



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

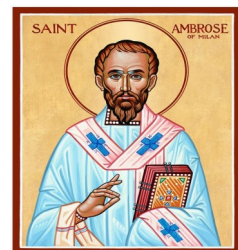
Sunday - 7:00 am Said Mass

Sunday - 9:30 am Sung Mass

Wednesday - 6:30 am Said Mass



Diocesan Theme



THE FEAST OF ST. AMBROSE

Sunday, December 10th, 2023 - Year B

Liturgical Colour - White

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

For All The Saints

CPWI 819

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader: Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfil all of God's promises to us. *(light the candle of hope)*

The second candle of Advent is the candle of Peace. Peace is a word that we hear a lot. It is one of the things that we hope for. Christ brought peace when he first came to us and He will bring everlasting peace when He comes again. The prophet Isaiah called Christ "the Prince of Peace". When Jesus came He taught people the importance of being peace makers. He said that those who make peace shall be called the children of God. We light the candle of peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace and that through Him peace is found. *(light the candle of peace)*

Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

Let us pray:

All: Thank you God for the peace you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and every day to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

Advent Carol *(Hymn Tune # 6 CPWI)*

These candles shine with glorious light, Gives peace and hope to those in night, They brightly shine in night's dark day, Gives peace and hope for us today.

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

Opening Sentence	Saints	BCP 99
Collect For Purity.....		BCP 101
The Ninefold Kyries.....		BCP 102

THE COLLECTS

O God, who gave your servant Ambrose grace eloquently to proclaim your righteousness in the great congregation, and fearlessly to bear

reproach for the honour of your Name: Mercifully grant to all bishops and pastors such excellence in preaching and faithfulness in ministering your Word, that your people may be partakers with them of the glory that shall be revealed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Advent II: Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Reader: A Reading from First Kings chapter 21 verses 17 to 29.

The word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying: Go down to meet King Ahab of Israel, who rules in Samaria; he is now in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take possession. You shall say to him, "Thus says the Lord: Have you killed, and also taken possession?" You shall say to him, "Thus says the Lord: In the place where dogs licked up the blood of Naboth, dogs will also lick up your blood." Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" He answered, "I have found you. Because you have sold yourself to do what is evil in the sight of the Lord, I will bring disaster on you; I will consume you, and will cut off from Ahab every male, bond or free, in Israel; and I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha son of Ahijah, because you have provoked me to anger and have caused Israel to sin. Also concerning Jezebel the Lord said, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel within the bounds of Jezreel.' Anyone belonging to Ahab who dies in the city the dogs shall eat; and anyone of his who dies in the open country the birds of the air shall eat." (Indeed, there was no one like Ahab, who sold himself to do what was evil in the sight of the Lord, urged on by his wife Jezebel. He acted most abominably in going after idols, as the Amorites had done whom the Lord drove out before the Israelites.) When Ahab heard those words, he tore his clothes and put sackcloth over his bare flesh; he fasted, lay in the sackcloth, and went about dejectedly. Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite: "Have you seen how Ahab has humbled himself before me? Because he has humbled himself before me, I will not bring the disaster in his days; but in his son's days I will bring the disaster on his house."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks Be To God

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

PSALM 27:5-11

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

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Reader: A reading from the Book of Acts chapter 4 verses 23 to 31.

After they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard it, they raised their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and everything in them, it is you who said by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant: "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples imagine vain things? The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers have gathered together against the Lord and against his Messiah.' For in this city, in fact, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks Be To God

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

Gradual Hymn For All Thy Saints, O Lord CPWI 825

(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

LUKE 12:35-46

(All stand)

Gospeller: The Lord Be With You

All: And Also With You

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

All: Glory to Christ our Saviour

Jesus said to his disciples, "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his

house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.” Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?” And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and prudent manager whom his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions. But if that slave says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming’ and if he begins to beat the other slaves, men and women, and to eat and drink and get drunk, the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour that he does not know, and will cut him in pieces, and put him with the unfaithful.”

