

I Was Thinking..... December 14, 2025



As we mark the familiar rhythm of the joyous Advent season, we look to the close of 2025 and towards the fresh new year of 2026! Together we have been able to accomplish many things over this past year and there is so much for us to be grateful to God for!

Our joint Christmas Eve service with Holy Eucharist will be at St. James at 7pm on December 24. St. James is preparing some refreshments to share with everyone at the back of the church before the service, so please come a little early and enjoy! If you are in need of a ride to St. James, please speak to one of your wardens as soon as possible so that we can assist. Alternatively, St. George's is having a family Eucharist at 2pm on Christmas Eve and we are most welcomed to attend there if you prefer not to drive in the dark.

St. Bee's will be holding an evening prayer service with some lessons and carols next Sunday, December 21, at 7pm. Everyone is welcome! This will be in place of their regular morning prayer service on that day.

St. George's has also invited us to their annual Lessons and Carols service on December 28 at 10am and so our ACPC churches will be closed on that day. Our LLMs will be taking part in the service, and this is something that we have enjoyed in the past. In return, ACPC will be hosting our annual Memorial Hymn Sing after Easter and St. George's will be joining us for that joint service.

Our postulant, Deborah Beck, is continuing her training towards ordination and is doing a placement from now until Easter at St. George's. This gives her an opportunity to continue to develop her skills and knowledge in a different setting and to study under Reverend Jeannie Hunter. While we will miss Deborah over the coming months, we wish her every blessing!

Some of you will also know that I am retiring from ministry on Easter Sunday. That will mark about 18.5 years of ordained ministry and it feels like the right time to make this transition towards more time with grandchildren. Your Councils and I will continue to work with the Bishop and her staff over the coming weeks to determine the best next steps for ACPC. In the meantime, I will also continue to work with LLMs and other lay people to build up skills around doing Home Communion, preaching, and other aspects of our shared Christian life.

May God bless us, strengthen us, and give us a sense of peace as we set about doing His will. Wishing you and your families every blessing for a very special Christmas season!

- Reverend Joanne, Deacon Administrator -