

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Almighty God, whose Son was crucified yet entered into glory, may we, walking in the way of the cross, find it is for us the way of life; 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): Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus your only Son, makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): God our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son, we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and for ever. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) Beverley Sharpe, Blair & Tracy Sharpe, Boyde & Madonna Sharpe, Dawn & Eddie Sharpe, Dean & Lisa Sharpe, and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean - The Most Revd James Richard Wong Yin Song - Archbishop, Province of Indian Ocean & Bishop of the Seychelles.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of the Epiphany, Rector – The Rev. Eli Evans and the Parish of Flower’s Cove (4 congregations), Deacon-in-Charge – The Rev. DCN Vernon Short.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador and for all parishes now closed due to the pandemic.

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) 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 – Harvey Hiscock - 895-2011

People’s Warden – Gary King- 895-6239

April 5th, 2020 (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, Sunday, April 5th, is Palm Sunday, the beginning of the holiest week of Christianity. It marks Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem seated on the back of a donkey, where he is greeted by many as a king. The Jewish people had long waited for a mighty king to come onto the scene and lead them into a battle that would free them from the tyranny of Roman occupation. It is quite understandable why they would want to be free of the Romans, they are being taxed heavily and the money sent to Rome, they are living under Roman laws that don't respect Jewish laws or religion, they are being mistreated, imprisoned and killed if they resist in any way. Along comes Jesus, who many are proclaiming is the one to set them free. They are partially right, Jesus is a king, but not the kind of king they want. The first clue should have been Jesus' arrival on a donkey, after all, what mighty king would ride on such a docile and humble beast? A king to lead them into battle would likely be riding on a mighty horse or a group of mighty horses pulling a chariot. The second clue should have been Jesus' appearance, he arrives in Jerusalem owning nothing but the clothes upon his back, certainly not dressed like a warrior king and carrying not even a sword. The final clue should have been what they heard about Jesus if they remembered the stories circulated about his ministry, how he healed the sick, raised even the dead, how he spoke about loving one another and loving even one's enemy. No, this is not the language and deeds of a vengeful king, ready to drive out the Romans and take control. We can understand why the people got excited as they lined the road and welcomed Jesus as their hero, why they laid down their garments for him to travel on, and why they shouted Hosanna to the king, they were desperate for such a person to arrive. However, as the events of that week unfolded, many of those same people shouting out *Hosanna to the son of David, blessed is*

the one who comes in the name of the Lord Hosanna in the highest heaven, were beginning to change their minds about Jesus. What kind of warrior king allows himself to be so mistreated by the authorities? What kind of king talks about turning the other cheek? What kind of king allows others to spit on him? Why doesn't he resist and put together a mighty army to trample the Roman soldiers into the ground? They suddenly realize this is not the king they have long been waiting for and are angry and disappointed and now they are shouting out *crucify him, crucify him*. They did not realize that the kind of Kingdom Jesus is talking about is not of this world, and the kind of King he claims to be is one that reigns not on a throne of gold with servants tending to his every physical need, but one that reigns in the hearts of people and brings glory to God. As we travel through this Holy Week, we will do so this year in a very different way. Ordinarily we would gather in our churches several times, including the Maunday Thursday service, where Jesus takes a towel and washes the feet of his disciples, and celebrates the first Eucharist. Then we would be together again on Good Friday for the solemn liturgy of that day, and our hearts would be broken as we realize the magnitude of God's love for all of us, that he would send his only son, Jesus, to die in such a horrible way on a cross. Even there we would see the depth of Jesus' love and forgiveness even for those who put him there, as he shouts out in his agony – *father, forgive them for they know not what they do*, and, as he says to the repentant criminal next to him – *today, you shall be with me in Paradise*. Then we would arrive at our glorious Easter Sunday service to celebrate Jesus' victory over death by rising from the dead. Easter is the culmination of all the events of Holy Week, and it means a lot to us to be able to gather in celebration. Because of Covid-19 we will need to find alternate ways to celebrate this year, we will tune in to video/radio broadcasts, we will reflect upon it in the confines of our own homes, but we will find our own ways of celebrating. The important thing is we don't miss the opportunity to celebrate, that we don't allow Covid-19 to rob us of the faith and hope we have in our hearts and lives. It has already taken too much from us, don't let it take Easter from us also. Please stay tuned into your parish and we will make sure that we bring some form of worship to you on Easter Day. Don't forget that today, Palm Sunday, you are able to drive by the door at St. Philip's and receive your Palm Cross.

