

## **Update from All Saints' Email to the Parish from The Venerable Christopher Dunn 23 December 2021**

Tomorrow is Christmas Eve; and, while it is not the Christmas season of celebration that I thought we were going to have this year, we will all make the best of the time that we have together and through online services.

As you are all aware by this point, the Diocese has moved us back in to Red Protocols. This means that only those who are helping with the service can attend at the Church. I am hoping that you will be able to join in the Christmas Eve, Christmas Day services, and our Sunday morning service this weekend. **All of these services have the same Zoom link;** so, regardless of the one you choose, please click on this Zoom link at the appropriate time: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83689498396> (Meeting ID: 836 8949 8396)

So here is the Christmas weekend line up in a “nutshell” (with the links to the bulletins added to each service):

- **Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm**—Once again, we will have a few young people to assist me in telling the Christmas story using our large Creche figures. All the music will be provided by the Hume Family. Link to the bulletin: <https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/24-December-2021-Christmas-Eve-4-pm.pdf>
- **Christmas Eve at 10:00 pm**—This celebration of the Christmas Eucharist will include the lighting of candles at the end; so, I invite you to have your own candles available to join in and sing Away in a Manger and Silent Night by candlelight. Link to the bulletin: <https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/24-December-2021-Christmas-Eve-10-pm.pdf>

- **Christmas Day**

- **at 10:00 am**—I am hoping that I have enough technical expertise to set up and run the Zoom service so that you can join me on Christmas morning for the Eucharist and Carols (sung by a Cantor). Link to the bulletin: <https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/25-December-2021-Christmas-Day.pdf>
- **at 11:15 am—Drive By Communion**—I am planning to be in the courtyard on Richmond Road to distribute Communion to all those who pop by on Christmas Morning. You can either stay in your car or join me in the Courtyard with social distancing.
- Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>, (Boxing Day) is the **First Sunday after Christmas**
  - **at 9:30 am**—This will be a quiet Sunday morning reflection on the Holy Family in the format of a Service of the Word. Link to the bulletin: <https://www.allsaintswestboro.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/26-December-2021-First-Sunday-after-Christmas.pdf>
  - **at the end of the service (about 11:00 am)**—I will sit down at the end of the service and invite you to a **post-service Christmas Conversation**. This will mean you staying on the line after the final hymn, and we can chat.

With the return to online worship only, our **Church School** has also had to pivot back to online videos. Today, Julie shares the meaning of Christmas and the lovely book entitled “A Northern Nativity” by William Kurelek. You will find the video on our Parish Facebook page at this link: [www.facebook.com/allsaintswestboro/videos/1212016729287775](https://www.facebook.com/allsaintswestboro/videos/1212016729287775)

A prayer as we enter in to this wonderful season of hope, peace, joy, love and incarnation:

***Son of God, Child of Mary, born in the stable at Bethlehem, be born again in us this day that through us the world may know the wonder of your love. Amen***

While I will not have the opportunity to greet many of you in person this Christmas, please know that I hold you in my heart and wish each of you a blessed Christmas season—stay safe and stay well.

Chris