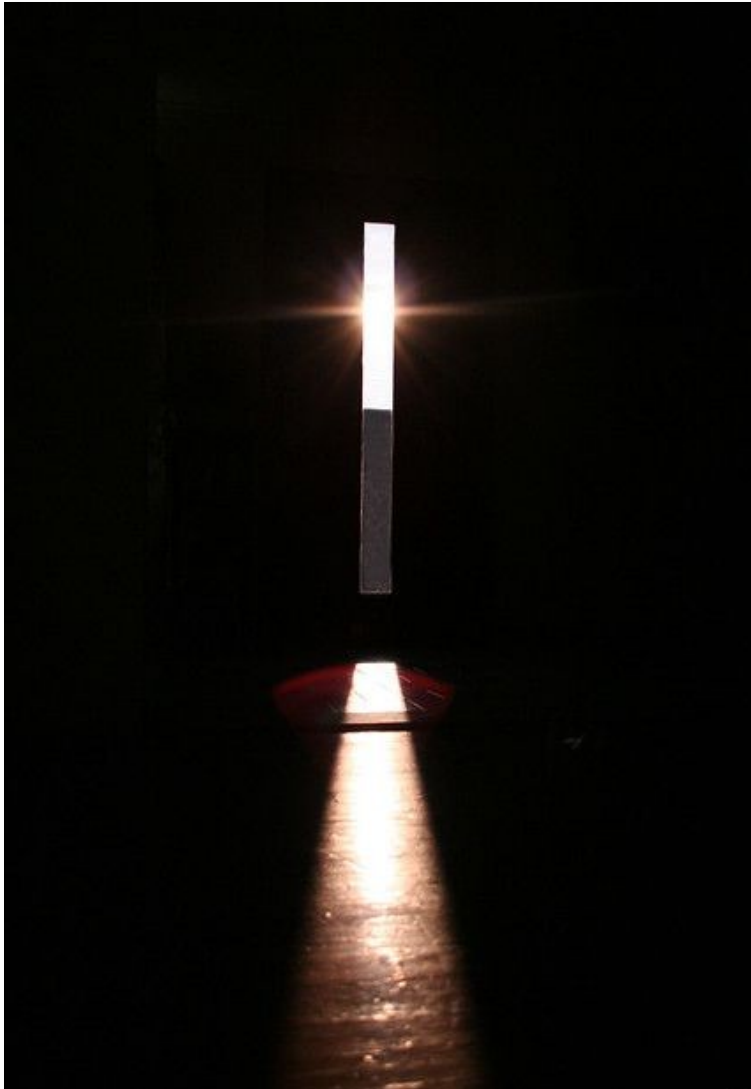


THE VALLEY BULLETIN

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



November 30th, 2025

WELCOME

If you are visiting, we welcome you into our midst.
Whoever you are and wherever you are on your journey in faith, you are welcome.
It is a blessing to have you worship with us today!
The Parish of the Valley respectfully acknowledges that we gather for worship
on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

ADVENT IN THE VALLEY

A Franciscan Approach to the Advent Themes of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

St. Francis of Assisi is one of the most well-known saints; known for the blessing of animals, the poem 'Make Me a Channel of your Peace,' and his Canticle of the Creatures (Brother Sun and Sister Moon). What some might not know we also have St. Francis to thank for the Nativity Creche (the Manger Scene)!

In his living and his preaching, Francis invited his companions to a way of being in the world that was both joyous of God's love and sincere in Christ's call. Francis called for peace in his words and deeds and continuously chose the love that Christ taught: an active love that lives out the attributes of hope, peace, joy and love.

This Advent, we are invited to also embody that active love and return to our own sacredness in seeking to live those Advent attributes.