(Rev. Randy)

Here are some areas to consider in your parish:

Hygiene practices in pastoral care and worship

- *Availability of hand sanitizer in the worship space for parishioners and those serving in the liturgy*
- *Pastoral care workers taking all precautions in personal hygiene before and after pastoral visits in hospital and homes.*
- *Reminding parishioners who are ill to stay at home to recover and to request home communion or a pastoral visit as desired.*

If concern about the common cup is expressed:

- Refresh teaching regarding our theology of the fullness of communion in one kind (bread or wine only).

[Sharing the national information re Eucharistic Practice and the Risk of Infection.](#)

Alternatives to common cup:

- Receive in one kind only (bread)
- Touching the base of the cup as it is presented but not consuming.

I pray that our common life in worship and pastoral care will be rooted in the compassion of Christ and appropriate care for one another in a time of uncertainty.

With prayers for all: The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls

Archbishop and Primate, Anglican Church of Canada

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.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Apr. 5th - Palm Sunday - Our churches will not be open by that time. However, I have our Palm Crosses and branches from the Synod office and will do the blessing of the Palms on that day. The crosses will then be made available to you. Mine will be the only hands on them, and, if you would like to have your cross on that day please come by, and, without interacting with anyone else drive by the door and I will bring it to you. There is also a symbolic meaning to this, as we are saying in essence that we will not be defeated and we will keep the faith. The crosses will be available between 10:30 – 11:45 (our normal worship time)

Apr. 9-12 - The Bishop plans to preside over services at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Day. While we are working to finalize the details of these services and make the liturgies available to you, we can give you some information. **Maundy Thursday (9 April)** 10:30 a.m. The Renewal of Vows and Blessing of Oils. Clergy of the Diocese will join the service virtually to renew their vows at that time. **Good Friday (10 April)** 12 noon The Celebration of the Lord's Passion. **Easter Day (12 April)** 11:00 a.m. The Celebration of the Resurrection. These services will be Live-Streamed on the Cathedral Facebook page (www.facebook.com/anglcathstj) and the Cathedral YouTube Channel

(https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPn0-iS_T0pdmfY3hJDbJA). We look forward to having you join us at that time.

July 26th - Please note the 2020 annual flower service will take place on Sunday, July 26th at 3:00 p.m.

Please let us know if you are a senior or someone in need of assistance during this time of social distancing, and we will endeavour to help out where we can. Perhaps someone is in need of a cooked meal, or requires a ride to a medical appointment, grocery store, etc. As is being pointed out, the church needs to be at work in the community, so please don't hesitate to call the church office at 895-0715 or Rev. Randy at 693-8537

St. Lawrence's Pop-up Pantry will continue to operate during this difficult time. As you can imagine, there are a number of vulnerable people in our community who are in need. We are anticipating an increased demand for the pop-up pantry and as such we are asking those of you who are able, to continue to donate. Donations may be dropped off between 10 am and 1pm Mondays and Tuesdays at St. Lawrence's Anglican church. Please note that we now accept frozen items as well. Though it is at St. Lawrence's church it is a community venture supported by other churches and community organizations including our own parish of St. Philip.

From our Primate: Dear friends in Christ: Recently we have heard news that the Corona virus has now spread into Canada. Many of us remember the SARS crisis and the precautions that were needed when it came close to our communities. First, our prayers are extended to those who are ill with this virus and those who are caring for them. So far there has been no call from public health officials for additional measures in public activities. However it is prudent to ensure that we have reviewed our practices in pastoral care and public worship to keep everyone, especially the most vulnerable due to age or infirmity, safe and to allay fears that may arise.

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

Page 297

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord – Hosanna in the highest.

The Collect, Epistle and Gospel for Palm Sunday

Processional Gospel Matthew 21: 1-11

1st Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

**Psalm 31: 9-16
Page: 740-741**

2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 5-11

Gospel Matthew 27: 11-54

Rev. Randy will post another short worship service on Facebook this Sunday, Palm Sunday. Please share it widely with others once you see it. It will also be on the parish Facebook page.

Please come by the church and receive your Palm Sunday crosses. Rev. Randy will do the blessing of the palms on (Palm Sunday) and make them available to anyone that would like to have them. Because we are still physically distancing, please stay in your vehicle, drive to the main door and Rev. Randy will bring the crosses to you. This is just a small way we can still connect with our parish at the start of Holy Week.