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

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

Apostles' Creed..... BCP 106

Intercessions Form H BCP 120

(intercessions will conclude with the Parish prayer)

PARISH PRAYER

O God, who has brought us into the fellowship of your dear Son, lead us all in St. Ambrose ever closer day by day to You and to one another, that we may become of one heart and mind in love toward You; and grant that our common life and work in sacrificial service may help to extend Your kingdom here where we are and in all the world; 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 How Bright These Glorious Spirits Shine CPWI 828

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.**

Censing Hymn Disposer Supreme CPWI 832

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT
(The highest reverence is due - No Talking - No Movement)

- THE SURSUM CORDA..... BCP 126
- THE PROPER PREFACE SAINTS' DAY BCP 129
- THE GREAT CONSECRATORY PRAYER FORM B BCP 135
- 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 Take My Life And Let It Be CPWI 539
I Am Thine, O Lord CPWI 522
Dearest Jesu CPWI 585

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

- POST-COMMUNION PRAYER..... BCP 147
- THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL..... BCP 151

Recessional Hymn Jesus Use Me

Dear Lord, I'll be a witness, if you *Je---sus use me, and Oh, Lord,*
will help my weakness. I know that *don't refuse me. For surely there's*
I'm not worthy Lord of thee. By *a work that I can do. And even*
the eyes of faith I see thee upon the *though it's humble Lord help my*
cross of Calv'ry. Dear Lord, I cry, *will to crumble. Though the cost*
let me thy servant be *be great, I'll work for Thee*

2. I'll stand for thee, dear Jesus, 3. He's the lily of the valley, the what e'er the cost may be, I'll bright and morning star. He's the spread the gospel to the lost each fairest of ten thousand to my soul; day. But if it be thy will to send me He's the beautiful rose of Sharon, o'er the sea, I'll follow thee, tho' He's all the world to me. But best death may come my way. of all He is my coming King.



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: 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: Leanza 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 the assurance of our prayers to all who are grieving the loss of loved ones, and also those whose memories are called to mind at this time.

St. Ambrose Patronal Festival: Today at 3:00 p.m. Solemn Evensong, Sermon, Benediction and Outdoor Procession. Our preacher will be Canon Crosley Walkine, Associate Priest at Holy Spirit.



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.



Thank you 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.

Thanks to all who contributed flowers, to breakfast fellowship, to social outreach, and in any other way this past year.

Flowers on the Altar, for our patronal celebration, have been given to greater glory of God and in thanksgiving for the wedding anniversary of Trevor & Tamarah Adderley.



Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be on Friday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

The First Mass of Christmas - December 24th at 10:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve December 31st - 10:00 p.m.

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.



Tithes & Offerings or making financial contributions using online banking facilities, can be sent to St. Ambrose Anglican Church, **Royal Bank of Canada JFK, Account 1002534, Transit Number: 05165**



Anniversary: Dec 15 - Elsworth & Cathy-Anne Johnson



Birthday Celebrants: Dec 6 - Hazel Hunt; **Dec 10** - Richard Rahming; **Dec 11** - Kenisha Brown, Locksley Brown, Johnathan & Nathan Major, Herb Simmons; **Dec 12** - Joan Neymour, Sheryl Moxey; **Dec 13** - Arlene Brown, Alicia King, Teresita Ward; **Dec 15** - Traice Dean; **Dec 16** - Vernon Marshall



Today

7:00a.m. - ACM

LECTORS 9:30a.m. - ACM



7:00a.m. Hazel Carroll, Monique Rolle, Nicarra Sands, Suzanne Simmons

9:30a.m. Sherell Cox, Rachael Ferguson, Sheryl Forbes, Cozzetta Johnson



DECEMBER 10TH

7:00a.m. - 89

9:30a.m. - 109

Sunday school - 40

JUDGEMENT

Fr. John E. Taylor (R.I.P)

“From thence (Heaven) He shall come to judge the living and the dead.”
“We believe that Thou shalt come to be our judge.” These two sentences are quoted from the Apostles’ Creed and Te Deum Laudamus (Latin for “We Praise Thee, O God”) respectively, in our Book of Common Prayer. Both statements refer to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Last week we considered the subject, Death, first of the Four Last Things, which Mother Church recommends we study on the four Sundays of Advent. Today we reflect upon “Judgement”, the second of the Four Last Things, with the study of Hell and Heaven to follow on remaining Sundays in this Season.

