

Dec. 4th

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 our 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 prophet’s 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: Derek & Barbara Skinner, Ruby Skinner, Eddy Cynthia & Trevor Slade, Derek & Jean Smith, Kerri Smith and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Diocese of Western Newfoundland and Labrador, Bishop John Organ and Synod Office personnel.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Fredericton, Archbishop David Edwards – Bishop of Fredericton & Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

Dec. 11th

Collect for the Day: (In Unison) – God of power and mercy you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) - God of hope renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison) - Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and forever. Amen.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families – this week we remember: Steve & Stephanie Smith, Darryl & Michelle Snow, David Ryan & Fern Somerton, Dona Spurrell, Glen & Lisa Spurrell and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for The Anglican Church of Kenya.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Diocese of Western Newfoundland and Labrador, Bishop John Organ and Synod Office personnel.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Fredericton, Archbishop David Edwards – Bishop of Fredericton and Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Primate: Archbishop Linda Nicholls

Metropolitan: Archbishop David Edwards

Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Bishop – The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Anglican Church of St. Philip

Rector: Rev. Randy Lockyer

(Cell) 693-8537 / (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 – Gloria Earle – 895-3404

People’s Warden – Gary King- 895-6239

Dec. 4th and Dec. 11th, 2022 (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: As I reflect today (Nov. 30th), we are about to embrace the second Sunday of Advent, which will be the middle of the Advent season. Advent is a time for us to think about the birth of Jesus into the world as a baby over 2000 years ago; however, Advent is about much more than reminiscing about an event that happened a long time ago. Advent is also a reminder for us to be awake, to be alert, to live our lives in a mode of anticipation of what is to come. Jesus promised that at some point in the future he would return again. So, Advent is a time to be reminded of Jesus' birth into the world, but also to look forward to that day when he will return again in great glory and triumph to judge the world and to redeem his people. As we heard from the gospel of Matthew last Sunday (Advent 1), *about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only God. Two will be in the field, one will be taken and one left, two women will be grinding meal together, one will be taken the other left...keep awake therefore, for you do not know which day the Lord is coming...therefore you must be ready for the son of man is coming at an unexpected hour.* The second Sunday of Advent will include another gospel reading from Matthew recounting the story of John the Baptist going ahead of Jesus to prepare the people for his coming into the world, and challenging them to change their ways so as to be found acceptable to the Lord when he comes. God had grown tired of sending the Old Testament prophets to teach them the ways of justice and righteousness, only for the prophets to be met with rejection, ridicule, violence and death. Now God was coming directly in the form of Jesus Christ (Incarnation) to live among us as one of us, to show us the way to live. I'm sure you all remember hearing people on television purporting to know the date for the second coming of Jesus, to get ready because he is returning on such a date. I remember a lot of that kind of stuff circulating around our small community from time to time, often embraced by some of the more evangelical church membership, and it had the affect of instilling fear into some people, to the point that they would rush to the altar to get "saved", sometimes to relinquish their

newfound faith once the announced date of doom had passed. It is never God's intent to bring us to faith by fear and impending doom. The Advent season resonates joy and anticipation, because it tells a beautiful story of God's love for humanity, and God's profound desire that we come to faith, so that we can experience all the good things that come from living in the joy of the Lord. Predictions over the last 2000 years about the end of the world has never been more than foolishness, because as we read earlier, *about that day or hour no one knows...only God.* To put forward these kinds of claims is contrary to scripture, and does not proclaim a God of love but rather a God of doom and gloom, which God is not. We each have a life to live in this world, whether it be long or short, and in the course of time it comes to a close, so, in a sense that represents the end of this world for us when that time comes. Instead of dwelling on the end of the world, let us dwell on God, who loves us with an infinite love, and spared nothing to redeem us, even by sending God's only son, Jesus Christ, to lead us. I remember seeing a cartoon recently that showed two characters sitting on the end of dock, with their legs hanging over, presumably having a conversation about life and death, one says *well, you only live once*, the other one sees it from a different perspective and replies, *no you're wrong, we die once, but we live every day.* Advent and Christmas are about light and love and life. It is an opportunity for humanity to be reminded once more of God's deep desire for us to live in the world. I think we live in a very critical time in history, there is a lot amuck in our world, and God is calling us as individuals of faith, and collectively as the Church to pull together, so that we can be all that God wants us to be in our calling to be bearers of light, love and hope in this dark world. I hope you can join us each week for our Advent journey, and for the great celebration of Christmas.

Rev. Randy

Our Parish Vestry is engaged in the area of Mission. In accordance with diocesan direction, we want to look at ways in which we can ensure our parish remains viable and sustainable well into the future. We hope to be able to focus on some areas of parish life that we can strengthen and enhance. In accordance with our parish mission statement, we want to also look at ways we can be the church to the wider community. The mission of our parish is of importance to all of us, so we want to hear from any of our parishioners that might have ideas to share, that will grow our parish and enable us to do effective ministry in the church and in the community. If you have ideas to pass along to us, simply write them down and pass them along.

