

Jan. 22nd

Collect for the Day: (In Unison) – Almighty God, by the preaching of your servant Paul you caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world. May we who celebrate his wonderful conversion follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) – Almighty God, as we celebrate this holy eucharist, may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison) – Gracious God, you filled your apostle Paul with love for all the churches. May the sacrament we have received foster love and unity among your people. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families – this week we remember: Edna Strowbridge, Gary Sullivan (Judy Spurrell), Thelma Sullivan, Laura & Wilbert Taylor, Rick and Linda Thomas, George Tilley, Abner & Fanny Tucker and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for The Church of North India.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Bay L'Argent (6 congregations) and the clergy of the Burin Deanery; the Parish of Bay of Islands (2 congregations), Priest-in-Charge the Rev. Effie Organ; the Parish of Bay Roberts/Coley's Point (2 congregations), Rector – the Rev. Canon Christine Lynch.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the diocese of Montreal, the Rt Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson (Bishop), the Ven. Robert Camoran, Executive Archdeacon & Vicar General, and all the synod office staff.

Jan. 29th

Collect for the Day: (In Unison) – Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) – God of steadfast love, may our offering this day, by the power of your Holy Spirit, renew us for your service. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison). Source of all goodness, in this eucharist we are nourished by the bread of heaven and invigorated with new wine. May these gifts renew our lives, that we may show your glory to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families – Brian & Pauline Tucker, Carol Ann Tucker, Darlene Joyce Tucker, Denise Tucker, Edmund M. Tucker and their families.

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

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of St. George (4 congregations), Priest-in-Charge – The Rev. Norman Cutler; the Parish of Belleoram (4 congregations), Rector – the Rev. Tryphena Vallis; the Parish of Bell Island (Shared Ministry – St. Lawrence/Pouch Cove), Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. Wayne Parsons.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for Bishop John Watton, Archdeacon Terry Caines and synod office staff in Central Diocese.

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

Jan. 22nd and Jan. 29th, 2023 (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:

In a fast-paced world, such as we live in today, it's sometimes not easy to find the time to sit quietly in prayer and reflection. Our lives are very busy, the lives of our children are very busy, we are constantly moving from one thing to another, from one place to another, and sometimes we get overwhelmed with schedules and expectations, which leaves us too drained and tired to find time to spend with God. As a child, I remember older people around me, especially those retired, lamenting that *the days seem so long*; it has been many years now since I have heard anyone complain about time being long, even those who are no longer actively mobile. Even in our homes there are so many things to take up our time – computers, cell phones, television, movie channels, Facebook and other social media outlets, and so much more. While it is wonderful to have all these things to keep us active, we must ask ourselves – *where is the line between what is healthy and what consumes too much of our time and energy?* Growing up in a small outport community, we were later seeing the advent of cable television than more urban communities. Back then we had tv antennas placed on the roof, or, in some cases placed higher up the hills with wires leading back to the homes, just to get one channel, that being CBC. Then we got cable television, and everyone was so excited to have several channels to jump between, shortly after VCRs and small video store outlets appeared, and everyone rented movies and stayed home. When these things came along there was a noticeable decline in church attendance, because it was difficult to find that fine line between what was good for us and what was not. Even us children no longer socialized and played outdoors as we always did before. Then along came video games, computers, cell phones, social media, and all the modern technology we have today. All good things no doubt, but again the line gets fuzzy and it's hard to distinguish between what is helpful and what is not.

Those of us raising young people today know the challenges we face with technology. I slowly embrace the technology, while at the same time wouldn't trade my childhood of simplicity for it. My children would beg to differ because they were born into the more technologically advanced world, and the simple living of the 60's and 70's would not appeal to them at all. It certainly is a very different world we live in, and the question remains – *how do we find the time we need to connect with God on both a personal and corporate level?* How do we avoid becoming slaves to the very technology designed to make our lives easier? Where is that delicate balance in life?

I think one of the ways we try to be true to God is by making a point of always being thankful for God's blessings, and, yes, that includes all the technology we have at our fingertips. If we can find the time to be thankful, then we have a better opportunity to find the time to live out our thanksgiving in tangible ways. In the book of Genesis (12), I am reminded of this verse - "I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others." God promised to bless Abram richly, turning his descendants into a great nation and giving him great honor. Yet Abram's benefit is not the end of God's purpose. God will bless him so that he might be "a blessing to others." In fact, the next verse adds: "All the families on earth will be blessed through you." God chose Abram, and through him a people, in order to bless all nations. We who stand in Abram/Abraham's lineage by faith have also been richly blessed by God. And we also have been called to share this blessing with others, to give away generously the grace that God has showered upon us. Let us ask ourselves this question - How has God blessed you? How are you using this blessing for others? Is there a way you might bless someone this very day with that which God has given to you?