If we could look back upon all the sins we have committed in the course of our lives, we would panic at the notion of God’s Judgement, except for knowing that our final Judge is to be Jesus Christ, our Lord, Saviour and Friend. How fortunate for us that we shall not be judging one another on that Last Day! If some of the criticisms we voice at our dinner tables, at the water coolers on our jobs, even after worship on Sunday are any indication, few of us would see salvation. Don’t smile. Our intention is not to be humorous, but rather to sound a wake up call to all of us not to judge our fellows.

“Judge not and ye shall not be judged.” We can imagine the stern face of the Master as He pronounced this commandment. A disciple probably had passed on a juicy bit of gossip about someone they knew, which would have made Jesus indignant rather than amused. Surely one reason not to criticize is that none of us comprehends all the circumstances that motivate the actions we condemn. Only God can do that; He must be our only Judge.

Jesus’ Parable of the Sheep and the Goats, Matthew 25:31 to the end, declares that on the Day of Judgement He will separate those who have shown compassion to the needy from the uncaring ones, just as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. The sheep have fed and given drink to the hungry, clothed the naked, visited the sick and imprisoned; they are called to “the joy of our Lord”. The goats have done none of these charitable acts; they are sent away to everlasting punishment. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Regarding God’s judgement, St. Paul reminds that “It is appointed to man (humankind) once to die, and after death the judgment”. The Church and Bible teach of a “particular” judgement (each person immediately after death) and the “general” judgement (of all resurrected at the Last Day). Repentance, living in newness of life, and faith in Christ’s atoning death on Calvary guarantee for all a “kindly” judgement from Him Who shall return to earth in judgement.

The Season of Advent serves not merely to anticipate the Birth of Christ, but to prepare for His return on Judgement Day. Let us ponder both themes for our souls’ salvation.

THE STORY ABOUT THE TINY FROGS

There once was a bunch of tiny frogs, who arranged a running competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower. A big crowd had gathered around the tower to see the race and cheer on the contestants.

The race began... Honestly: No one in the crowd really believed that the tiny frogs would reach the top of the tower. You heard statements such as: *“Oh, WAY too difficult!! They will NEVER make it to the top.”* *“Not a chance that they will succeed. The tower is too high!”*

The tiny frogs began collapsing. One by one, except for those who in a fresh tempo were climbing higher and higher. The crowd continued to yell *“It is too difficult!!! No one will make it!!!”*

More tiny frogs got tired and gave up.... But ONE continued higher and higher and higher. This one wouldn't give up! At the end everyone else had given up climbing the tower. Except for the one tiny frog who after a big effort was the only one who reached the top!

THEN all of the other tiny frogs naturally wanted to know how this one frog managed to do it?

A contestant asked the tiny frog how the one who succeeded had found the strength to reach the goal? It turned out... That the winner was DEAF!!!!

The wisdom of this story is:

Never listen to other people's tendencies to be negative or pessimistic cause they take your most wonderful dreams and wishes away from you. The ones you have in your heart! Always think of the power words have. Because everything you hear and read will affect your actions!

Therefore: ALWAYS be... *POSITIVE!*

And above all: Be DEAF when people tell YOU that YOU can not fulfil YOUR dreams!

Always think: I can do this!

DAILY READINGS

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	Ps.25 Amos 7:1-9	Ps.26,28 Amos 7:10-17	Ps.38 Amos 8:1-14	Ps.37:1-18 Amos 9:1-10	Ps.31 Haggai 1:1-15	Ps. 30, 32; Haggai 2:1-9
M	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation	Revelation
P	1:1-8	1:9-16	1:17-2:7	2:8-17	2:18-29	3:1-6
	Ps.9,15 Isaiah 5:8-12,18-23	Ps.36,39 Isaiah 5:13-17,24-25	Ps.119:25-48 Isaiah 6:1-13	Ps.37:19-42 Isaiah 7:1-9	Ps.35 Isaiah 7:10-25	Ps.42,43 Isaiah 8:1-15
E	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew	Matthew
P	22:23-33	22:34-46	23:1-12	23:13-26	23:27-39	24:1-14

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)**