

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the Ministers and Stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our Judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison): God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophets call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember): Trevor Burry, Thomas & Elizabeth Bursey, Bernice Butler, Wanda Butler, and Milton & Mary Carlson, and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the work of the Mothers' Union around the world – Sheran Harper, Worldwide President; Bev Jullien, Chief Executive.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Western Newfoundland Synod Office – Rt. Rev. John Organ, Ven. David Taylor, Ms. Susan Curtis and Mr. Malcolm Turner, Executive Director, Killdevil Camp & Conference Centre.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Primate: Archbishop Linda Nicholls

Metropolitan: Archbishop Ron Cutler

Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Bishop: The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle

Anglican Church of St. Philip

Rector: Rev. Randy Lockyer

(Cell) 290-1092

(Church) 895-0715

Deacon: The Rev. Edgar Bonnell

Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse

The Rev. Canon Don Morgan The Rev. Russell Osmond



Website: www.anglicanparishofstphilip.com

Rector's Warden – Harvey Hiscock - 895-2011

People's Warden – Gary King- 895-6239

December 8th, 2019 (Year A)

A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS WHO ARE WITH US TODAY. WE HOPE THAT GOD WILL BLESS US AS WE WORSHIP HIM HERE TOGETHER AT ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH.

From the Rector's desk:

Today is the second Sunday of Advent, and, we are rapidly moving toward Christmas. Advent is all about expectation and preparation, as we excitedly anticipate the celebration of the birth of our savior. The birth of Jesus was not a haphazard event in a specific period of history; in fact it was prophesied more than eight centuries before Jesus was born. The first reading today (Is. 11:1-10) clearly speaks of the coming of One like no other before or since in human history, pointing to Jesus. Psalm 72 also points to the coming of a saviour, one that would radically change the world for the better and reveal the glory of God. The reading from Romans speaks of one that would welcome all people, both Jew and gentile alike, encouraging all people to live in harmony and to be at peace. Matthew 3 speaks about John the Baptist going ahead to prepare the way for Jesus, by baptizing the people, challenging the authorities in the name of justice, and proclaiming Jesus as the Messiah. There is clear evidence that human history was (and is) working itself out according to a plan that God has for his people. Our lives are not accidental or incidental, God has a plan for each one of us, and that plan was in the mind of God long before we even came into existence. In the current societal climate, both, culturally, politically and spiritually, we may well be challenged like no other time in history to find what is the will of God for our lives. I believe the purpose of the church today, as much as anything else, is to help us find our way in a difficult world. In these days of division, worldliness and consumerism, the Church too is challenged to find ways to remain relevant and effective in leading God's people along roads of righteousness. If John the Baptist was around today

I wonder what he would say to us as individual Christians and as the collective Church? But then again, he is around, for we have his eternal words in the gospel today – *Repent...for the kingdom of heaven has come near...I baptize you with water for repentance...but a much greater one is coming that will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.* Advent is a time for us to lay aside the things that divide us and to cling to and reaffirm the things that draw us together as the people of God. There are approximately 33,000 Christian denominations and sects in the world today, clear evidence of a fractured body of Christ, such disunity must grieve the heart of God. Advent is a time for us to pray for peace and unity – in our world, in our country, in our communities, in our homes and in our hearts and lives. We prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus, but Advent also reminds us that Christ will come again. When he comes again, what will he see in the Church, how will he see us, will we be found in a state of preparedness to welcome him? Advent tells us to live our lives in this world in a way that reflects the glory of God each day and each hour of each day, for we know not when he will come again. But then again, he comes to us each day already, by the Holy Spirit he is present to us and already aware of who we are and what we are. May our lives be lived in such a way that is pleasing to him, for, by virtue of our baptism we have his stamp upon us, we are his and he is ours. May this Advent see us, in our lives and in our church, bringing honour and glory to Jesus the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Amen!

(Rev. Randy)

Today's Bulletin

**is Given to the
Glory of God and**

In Loving Memory of:

Wilmeth Collis

April 26, 1931 – November 6, 2000

&

Edwin Collis

December 8, 1930 – March 28, 2015

Forever Remembered by:

Debbie, Marie, Randy & Nicole

And

Leslie McDonald

Given by

Cindy Leroux & Mary-Lou Quilty

Dismissal Song

Go now in peace; never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true. Know he will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

The Scriptural Sentence for our worship
today as appointed in our BAS Lectionary

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Prepare the way of the Lord, make his path straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

2nd of Advent – Dec. 8th.