Rev. Randy

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.

More help is needed with the ACM recycling program. Did you know that over the many years our ACM has been collecting recyclables they have brought over \$250,000 into the parish? Each week the recyclables are picked up from designated drop off bins in town, taken to the sorting and counting location, and counted and bagged on Monday nights. Once there is enough collected, they are taken to the recycling depot in St. John's. There is a need for more help in doing this work. If you would like to be part of this very important work, and can spare a couple of hours on Monday nights, please speak to Gary King or John Parrell.

Envelope drop-off box in the foyer. The box formerly used to collect Canadian Tire money, has now been repurposed to receive weekly envelopes. This box is accessible most days of the week (Monday – Friday) in the afternoons, when the main doors are open. If you have church envelopes to drop off to the church during the week, and the office is not open, please drop them into the box next to the nursery room door. This box will be checked at the end of each day and any envelopes inside will be transferred to the office safe until monies are counted on Sundays.

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.*

More help is needed on the altar & cleaning Guild schedule. If you would like to help out with the cleaning of the church by being placed on a schedule it would be really appreciated. Please let Rev. Randy or Margie Tucker know.

Parish will have Stella's Circle cleaners back again. We had been using this service prior to the pandemic, but dropped it when the churches were closed down. Three years later, and because our group of volunteer cleaners have dwindled in numbers or gotten older, it is necessary again to avail of this service. Like everything else, the cost of this service has increased greatly, and we will determine its affordability as we go. The contract now will be from February 3rd until March 31st, then we will evaluate as to whether it meets our needs and is affordable. Our snow clearing costs have also increased this year (first time in over 20 years) as well, so we will need the full financial support of all our parishioners to keep up with the additional costs.

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.

2023 church envelopes are available. If you don't yet have yours, please check the table in the foyer. If you don't see them there, please speak to Rev. Randy and he will provide them to you. If you are new to our parish and would like to offer regular support, please ask for your box of envelopes as well. If you would like to sign up for regular E-Giving forms for this can be obtained from the parish office or downloaded from the parish website.

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.

The busy season of Christmas is over. Now we are into the season of Epiphany, commemorating the first manifestation of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi, and the manifestation of his divinity, as it occurred at his baptism in the Jordan River and at his first miracle, at Cana in Galilee. It reminds us that Jesus, the Messiah, came to bring light and peace to the whole world and to all peoples. As we put away the Christmas decorations let us keep alive the message of Christmas, and strive for peace and light in our lives and in the world around us.

A call for tenders has gone out for the replacement of our current lighting system. In the past couple of years, we have become keenly aware of our responsibility to be good stewards of God's creation, and to lead by example. A couple of years ago we replaced all the lighting in the parish hall, foyer, bathrooms, offices, boardroom and other smaller rooms, with more energy efficient LED lighting. Our greatest electrical cost now is the lighting in the main part of the church. We are aware that LED lighting will reduce our carbon footprint and lower electrical costs. This is simply a Request for Proposal (RFP) and no final decision has been made until the tender closes 9Jan. 31st). If the vestry decides to move forward on this project to replace the current lights with new ones, we will first seek diocesan approval to do so, and provide members of the congregation with all the information, and welcome donations toward the project.

The parish had a good year financially. A detailed financial report will be made available at the end of February, however, we are happy to say that the parish ended 2022 on a very positive note. We are very thankful to everyone who made contributions in the past year, and supported the fundraising efforts of both our ACW and ACM. In determining parish assessments to the diocese, based on a three-year formula (2019, 2020, 2021) our parish was one of a very small number (maybe even the only one) who saw an increase in financial resources over the course of the pandemic. Federal government wage subsidy received by churches is not part of assessments, so these assessed amounts are only envelope offerings and fundraising events. **Thank you for making this possible.** We look forward to another good year coming up.

Please keep our building secure. We have had no recent security issues, but from time-to-time it is good for us to remind everyone entrusted with a key to the building that it is the responsibility of that person to safe guard the key, and to ensure the key is never given to any unauthorized person. Please ensure that all lights are turned out, garbage placed in the outside box, the door securely closed and locked. If a person receives a key for a specific duty and that person is no longer in that role the key must be returned so it can be given to the new person in that role.

