh, let the ancient words impart.

Ancient words ever true changing me, and changing you.

We have come with open hearts, Oh let the ancient words impart.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 13:24-37

(All stand)

Gospeller: The Lord Be With You

All: And Also With You

Gospeller: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all "Keep awake."

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to Christ our Lord

(The following chorus is sung after the Gospel)

**Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e'er we roam,
Ancient words will guide us home.**

**Ancient words ever true, changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts, Oh let the ancient words impart.**

Sermon Fr. Lynden Douglas

THE ACT OF COMMITMENT

My brothers and sisters in Christ, we have assembled to respond to the call for rededication and recommitment among the members of our Church Family. Let us then, with willing hearts, recall the strong exhortation given by the Apostle Paul to the first Christian community at Rome. (Romans 12:1-2), "I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Celebrant: In our baptism we died with Christ and were buried with

Him so that we might rise with Him to a new life within the family of His Church. We can never be baptized again, but we can, in response to the movement of God's Spirit, and after careful preparation, renew the promises made at our baptism. I now invite you to affirm your baptismal promises.

Celebrant: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept Him as your Saviour?

All: I turn and accept Him.

Celebrant: **Do you put your trust in His grace and love?**

All: I so put my trust.

Celebrant: Do you promise to love God and obey Him as your Lord?

All: I promise.

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan, and all the spiritual forces of wickedness?

All: I do.

Celebrant: Do you renounce injustice and all the evil powers of the world?

All: I do.

THE COMMITMENT

Celebrant: Let us now renew our Commitment. Let us engage our hearts to the Lord and resolve in His strength never to go back on our vows. Let us in sincere dependence on His grace, and trusting in His promises, yield ourselves again to Him meekly, as we kneel before Him.

(After a period of silence, the Leader and people shall continue)

All: Almighty God and Heavenly Father, as part of my personal response to You, I promise that:

I will more readily accept the guidance and direction of Your indwelling Holy Spirit in every part of my life;

I will become more involved in the life of Your Church, and the advancement of Your Kingdom, and use more of my time and my abilities to further Your work and witness;

I will also, as an expression of my gratitude to you, support the work of Your Church by contributing funds from my earnings on a regular, systematic and proportional basis.

The celebrant and people say the following prayers:

Lord, we have but one life to live, the life You have given us, the life You have redeemed. Help us to make the best use of it and not waste it or fritter it away. Show us Your plan and purpose for our life, and let it be our joy to do Your will and serve You all our days.

Lord God, whose we are and whom we serve; we place our lives afresh in Your hands. Take us as we are, and make us what You would have us be; and so fill us with Your Holy Spirit that we may be faithful in Your service and be wholly thine for your glory of Your name and in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Celebrant: Will you live in obedience to God's law, as a loyal member of His Church?

All: With God's help, I will.

Celebrant: Almighty God who gives you the will to do all these things, grant you grace and power to perform them, that He may complete the good work He has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Act of Penitence/The Peace

BCP 123-125

Hymn for the Peace

(please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY PRAYER: O Lord, watch over those persons who are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries. Bless and guide them wherever they may be; strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when they are discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may the peace of God which passes all understanding abide with them on the anniversary of their birth and marriages, and all the days of their lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PREPARATION

We prepare ourselves for the Feast

Congregation may remain seated for the singing of the Offertory Hymn, and stand during the last verse

Offertory Hymn

Immortal, Invisible

CPWI 228

The following is sung during the Presentation of the Offerings

All things are Yours, no gifts have we; Lord of all gifts to offer Thee. And then with grateful hearts today, Your own before Your feet we lay. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT

(The highest reverence is due - No Talking - No Movement)

THE SURSUM CORDA.....	BCP 126
THE PROPER PREFACE ADVENT	BCP 127
THE GREAT CONSECRATORY PRAYER FORM C	BCP 137
THE ACCLAMATION	
THE LORD'S PRAYER.....	BCP 144
THE BREAKING OF BREAD.....	BCP145
THE AGNUS DEI.....	BCP 147

THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Please remain reverent as you move to receive communion)

We Share in His Feast

Communion Hymns	Approach Thy Throne	CPWI 482
	Just As I Am	CPWI 504
	Bread of Heaven	CPWI 573

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER.....	BCP 147
THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL.....	BCP 149

Recessional Hymn **Will Your Anchor Hold**

Will your anchor hold in the storms of life, when the clouds unfold their wings of strife? When the strong tides lift, and the cables strain, will your anchor drift or firm remain?

We have an anchor that keeps the soul steadfast and sure while the billows roll, fastened to the rock which cannot move, grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love.