GRATITUDE – ADVENT 1 (HOPE)

Thankfulness is being in a place of deep gratitude for our life and for all life, and it acknowledges that the source of all life is God. Thankfulness recognizes that each one of us is on a spiritual journey and that all of our experiences—happy or sad—teach and transform us. It also acknowledges all the ways our families, our teachers, and our friends have been gifts from God. One way of cultivating gratitude is taking some time in a quiet place and recalling ten people who have given of themselves so that your life could be better. Call to mind their faces. Remember in some detail what they have done for you. Recall the ways people have lavished their time, energy and resources on you. Then consider how God has lavished God's presence on you and on your world. Cultivate this awareness throughout the day, increasingly acknowledging how our entire life—and everything that passes through it—is a gift.

HOPE

Leader We light the first Advent candle and say,
All **Jesus Christ is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can extinguish.**

Leader Today we light the first candle, the candle for Hope. It reminds us that Jesus brings hope into the world, even when it seems scary or when the problems of our world seem too big for us to handle on our own, and Jesus asks us to share that hope with others.

Let us pray:

Christ our Hope,
Shine in our lives with hope and promise.
Give us eyes to see
so that we remain attentive in this holy season.
Remind us to look for you
in small acts of kindness and love.
We await your coming with wonder.

All **Amen.**



LET'S PRAY

In the Anglican Communion, this week we pray for Sarah Mullally, Archbishop-Designate of Canterbury. We pray for The Anglican Church of Australia.

In the Anglican Church of Canada, we pray for Shane Parker, our Primate. We pray for Anne Germond, our Metropolitan. We pray for Christopher Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop.

In our Diocese of Ottawa, we pray for Michael Bird, our Diocesan Administrator. We pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we prepare to elect a new bishop on February 28th: for those discerning a call to let their name stand for election; for the candidates; for Members of Synod. We pray for our Diocesan Partner: The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. We pray for our Community Ministries: Belong Ottawa, Centre 105, Cornerstone Housing for Women, the Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre, and the Diocesan Refugee Ministry.

In our Deanery of the Northwest, we pray for Emmanuel, Arnprior.

In our Parish of the Valley, we pray for Matthew Brown our Incumbent; and for Gillian Hoyer, Nicholas Forte, and Christine Muise our Associate Incumbents. And for the life and members of our Parish of the Valley Community, this week we pray for: James & Ester Flack, Kevin & Myrna Florent, Dale & Brenda Forbes and Michelle, Frank & Elsie Foy.

For those recently baptized: Lily Perfetti.

For the sick , those who have asked for our prayers, and all others who are on our hearts...

Alice & Petawawa: Heather, Lynn, Ralph, Bill, Issy, Nora, Marion, Lynn, Wanda, Rose, Laurie, Lois, Gloria, Ronny, Patricia, Sammy, Chandra, Shane, Michael, Larry, Trent, Minnie, Scarlett, Brittany, Donna, Shawn, Gerry.

Barry's Bay & Whitney: Mary Ann, George, Poppy Joe & Penny Jane, Fred, Blake, Cathy, Susan, Patricia, Elspeth, Debra, Mary-Jayne, Fern, Shirley, Marilyn, David, Susie, Sharon, Bob.

Killaloe/Tramore & Eganville: James, Hilary, Heather, Jan, Harold, Richard, Dorothy, Betty, Ann, Sheila, Andrea, Sharon, Junior, Peter, Richard, Pauline, Phyllis, Ethel, Anice, Paula, Rosemary.

Pembroke: Jolene, Loreen, Heather, Tristan, Iris, Bill, Bob, Jo, Connie, June, Lawrence, Lomie, Bea.

Stafford/Beachburg/Cobden: Gwen, Elmor, John, Jean, Margaret, Denver, Brian, Ruby, Janice, Susan, Ryan, Haley, Ruth, James, Sharon, Dave, Nicholas, Carolyn, Hillary, Ralph, Thyra, Sandra.