8:30 am – Holy Communion (BCP)

Eucharistic Assistant – Dave Bartlett

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Eucharistic Assistants – Harve Hiscock & Marianne Baker

Counters: Susan Powell & Karen Puglisecvich

Sidesperson: John Parrell

Alter Duty: Jeanette Osmond, Phoebe Parrell & Joan Osmond

3rd of Advent – Dec. 15th.

8:30 am – Holy Communion (BCP)

Eucharistic Assistant – Todd Martin

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Eucharistic Assistants – Carol Bartlett & Lori Gosse

Counters: John Parrell & Gloria Earle

Sidesperson: Canon Don Morgan

Alter Duty: Jeanette Osmond, Phoebe Parrell & Joan Osmond

**The Collect, Epistle
and Gospel for
Today – 2nd of Advent**

**1st Reading:
Isaiah 11: 1-10**

**Psalms 72: 1-7 and 18-19
Pages: 797-798**

(Jeanette Osmond)

**2nd Reading:
Romans 15: 4-13**

(Canon Don Morgan)

**Gospel
Matthew 3: 1-12**

(Deacon Bonnell)

NOTICES

Dec. 8 - Coffee & Refreshment hour in the foyer. Lisa Lake, with the help of our young people began hosting a coffee/fellowship time in the foyer prior to the 10:30 am service on the first Sunday of each month. But, because we had so much going on last week that involved food, Lisa decided to do the coffee hour today.

Dec. 12 – St. Philip’s ACM will be holding it’s Christmas Dinner on Thursday, Dec. 12th. at 6 PM in the parish hall. This will be a salmon dinner and all men are invited to attend. Please reply by Tuesday, Dec. 10th by calling Gary King at 691-3902. There is no cost for the dinner but donations are welcome.

Dec. 17 - Christmas Tree of Remembrance will again take place this year. We will gather around the Christmas tree (outside the church doors) on **Tuesday, December 17th** at 7:00 pm. Rev. Randy will read out the names of loved ones in whose memory the tree is lit, say a special prayer and officially light the tree, which will remain lit throughout the Christmas season. The proper forms are available but should be returned no later than Sunday, December 15th.

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve services will be held on Tuesday, December 24th at **4:00 pm** (family worship with abbreviated form of Holy Eucharist) and **7:30 pm** (Holy Eucharist).

Jan. 12 - The next service of baptism will be held on January 12th. Anyone desiring to have their children baptized should speak to Rev. Randy in advance of this date.

Best Wishes to: Canon Don Morgan on the 58th anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood.

Memorial bulletin forms are available in the rack in the foyer for anyone wanting to place the bulletin in memory of loved ones. The forms are in the envelope, simply fill in the information, enclose your donation and drop it into the offering plate or bring it to the parish office.

As we draw near to Christmas we look forward to the participation of our children at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve family service. This year our Sunday School is considerably understaffed so anything our parents can do to help and support the upcoming Christmas service please let the Sunday School leaders know.

Welcome to Advent! For the next 2 Sundays we will be counting down the Sundays of Advent in preparation for the great celebration of Christmas. Each Sunday of Advent has a theme (Hope, Peace, Joy & Love), and, today we light our Advent wreath to be reminded that PEACE is so important for us to have in our world today. We must never give hope, especially the hope that Jesus came into the world to give us.

Our Sunday School/youth leaders have begun to prepare for the Christmas Eve Family service. We have only 3 weeks to get ready, and we want all our children and youth to get involved. We will need to get in several practices so we want everyone to try to be at church every Sunday for the next 2 weeks. We look forward to another beautiful Christmas Eve service but we can only succeed in doing so if we have participation from as many as possible. If you have not already contacted Lisa (Lake) please do so right away so she can add the names to her list.

Notes

Rev. Randy wishes to thank all those who participated in and attended his Induction service last Sunday evening, and those who supplied food for the reception that followed.

Anglican Life Subscription must be renewed immediately if you would like to continue receiving the magazine into the new year. For a good many months now we have been reminded to renew membership by mail, email or by calling the toll free number. Unless you do this immediately you will not receive the paper in January, which also includes the national church paper (The Journal). As well, if you have not been receiving the subscription but would like to, please let them know. There are no subscription rates but annual donations are encouraged. Please see the subscription renewal information on the back of your December edition and act immediately to keep your paper coming.

The 2020 Church Envelopes are now available! They are located in the foyer so we encourage you to take them. If you are a 2019 contributor your name will already be on the box. If your name is not there and you wish to have a box of envelopes please speak to Rev. Randy or call our Envelope Secretary, Charlie Gosse at 895-0585 and you will receive them immediately.