A call for musical talent is going out to all our parishioners. As we all know, there are a lot of people in our congregation with gifts of music and/or song, which we would like to incorporate into our worship from time-to-time. Rev. Randy hopes to hold a Memorial Hymn-Sing in March, and draw on some of our parish talent to participate in addition to our choir. This service will be held on a Sunday evening on a specific date to be determined later. If you or anyone in your family would like to prepare a hymn(s) or gospel song(s) please speak to Rev. Randy. It is our hope to be able to occasionally do some services to involve members of the congregation in this way.

Many thanks to Charlie Gosse for the fine work he did for the past 14 years as our Envelope Secretary. We really appreciate all that he did and his faithfulness in always being present at Vestry meetings to present his reports. We are also **pleased to welcome Marie Chafe** as our new Envelope Secretary.

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.

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

January 18-25th - The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity this year is January 18-25th. The Theme is "Do good; seek justice, and it is inspired by Isaiah 1:12-18 which laments a lack of Justice among the People of God. Yet it promises redemption by encouraging acts of justice. Justice and righteousness express Isaiah's ideal for the People of God. Like Isaiah, we hope to inspire justice among Christian peoples around the world and to work together to dismantle the systems of injustice and oppression in God's world. "Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow." (Isaiah 1:17)

January 22 - Confirmation classes are up and going and we meet Sunday afternoons at 2:30 pm.

January 31 - Next ACW card game will be held on Tuesday, January 31st at 8:00 pm. Please bring your own cards and baskets, tea and coffee will be provided.

February 1 - Annual ACW Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 1st at 7:30 pm. All ladies of the congregation are *Anglican Church Women* (ACW) and asked to attend the meeting.

February 5 - We are hoping to begin Sunday School on February 5th. Right now, we have only a small group of teachers/helpers and would appreciate extra help. On that Sunday we will begin with a short children's talk at the beginning of the worship service, followed by the children going to the parish centre for registration. This will be the first time having any form of Sunday School in nearly 3 years, so we will begin slowly and go from there.

February 21 – Pancake Supper will be held on Tuesday, February 21st at 6:30 pm in the Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre. A signup sheet will be available soon for those who wish to attend. Pancake Day is known as Shrove Tuesday, also known as Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras (in French) and by many other nicknames. It's the big hurrah before Christians start Lent, a season of prayer, penance and fasting in preparation for the Easter season. Why are pancakes being served? There are various answers to this, but one historical answer is it started when Pope St. Gregory prohibited Christians from eating all forms of meat and animal products during Lent around A.D. 600. He told St. Augustine of Canterbury, a founder of the Christian church in southern England, to enforce those same fasting rules in England. So, Christians made pancakes to use up their supply of eggs, milk and butter in preparation for Lent. Our pancake supper on February 21st will be our preparation to celebrate a Holy Lent. Pancakes, Sausages, tea/coffee. Cost \$10.00. Children six and under free. Anyone wanting to donate items for the supper, such as sausages, pancake mix, etc., your donation will be greatly appreciated.

February 22 - Lent will be here in about 4 weeks! It seems like Christmas was just here and now we are already thinking ahead to Lent & Easter. We begin our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22nd, with our service of Ashes & Holy Eucharist. Following that we will have our mid-week Lenten service every Wednesday at 7:00 pm. This year we will follow a program called *The Parables of Lent*. We had started this program in Lent 2020 but was interrupted by the global pandemic and the closing of churches, so we will pick it up again. We hope you will journey with us through Lent.

February 26 - Annual meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday, February 26th, following the morning worship. We hope this year to get back to a more normal time by having a pot-luck lunch before the meeting. All reports to be copied for the meeting should be passed on to the Rector by February 15th. If you would like to serve on vestry, please submit your name for election at the meeting.

Jan. 22nd

3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Conversion of St. Paul

Scriptural Sentence

"This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses."
(Page 400)

1st Reading
Acts 26: 9-23

Psalm 67
Page: 788

(Allie Wheeler)

(No appointed 2nd Reading)

Gospel
Matthew 10: 16-22

(Deacon Bonnell)

Jan. 29th

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Scriptural Sentence

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."
(Page 352)

1st Reading
Micah 6: 1-8

Psalm 15
Pages: 718-719

(Ruth Hiscock)

2nd Reading
1st Corinthians 1 : 18-31

(Harve Hiscock)

Gospel
Matthew 5 : 1-12

(Deacon Bonnell)