TODAY'S READINGS

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 - First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24.36-44

UPCOMING READINGS

December 7, 2025 - Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11.1-10; Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19; Romans 15.4-13; Matthew 3.1-12

December 14, 2025 - Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

Isaiah 35.1-10; Canticle 18a (Luke 1.46-55); James 5.7-10; Matthew 11.2-11

OFFERINGS

We are grateful for your ongoing support of our parish's congregations.

Donations can always be placed on the offering plates located at the back of the church, or can be given during the offertory in congregations where an offering plate is passed. To learn more about Pre-Authorized Remittances (PAR), options for e-transfer, or how to donate online with credit card through *Canada Helps* or [Tithe.ly](https://www.valleyanglicans.ca/tithe), please visit our website: www.ValleyAnglicans.ca

*This Valley Bulletin is offered to the greater glory of God
by Linda & Sam Sutton
in celebration of Gloria Gignac's very special birthday.*

SERVICES IN THE PARISH OF THE VALLEY

Sunday, December 7th, 2025

8 & 10am - Holy Trinity Pembroke (Christmas Pageant at 10 am)

9am - St Anthony's Whitney

9am - Ascension Killaloe

9:30am - St George's South Alice

11am - St Paul's Cobden (Morning Prayer)

11am - St John's Eganville

11am - Epiphany Barry's Bay

11:15am - All Saints Petawawa

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Wednesday, December 10 at 10:30am - Riverview Heights (Pembroke)

Thursday, December 11 at 10:15am - Valley Manor (Barry's Bay)

NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The office at Aborn House will be closed to visitors while Gail is on holidays from Monday, November 24 to Friday, November 28, and Monday, December 1 to Friday, December 5. The office voicemail and email will be checked periodically during the time that the office is closed.

The **Celebration of Light** at St. John's Eganville is this afternoon at 3pm. Please join in this traditional choral evensong with prayers of remembrance. All are welcome!

This Advent, step out of the hustle and bustle and into a quiet space for **Advent Taizé**, a time of evening prayer, Taizé music and candlelit worship. Beginning Wednesday, November 26th and continuing on December 3, 10, and 17 at 4pm at Holy Trinity Pembroke. It will also be simultaneously live-streamed for those who would prefer to join in from home.

Our next Parish of the Valley **Messy Church** will be held on Friday, December 5th at St. George's South Alice (2968 Doran Road). Families of all shapes and sizes are invited to gather beginning at 4pm, with kid friendly Advent activities getting underway at 4:30pm. We will wrap up by 6:30pm. Supper is provided and all are welcome!

Holy Trinity Pembroke's annual **Joyous Prelude to Christmas** concert will be held on Sunday, December 7th at 3pm. Admission is by free-will donation at the door.

The YoYo Mamas annual Christmas Concert of toe-tapping fiddle music will be Wednesday, December 17 at Epiphany Barry's Bay. There will be two concerts: a 3pm Matinee and 7pm Evening. Tickets are free, but seating is limited. Please reserve your free ticket from any one of the YoYo Mamas or by contacting Pia-Leena Voorand at piaatthelake@gmail.com or 613-633-9361. A freewill donation will be received at the door.

Looking for a pause for **reflection and spiritual refreshment** in the middle of your week? Join the Parish of the Valley each **Wednesday at 10am for a said service of Holy Eucharist** at Holy Trinity, Pembroke.

The St. Francis Valley Healthcare Foundation's ***Tree of Lights Campaign*** to help purchase essential equipment for St. Francis Memorial Hospital's medical unit in Barry's Bay has begun. Visit the Foundation at 7 St. Francis Memorial Drive, online at www.sfvhfoundation.com, or call 613-756-3045 ext. 217 to donate.

CLERGY TEAM

Contact Information

The Rev. Matthew Brown (613-732-4658)

The Rev. Gillian Hoyer (613-687-9123)

The Rev. Nicholas Forte (613-629-9498)

The Rev. Christine Muisse (613-883-8402)

Cover: *In Darkness* by Dr. Wendy Longo, n.d.

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