2 It is safely moored, 'twill the storm withstand, for 'tis well secured by the Saviour's hand; and the cables passed from His heart to mine, can defy the blast, through strength divine.

3 It will firmly hold in the straits of fear, when the breakers have told the reef is near; though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow, not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow.

4 When your eyes behold through the gathering night, the city of gold our harbour bright? We shall anchor fast by the heav'nly shore, with the storms all past for evermore.

NOTICES

Welcome to all worshipping with us. *“This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.”*

VISITORS, we welcome you to our Church and greet you in the name and love of our mighty Saviour, Jesus Christ. We are delighted that you have come to share with us in this worship experience.

MEMBERS, if you were away, it is good to have you back home and we give thanks to God for your safe return.



**Remember
in
Prayer**

Our nation & community, the unemployed, the homeless, the sick and shut-in, the disabled, members who are abroad, those who are travelling, fishermen and farmers, teachers and students, the lapsed and indifferent members of our church, all those who have requested our prayers.

PRAYER: Almighty Father, we commend to Your loving care all who suffer, especially the sick in body and mind. Grant them patience in their suffering; strengthen and uphold them with the knowledge of Your love; and restore them to health and wholeness; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

MEMBERS: Sabrina Bain, Pauline Bastian, Granville Brown, Barbara Chong, Jocelyn Munroe, Beverly Wallace-Whitfield

RELATIVES & FRIENDS: RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Willimena Allen (Aunt of Kenva Mullings), Ken Bethel, Peter Bowe, LaShay Brown (Daughter of Lenora Brown), Marvin Cooper (Brother of Bradley Cooper), Natalia Cowderoy (Daughter of Natalie Duncombe), Clara Cox (Mother of Robert Cox), Jeffery Cox (Cousin of Sherry Walkine), Theron Hepburn (Brother-in-law of Carol Roach), Samuel Hunter (Father of Kenva Roxbury, Samantha Hunter, Shantia Goodwin-Davies), Bernadette Ingraham (Sister of Bridgette Ingraham), Sandra Kemp, Alexander Knowles, Vanria Lightbourne (Sister of Cheyenne & Cheryl Bethel), Logan McCaulsky, Benjamin Miller (Husband of Anya Miller), Oswald (Sr.) & Betty Nixon (Parents of Brian Nixon), Sylvia Pinder, Innis Robinson, Archdeacon Dwight Rolle, Steven & Helen Rolle, Ollie Sands (Sister of Cleo Hepburn), Canon Peter Scott, Maryann Sokal, Mazel Turnquest (Mother of Rochelle Turnquest), Almond Weech (Brother of Kenva Mullings)

SHUT-INS: Leaenza Beneby, Maeroni Black, Francine Val Bowe, Hazel Hunt, Petrona Major (Mother of Katherine Cartwright), Aura Maycock, Florence Pratt

RECOVERING MEMBERS: Alinda Bowe, Cheryl Bethel, Shanae Forbes, Suzette Hanna, Crystal Holder, Delores Johnson, Garnell Johnson, Isabella Jones, Joan Neymour, Frankie Smith

RECOVERING FRIENDS & RELATIVES: Louise Blyden (Veta Brown's sister), Lorelda Burrows, Coralee Butler, Andree Campbell (Daughter of Canon Sebastian Campbell), Gloria Goodridge, Cora Johnson, Errol Johnson, Errol Rolle, Ismae Smith, Aaron Spencer

We extend condolences and assurance of our prayers to all who are grieving the loss of loved ones and those whose memories are called to mind at this time.

The President and members of the **A.C.W.** thank all who supported their **BINGO & Family Fun Night** on Friday past.

St. Ambrose Patronal Festival: December 10th at 3:00 p.m. Solemn Evensong, Sermon, Benediction and Outdoor Procession. Our preacher will Canon Crosley Walkine, Associate Priest at Holy Spirit. Morning services will be as usual, 7:00a.m. and 9:30a.m.



Please note that we are now in the season of Advent, a time when no flowers will be placed on the Altars. However, we are seeking contributions towards poinsettias and decorations for the Christmas season. Anyone wishing to contribute is most welcome to do so. All wishing to donate can do so via online banking or drop off at the office.

Jesse Tree: The deadline to return gifts and tags selected from the Jesse Tree is Friday, December 22nd.



As we begin this new Liturgical year, we say thanks to all who contributed flowers, to breakfast fellowship, to social outreach, and in any other way this past year.

Also to all those who continue to give via tithes and offering. Your gifts to the greater glory of God and commitment to Him and the work of His Church are graciously acknowledged.

