

The Right Reverend Mary Irwin-Gibson Bishop of Montreal bishops.office@montreal.anglican.ca

October 14, 2020

Dear Wardens of the Churches of Frelighsburg, Stanbridge East, Pigeon Hill and Stanbury,

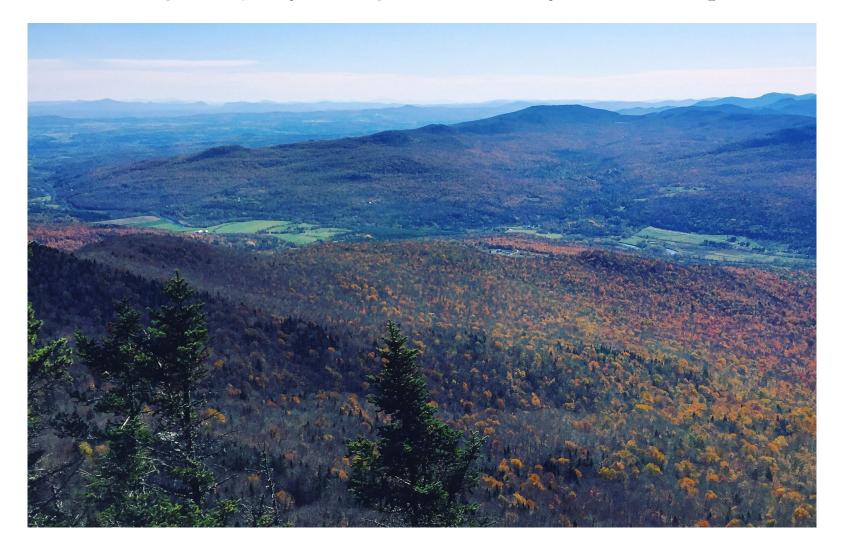
I am writing to inform you that I have appointed The Reverend Marc-Philippe Vincent as Associate Priest, non-stipendiary, of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Montreal, effective November 1, 2020. I thank Fr. Marc-Philippe for his generous gift of weekend service as priest in charge of your parish for the last 10 years, and I look forward to your discernment of what direction God is calling you to next.

I would be grateful if you could share this message with the parish at all services on Sunday, October 18th, or by email if you find that more convenient. Archdeacon Tim Smart will be in touch with you in the near future to discuss the transition process.

Every blessing,

+ Mary Montreal

A Digital Project of the Regional Ministries of Brome-Missisquoi & Châteauguay



A Service of Morning Prayer for The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (18 October)

A Prayer for Community

Once again, we enter into a virtual gathering place. We worship together in spirit and in truth, though not in person. We pray, sing, and listen to God's Word despite all the fear and darkness that continues to pervade our world. God is with us. The Holy Spirit is among us, blowing with a wind of hope and renewal. Christ is present in our midst.



#385: O Worship the Lord

1. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,

bow down before him, his glory proclaim; with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness,

bring, and adore him the Lord is his Name.

- 2. Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness, high on his heart he will bear it for thee, comfort thy sorrows and answer thy prayerfulness, guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.
- 3. Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness of the poor wealth thou canst reckon as thine; truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

- 4. These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness, he will accept for the Name that is dear; mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness, trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.
- 5. O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, bow down before him, his glory proclaim; with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness, bring, and adore him the Lord is his Name.

Territorial Acknowledgment

In this holy time and place, we acknowledge with respect that we gather on the traditional, ancestral territories of the Abanaki and Mohawk first peoples.

May the living Christ lead us all on pathways of reconciliation and peace.

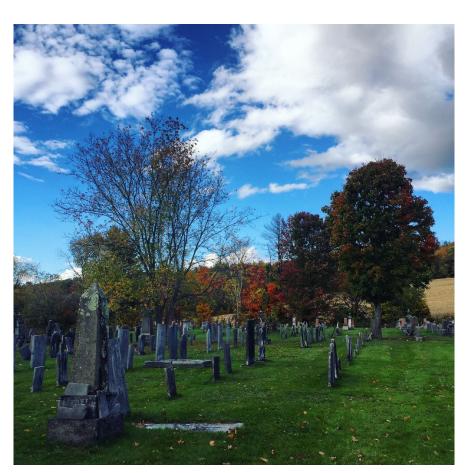


Confession & Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by God's infinite goodness and mercy:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

May Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.



Opening Responses

Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall

proclaim your praise.

Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word, and Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.

Amen.

The Lord is our refuge and strength:

O, come let us worship.



The Venite (Tune: Old 100th)

Come, let us sing to God on high,
The Rock of our salvation praise;
Come with thanksgiving
to God's courts
And joyful psalms before Him raise.

For God is Lord above all gods,
The heights and depths are
in His hand;
God made the sea and it is His,
God's hands have molded
the dry land.

Let us bow down and worship God Who is our maker and our Lord; We are God's people and His sheep; Today, then, hearken to God's Word.



Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him — and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.





Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; tell out his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations, and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

*Refrain.

For all the gods of the nations are but idols; it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Honour and majesty are before him; power and splendour are in his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

Refrain.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead--Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.