Many people are signed up with our Direct Giving Plan, which enables them to make direct offerings through their banking institution on a bi-weekly or monthly basis. That means that if you are away your church is still receiving your regular offerings, which ensures the parish is able to meet its monthly financial commitments. Forms for this is available from the parish office.

2020 Church Calendars are now available at a cost of \$5.00 We have a very limited number so they will be sold on a first-come basis. They can be purchased through the parish office.

We have only one month left to meet our parish financial budget so we remind everyone of the importance of getting our church offerings for 2019 in before the end of December. In this critical time where many of our parishes in this diocese are struggling to survive we must ensure we remain strong and vibrant into the future, but to do this we need the full support of all our parish church family. Please help us to, not only meet our financial goals for 2019 but to even exceed them!

This year we will be starting a Youth Group that will meet certain Sundays at 10:30 am. This is a great time for our young people, aged 12 - 16 to come and take part in various roles with-in the church. We will meet and plan activities and projects All are welcome! We are desperately looking for volunteers for our children and youth programs. If you are interested, please let me know. You do not have to commit for every week!! (Lisa Lake)

Coastal Sounds Choir Association is proud to present its 12th Annual Holiday Concert featuring Aurora Women's Choir, Coastal Sounds Community Choir, Queen Elizabeth High School Choir, and a presentation of the 7th Annual Christmas Cantata Project with massed choir and orchestra. Wed, **Dec. 18, 7:30pm**, All Saints Parish, Foxtrap. Tickets \$18/\$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Children 12 & under free. Get yours at www.coastalsounds.ca, via Facebook, from a choir member, or leave a message at 770-6927 to arrange pick-up. Food Bank donations are greatly appreciated. A scent-free event.

Rev. Randy's bible study (Coffee & Parables) will recess until after Christmas, at which time we will pick up with the parable of The Good Samaritan. All are welcome to attend.

Dec. 12 - Join Ian Foster and Nancy Hynes for their return Christmas concert to St. Mark's Anglican Church in St. John's Thursday December 12, 7:30 pm (doors open at 7:00 pm). There'll be new songs and some fun surprises for the show this year, along with tracks from their holiday album 'A Week in December. Tickets on sale now at - <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/christmas-with-ian-foster-and-nancy-hynes-st-marks-anglican-church-tickets-75493189161>, through www.ianfoster.ca/shows, and at the church office at 203 Logy Bay Rd. (709) 726-3213. Children ages 12 and under are free. Doors at 7pm. This concert is in support of Home Again Furniture Bank.

Dec. 14 - Join the CLB Regimental Band on Saturday, Dec. 14th at 2pm for the annual Christmas Sing-Along at the CLB Armoury! The band will be playing Christmas Carols and many other holiday favourites. There may even be an appearance by a jolly special guest dressed in red! Admission is free but donations for the Happy Tree are greatly appreciated. Monetary donations and children's Christmas gifts will be accepted. Donations of non-perishable food items will also be accepted for local food banks. We hope to see you there!

DIOCESAN RESOURCE CENTRE Cordially invites you to a DECEMBER CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE ALL CHRISTMAS STOCK 40% - 60% off Saturday, December 14th 10:00am-5:00pm 19 King's Bridge Road, St. John's, NL 709 576-6051

Mr James Parsons, owner of Landings Restaurant plans to host a free Christmas dinner on Christmas day at 1:00 pm for anyone that may not be having Christmas dinner with family that day. There may be various reasons why someone is spending Christmas alone – no family around – loss of loved ones – financial stress, etc. If you have no plans for Christmas dinner but would like to come out and join in with others on this festive day please let Rev. Randy know and he will pass along the names to Jim. We commend Mr. Parsons for thinking of those who live alone or are in need and giving of his time (and those who will help him) to host this free Christmas dinner.

Church Chuckle

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but how easy it is to chat with a friend!



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Prayerfully consider your Parish in your Estate planning.

Stewardship thought for the Week

He that gives all, though but little, gives much; because God looks not to the quantity of the gift, but to the quality of the givers!

Yearly Budget for Envelope Giving for 2019 - \$97,000.00	
Needed Monthly - \$ 8,741.67	
Needed Weekly - \$ 2,108.00	
Rec'd Dec. 1 st	
Regular Giving	\$ 1,305.00
Maintenance	\$ 255.00
Rec'd Year to Date	
Regular Giving	\$ 74,125.06
Maintenance	\$ 10,622.10
Total Brought in for Dec. 1 st .	\$ 2,681.24