Today's **Breakfast Fellowship** is **graciously** sponsored by Sheena Styles in thanksgiving of her birthday.

Notices for the bulletin are to be submitted by **Noon** on **Tuesdays**.

2023 Annual Reports: Heads of organizations are asked to begin preparing annual reports, which are to include financial reporting. Reports are to be submitted electronically to stambrose@bahamasanglican.org by December 22nd, 2023.

Persons interested in paying Tithes & Offerings or making financial contributions using online banking facilities, can make transfers to St. Ambrose Anglican Church, Royal Bank of Canada JFK, Account Number:1002534, Transit Number:05165



The **A.C.W. Council** will be hosting a musical production, "Evening of Hope", in aid of its scholarship fund, on Friday December 8th, at 7:00p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral.



Birthday Celebrations: **Dec 3** - Judy Woodside; **Dec 5** - Louise Marshall, Agnes Saunders, Karen Butler, Deja Burrows; **Dec 6** - Decosta Deveaux; **Dec 7** - Elsworth Johnson; **Dec 8** - Leja Burrows, Kalie Taylor, Frankie Smith; **Dec 9** - Crystal Johnson



Anniversaries: **Dec 3** - Jerry & Alkeitha Colebrooke, Anya & Ben Miller; **Dec 5** - Oswald & Claudette Nixon; **Dec 9** - Trevor & Tamarah Adderley



7:00a.m. Joel Cunningham, Elsworth Johnson, Julie Harts, Vince Symonette

9:30a.m. Sheena Styles, Melinda McKenzie, Sherry Walkine, Bradley Cooper



For Today

7:00a.m. - Hazel Carroll, Norma Dean, Janna White

9:30a.m. - ACW

ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER 26TH

7:00a.m. - 82 **9:30a.m.** - 68

November 29th Wednesday - 6



DAILY READINGS

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
M	Ps. 1, 2, 3 Amos 2:6-16	Ps. 5, 6 Amos 3:1-11	Ps. 119:1-24 Amos 3:12-4:5	Ps. 18:1-20 Amos 4:6-13	Ps. 24, 36 2 Samuel 7:1-16	Ps. 20, 21:1-7 (8-14) Amos 5:18-27
P	2 Peter 1:1-11	2 Peter 1:12-21	2 Peter 3:1-10 <i>St. Nicholas</i>	2 Peter 3:11-18 <i>St. Ambrose</i>	1 Corinthia ns 1:23-30 <i>Immaculate Conception</i>	Jude 17-25
E	Ps. 4, 7 Isaiah 1:10-20	Ps. 10, 11 Isaiah 1:21-31	Ps. 12,13,14 Isaiah 2:1-11	Ps.18:21-50 Isaiah 2:12-22	Ps.137, 138 Genesis 12:1-17	Ps. 110:1-5 (6-7)116, 117
P	Matthew 21:1-11	Matthew 21:12-22	Matthew 21:23-32	Matthew 21:33-46	Romans 5:12- 21	Isaiah 4:2-6 Matthew 22:15- 22

PARISH VESTRY



Fr. Lynden Douglas - Rector
 Dr. Ricardo Crawford - **Priest's Warden (327-2678)**
 Mrs. Cleo Hepburn - **People's Warden (361-3989)**
 Ms. Pamela Miller - **Elected 2022-2024 Interim Treasurer (357-5738)**
 Mrs. Leja Burrows - **Asst. Secretary/Sunday School Supt. (676-2341)**
 Miss Anatchas Hart - **A.C.W. President**
 Mr. Ethan W. Adderley - **A.C.M. President (808-5750)**
 Mr. Brian Nixon - **Audio Visual Chairperson (341-6040)**
 Mrs. Terri Bellot - **Legal Advisor (361-7589)**
 Ms. Diane Stewart - **Music Ministry (327-7559)**
 Mrs. Norma Dean - **Pastoral Care & Counselling (364-8635)**
 Ms. Frances Dean - **Social Outreach (327-4031)**
 Mrs. Gale Sheryl Forbes - **Ushers Ministry (455-0120)**
 Ms. Alinda Bowe - **Elected 2022-2024 (341-0781)**
 Mr. Reno Major - **Elected 2022-2024 (376-6211)**
 Dr. Julian Stewart - **Elected 2022-2024 (432-9080)**
 Mr. James Albury - **Elected 2023-2025 (424-9042)**
 Miss Tanisha Brathwaite - **Elected 2023-2025 (426-0457)**
 Mr. Joel Cunningham - **Elected 2023-2025 (421-2589)**
 Mr. Philip Styles - **Elected 2023-2025 (362-1378)**
 Mr. John Michael Clarke - **Appointed (601-5777)**