St. Philip's Mission Statement: God's people in the parish of St. Philip, in a covenant relationship with God, through baptism, are called:

- To be fishers of people, in response to the call of Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- To be a House of Prayer.
- To be a Centre for Christian Teaching.
- To be Disciples in Learning.
- To be a fellowship of Loving and Sacrificial Service.
- To be witnesses to our Lord's love through word and example.

Dismissal Songs

"Let There Be Love"

*Let there be love shared among us,
let there be love in our eyes;
may now your love
sweep this nation,
cause us, Oh Lord
to arise;
Give us a fresh understanding,
of Christian love that is real;
let there be love shared among us,
let there be love.*

"May God's Blessing"

*May God's blessing
Surround you each day,
As you trust Him
and walk in his way.
May his presence within
Guard and keep you from sin,
go in peace,
go in joy,
go in love.*

There are still a few 2023 church calendars available. The cost is \$5.00 each.

There are still just a very few packs of Christmas cards available. The cost is \$10 for a pack of five.

4:00 PM Christmas Eve family service is being planned. We hope to include the children in an interactive narrated performance, in addition to an abbreviated form of Holy Eucharist. We also invite individuals, family members, to share their talent with us by performing a Christmas song and/or musical selection. If you would like to be included in the service please speak to the rector.

More children for the Christmas pageant are needed. We have a number of children already signed-up, however, we are looking to get as many as we can. If you have a child or a grandchild, nephew or niece, please speak to them about participating in this year's program. It's been three years now since we have been able to have a regular Christmas Eve service so we want to make it as lovely as we can.

Church flyer mailing. Rev. Randy has designed a church flyer, providing a brief history of the parish of St. Philip's, bright picture of the church, programs and ministries we offer, and a reminder that we are also a community church. We are also including our Christmas Eve services with an invitation to join us. This flyer will be delivered to every residential mailbox in St. Philip's (about 1367) through Canada Post. If anyone would like to contribute to the cost of printing and mailing those flyers, please speak to Rev. Randy. We hope to send them out in the early part of December.

As we near the end of another year we want to remind everyone that our parish books will close as of December 31st. Anyone with contributions they would like credited for 2022 must have them in by the end of December. We appreciate all our parish supporters and want you to know that we can only exist by your generous support.

If you would like to receive the rector's messages, bulletins and other parish information from time-to-time please provide him with your email address by contacting him at the following address: lockyerrandy@gmail.com

The 98.5 FM frequency is always in use whenever we are gathered for worship. If our numbers inside exceed the permitted numbers, there is still the ability to listen to the service through your car radio while in the parking lot of the church.

Bulletins will continue to be printed every second week for the foreseeable future. We do encourage parishioners to go online at: stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn to read the bulletins.

Now that our choir is up and going again we would love to welcome new members of all ages. It would be wonderful if we could have enough members to fill out the choir pews on both sides of the chancel. In addition to singing to the glory of God on Sunday morning it is also a time of fellowship and fun each week at practice.

The Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre is now available for rentals. If you would like to book the hall, or would like information about rental costs, please contact Donna or Janice Spurrell at 895-3581. Because of costs, earlier this year Vestry made a slight increase to rental rates. It was a very minimal increase and the facility is still the least costly venue in the town.

A message from our hospital chaplains – whenever you are admitted to one of our local hospitals, and would like to receive a visit from one of our Anglican chaplains, please register as "Anglican" and indicate at that time that you wish to see a chaplain during your stay. Unless you do this the chaplain may not know you are there.

A project to replace all the current lighting in the main part of the church building. Over the last couple of years, we have replaced much of the lighting in the building with less expensive and more efficient LED lighting. We were able to do this easily and at a nominal cost. We realize that much of our electrical costs annually comes from the lights we have in the nave and sanctuary of the church. As we look to the near future, when it is expected that electricity rates will increase significantly, we are looking for ways to reduce our consumption. The Anglican Church of Canada is also emphasizing our need to be ever more conscious of our responsibilities as good stewards of God's creation, and to do whatever we can to reduce our carbon footprint. At the moment vestry is interested in obtaining quotes from qualified electricians so as to get an idea of what the cost will be to transition to new and improved lighting. Once we are ready to proceed with the work, we hope the whole congregation will support the project financially.

We are working on re-covering some of our church seats with new material. Over the years some of the material covering our pews have become frayed and torn. We are in the process of covering some of them with new material, beginning with those in most need of repair. Thank you to Harvey & Ruth who have already started this work by doing the first two this past week.

Parish of the Ascension, 58 Smallwood Drive, Mt. Pearl

Country Christmas Concert, December 2, featuring musical entertainment by Ladylike, Darren Martin and The Ascension Choir. Tickets are \$25.

Breakfast with Santa, December 10 at 9 a.m. in the auditorium. Tickets are \$6 each.