Emmaus House Food Bank needs help! During the present health care crisis much focus has been placed on providing for individuals and families who find themselves short of income due to lay off or job loss. There are of course others in our community who are chronically unemployed due to disability; be it physical, mental health, addiction or a combination of two or all three. Emmaus House Food Bank serves some of the most vulnerable people in the metropolitan area. The food bank is a cooperative effort between five parishes (two Roman Catholic and three Anglican). It operates out of a building attached to St. Bon's School on the Basilica property. We could use a few additional volunteers at the Emmaus House Food Bank during the pandemic. Many of our volunteers are older seniors (75+) some with chronic medical issues who cannot come in now without putting themselves or other family members at risk. Some volunteers have been taking up the slack and are there daily. If you could spare a few hours weekly to assist in volunteering, it would be much appreciated. Those willing to help out can contact Susan Halley at susan.halley@nf.sympatico.ca, and she would be able to set up a suitable time for orientation and time to assist in the food bank operation.

Notes

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.

This Winter has been hard on church attendance. Because of the January state-of-emergency, and a couple of other weather events, plus COVID-19, we have missed a number of Sundays. This naturally impacts our parish finances for the year which is always concerning to Vestry. We ask our parishioners that have been unable to make their offerings to please consider helping us make up the difference throughout the year.

It is very important to keep our financial support up during this critical time when the church building is closed for public worship. Rev. Randy is in the office most days and you are welcome to drop your church envelopes in, E-Giving is an excellent way to give regularly (download the form from our parish website), or simply to mail them to St. Philip's Anglican Church, 20 Coady's Rd. Portugal Cove – St. Philip's A1M 1L1 Your support is vital at this time as we try to keep all the parish expenses paid to date.

Remember (when things get back to normal) that the first Sunday of each month there will be coffee/tea, juice and other refreshments served prior to the 10:30 am worship service. This is an opportunity for fellowship and welcoming everyone that comes. Thank you to Lisa for organizing it each month and to the youth that help her to serve. Anyone wishing to sponsor refreshments for a future time please contact Lisa Lake (Brown).

Invitation to be part of our Mission Team. As we enter into a new year (2020) we are going to make mission a big part of our congregational development. As the diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador continues to emphasize the need for parishes to do some work in the area of mission, it is suggesting that every parish institute a mission team with goals and objectives to enable growth, including spiritual growth and renewal. If you have an interest in being part of this team we would love to have you join with us.

This year the ACW will be having a gift card tree as their Lenten/Easter fundraiser instead of filling a sock. The value of this tree is \$500.00. They are asking for your support by contributing a gift card of any value to their tree. The draw date will be determined later.

Interested in learning about what happens at the altar? Canon Morgan would be very interested in teaching you about it. If you would like to know what is involved in serving at the altar and the significance of it all, please speak to him. The invitation is to anyone 12 and over, and there is no obligation to be a server unless you want to be.

CFUW (Canadian Federation of University Women) St. John's is collecting gently used books for the annual sale, from **Saturday March 14 to Saturday April 11. New location** for book drop off: 2 Corisande Drive, Mount Pearl (Canadian Tire Building). Off Topsail Road immediately East of the Overpass. **Hours: Monday to Saturday 11am – 3pm; Sunday 1pm – 3pm** They accept fiction and non-fiction, all ages and interests in good condition. They **do not take** encyclopedias, textbooks, Readers Digest condensed books, magazines, outdated technology manuals and VHS tapes. The Great Big Book Sale is **May 4-6** at the **RE/MAX Centre**. The sale supports CFUW scholarships and community outreach.

What does the future of the Church look like? In this case of a global Pandemic, and, as we see the situation in our own nation, province and communities presently, the whole Church of every single denomination and faith are in exactly the same position. When this is all over every church will be seeking to find once again its place in the community. When we look at biblical history every desert experience ended with new hope and new life. We pray that as we come through this desert time the church will find that it has been strengthened and given a clear vision of ministry. We pray that there will be a resurgence of living faith and that the church will be bold in leading it.

February financial update is available at the back of the church. This monthly detailed financial sheet replaces the weekly bulletin updates.

Please keep our building secure. We have had no major 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, 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.

Congratulations! to Deacon Bonnell on the occasion of his 16th anniversary of ordination (March 17).

Church Chuckle

As the Rev. was finishing communion and wiping out the chalice, the little boy said to his mother, "Can we go when he gets the dishes done?"



www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

Prayerfully consider your Parish in your Estate planning.

Stewardship thought for the Week

Giving is more than a responsibility – it is a privilege; more than an act of obedience – it is evidence of our faith.

*William Arthur Ward (1921-94),
American Educator*