#383: Jesus Shall Reign

- 1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Doth its successive journeys run, his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song, and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

- 3. Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains, the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
- 4. Let every creature rise and bring the peculiar honours to our King, angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen.

Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.



1st century Roman coin bearing the face of Emperor Augustus

The Sermon

Father Marc-Phillipe Vincent



Confession of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God, singing...

- 1. We believe in God the Father, God Almighty by whose plan, earth and heaven sprang to being, all created things began. We believe in Christ the Saviour, Son of God in human frame, virgin-born, the child of Mary, upon whom the Spirit came.
- 2. Christ, who on the cross forsaken, like a lamb to slaughter led, suffered under Pontius Pilate, he descended to the dead. We believe in Jesus risen, heaven's king to rule and reign, to the Father's side ascended 'till as judge he comes again.
- 3. We believe in God the Spirit; in one Church, below, above: Saints of God in one communion, one in holiness and love. So by faith, our sins forgiven, Christ our Saviour, Lord, and friend, we shall rise with him in glory to the life that knows no end.

Prayers of the People

Led by Pam Dillion

(St. James the Apostle, Stanbridge East)



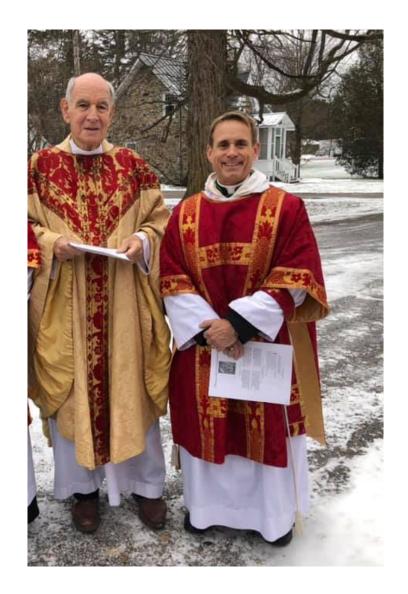
Thanksgiving for Ministry

God of the seasons, you formed us in your image and call us to be your people. We give you thanks for you constant presence. In constancy and change, you are with us – calling us into deeper waters, calling us together in your spirit of unity, calling us out of ourselves into the world to serve others.

We follow wherever your Holy Spirit leads us. God, we give you thanks for the 10 years of dedicated ministry in the parishes of Stanbridge East, Frelighsburg, Pigeon Hill, and Stanbury by Father Marc-Philippe, for the lives touched and faith increased. We pray that the church that now receives him may be a community abounding in your love and grace. Be with Marc-Philippe on his new journey.

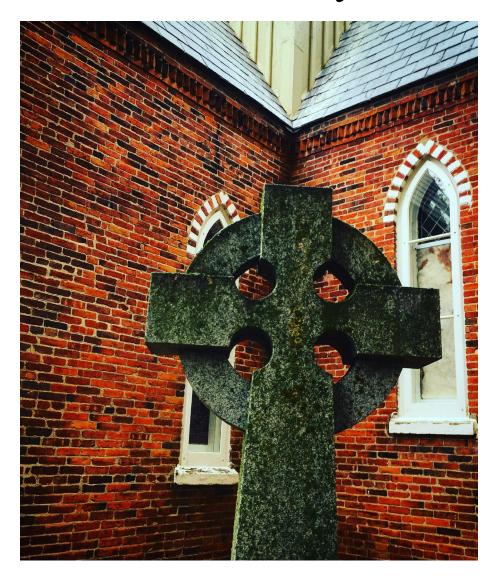
And we pray for the churches of Stanbridge East, Frelighsburg, Pigeon Hill, and Stanbury, in this holy time of transition. Strengthen us to be your Church in all times and seasons of life. Inspire us to be a place where all are truly welcomed in your name; a place where we take up the real work of your Kingdom; a place where the story of your love is embodied in all that we do. Set our hearts on fire to serve you in this place.

We offer our prayers in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.



The Collect of the Day

O God, whose image we bear on our hearts, and whose name we carry wherever we go, recall us to our true allegiance, so that above the powers and rulers of this world, you alone alone may claim our loyalty and love. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.



The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Notre Père, qui es aux cieux, que ton nom soit sanctifié, que ton règne vienne, que ta volonté soit faite sur la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain de ce jour. Pardonne-nous nos offenses, comme nous pardonnons aussi à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous laisse pas entrer en tentation mais délivre-nous du mal. Car c'est à Toi qu'appartiennent le règne, la puissance et la gloire, pour les siècles des siècles. Amen.

#490: God of All Being

- 1. God of all being, throned afar, thy glory flames from sun and star; centre and soul of every sphere, yet to each loving heart how near!
- 2. Sun of our life, thy quickening ray sheds on our path the glow of day;
 Star of our hope, thy softened light cheers the long watches of the night.
- 3. Source of all life, below, above, whose light is truth, whose warmth is love, before thy ever-blazing throne we ask no lustre of our own.
- 4. Grant us thy truth to make us free, and kindling hearts that burn for thee, till all thy living altars claim one holy light, one heavenly flame.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God, strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