Please contact the church office for tickets – 368-5693.

Cookies & Flowers: The Anglican Cathedral of St. John the Baptist has got your Christmas covered with two great fundraisers! **Cookies:** The Cathedral has partnered with Chatman's Bakery for a delicious fundraiser featuring over a dozen different cookie flavours. Choose a variety pack or pick your favourite cookie with varieties including peanut butter balls, brownies, date squares and more (pricing \$10 for a 16 piece pack). **Flowers:** Get ready for the Christmas season and beautify your home with poinsettias supplied by Rise & Shine Nursery! The poinsettias are 6" potted plants, and sell for \$25 each. For more information or to place your order contact the Cathedral office: 726-5677 or office@ourcathedral.ca. Deadline to order is November 25.

St. Philip's parish is set up to receive E-Transfers. These days many of us do online banking and send e-transfers, so this is another way to make your contribution to the parish. Simply go online and use the parish email address as follows: stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com and please enter your name and envelope number (if you have a number) into the message box. The parish will receive your offering instantly and a message will be sent to our treasurer and she will ensure the amount gets added to your envelope offerings for tax purposes. It's very easy and convenient.

Please check our parish Facebook page as well as our website for weekly updates. Any information we want to get out to our parishioners will be shared and please pass it along to others that may not be using this technology. www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

Our parish website can be accessed now through a **QR Code** (Quick Response Code). By scanning the code with your cell phone, tablet or some other compatible device you will immediately be taken to the parish website. We are also in the process of updating our website so it can be current. Here is the QR Code:



NOTICES/MEMORABLE DATES

Today, Sunday, December 4th is the last day to register for Confirmation in 2023. We currently have about 10 registered for Confirmation classes in preparation for the bishop's visit early in the New Year. If anyone else wishes to join with us they must do so today.

ACW Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 7th at 6:00 pm. The venue for the dinner this year is Swiss Chalet, 75 Kelsey Drive. This is open to all ladies of the congregation, and if you plan to attend, please advise our president, Betty Lewis by calling 8895-8855. Betty will need to give Swiss Chalet the number of people attending.

Parish forms and schedules will soon be available from the website. Very shortly all forms, such as memorial bulletins, flowers, Sidepersons schedule, Altar Guild schedule, cleaning schedule, readers schedule, counters schedule, etc. will be accessible from the parish website. We are currently reviewing and updating the parish website, so as to keep it relevant and up-to-date.

December 10th - Parish Social Night and Dance will be held on Saturday, December 10th at 8:00 pm. There will be a \$5.00 admission cost and each person will have to bring their own snacks and drinks. Gary King will be the DJ.

December 11th – Draw for Christmas Stocking. The ACW will be selling tickets on their annual Christmas stocking, which will be drawn for on December 11th. This is another major Christmas fundraiser and your support will be much appreciated.

December 15th - Our annual Christmas Tree lighting will take place on Thursday, December 15th. Donation sheets will be available in the near future. We will gather at 7:00 pm for the tree lighting followed by Christmas music, hot chocolate and Timbits in the parish centre. Sheets are now available at the back of the church. Please return them by Sunday, Dec. 11.

Christmas services this year will be as follows:
Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm Family worship (Pageant & Eucharist)
7:00 pm Holy Eucharist
11:00 pm Holy Eucharist
Christmas Day: 9:30 am Holy Eucharist (Please note that there will only be the one early service on Christmas morning)

***THE BULLETIN
FOR THE
WEEKS OF***

Dec. 4th and Dec. 11th

***IS GIVEN TO THE
GLORY OF GOD***

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Leslie McDonald

Dec. 12, 1936 – Dec. 2, 2011

*Given By: Wife Emily and Daughters
Cindy & Mary Lou*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:
*Husband William J. Clarke,
Granddaughter Billi Myers,
Mother-in-law Gladys Clarke,
Father-in-law Edgar Clarke,
Brother-in-law Edgar Clarke*

*Given By: Wife Martha and
Debbie & Family*



Dec. 4th

Second Sunday of Advent

Scriptural Sentence
(Page 269)

*Prepare the way of
the Lord, make his
paths straight. All
flesh shall see the
Salvation of God.*

1st Reading
Isaiah 11: 1-10

Psalm 72:
1-7, 18-19
Pages 797-798

(Ches or Ethel Barfitt)

2nd Reading
Romans 15: 4-13

(Gary King)

Gospel
Matthew 3: 1-12

(Deacon Bonnell)

Dec. 11th

Third Sunday of Advent

Scriptural Sentence
(Page 270)

*The spirit of the
Lord God is upon
me, because the
Lord has anointed
me to bring good
tidings to the
afflicted.*

1st Reading
Isaiah 35: 1-10

Psalm 146
5-10
Page 905

(Canon Don Morgan)

2nd Reading
James 5: 7-10

(Dr. Greg Brown)

Gospel
Matthew 11:
2-11

(Deacon Bonnell)