

## **Dismissal Songs**

### **“Go Now in Peace”**

*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.*

### **“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.*

## **ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**

Primate: The Most Reverend Shane Parker

Metropolitan: Archbishop David Edwards

Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Anglican Church of St. Philip The Barnes, Snook, Parsons & Goods  
families

Rector: Rev. Randy Lockyer  
(Cell) 709-693-8537 / (Church) 709-895-0715

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](http://www.anglicanparishofstphilip.com)

Rector’s Warden – Moses Tucker – (709) 895-6553

People’s Warden – Gary King – (709) 895-6239

**December 2025 (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.

Message from the Rector

As you read this reflection, we have just passed the first Sunday of Advent about to embrace the second Sunday of Advent, which will be the middle of the Advent season. Christmas is now coming at lightning speed. 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 (Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> 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. It is common for some preachers and churches to predict the return of Christ, and they sometimes succeed in instilling fear in people. It’s never God’s intent to bring us to faith by fear and 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 are never going to live on this earth forever, so we live each day as if God will call us home that day, never fearing to meet our Lord. 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. 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. As Advent continues for a few weeks, may we take the opportunity to draw closer to our Lord. We live in a chaotic world, perhaps something like the world in which Jesus was born into in Bethlehem so long ago. We have war and violence, people live in fear, many have abandoned the faith altogether, maybe we need to catch a fresh glimpse of the baby Jesus coming anew this Christmas, with the same promise of hope and redemption and new life. Take time to reflect on the themes of Advent – *hope, peace, joy and love*, and remember they are still very much pillars of our faith. I hope you can join us each week for our Advent journey, and for the great celebration of Christmas.

Rev. Randy

**Christmas 2025** is not far away, and before long we will be listening to carols. Because our Sunday School is very small at the moment, I want to ask parents to think about signing their child(ren) up for the Christmas Eve program early. Each year we have to work at getting enough children on board to offer a pageant at the 4:00 pm service, so let’s get the names in now. If you would like your child to be a part of the Christmas pageant, speak to Rev. Randy of our Sunday School teacher, Stephanie Smith.

**Our monthly Coffee Hour has now resumed.** From now until June 2026 we will have our coffee hour on the first or second Sunday of each month, prior to our 10:30 am worship when we can fellowship together over coffee/tea/juice and refreshments. Come a little early and join with us. The following is a list of remaining dates available to host. If you would be interested in hosting one, please contact Lisa Brown by email: [llake99@hotmail.com](mailto:llake99@hotmail.com): March 8<sup>th</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup>, May 10<sup>th</sup>, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Rev. Randy is available to do the blessing of homes.** As a church family, whenever we open a new worship space, we have it blessed. Our homes also ought to be places of prayer and sanctity, so if anyone would like to avail of this ministry please speak to the Rector. A special liturgy has been prepared for our parish use, and it might be a family moving into a new home or into a newly purchased home.

Mobile Ministry Bus Update as of Sept. 29, 2025.

The diocese has physical possession of the 12-passenger bus from Metrobus. It is currently at a garage awaiting Motor Vehicle Inspection and several upgrades & modifications which should be completed within the next few weeks. A cabinet maker has taken measurements for a countertop and storage areas in the rear. These people are offering their services at no charge. It is our hope to have the vehicle on the road before the winter season. We continue to gratefully receive financial donations from parishes and individuals. Anyone wishing to offer a financial donation may make it to "Mobile Ministry Bus" and send it to 22 Church Hill, St. John's, NL A1C 3Z9. Receipts will be issued for tax purposes. Given the current postal strike, donations can be made by credit card by contacting Rev. Fred Marshall @ 709-727-4346. Within the next 3 - 4 weeks we will be looking for volunteers (drivers and host/hostess, meal providers and others) to help operate this important ministry. In addition, it is hoped to establish a committee to oversee scheduling and operations. If you are interested in any part of this innovative and exciting ministry, please contact:

- Rev. Amanda Taylor - [rectorstmarksnl@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstmarksnl@gmail.com)
- Rev. Fred Marshall – ph.: 709-727-4346 or email: [fredjamarshall@gmail.com](mailto:fredjamarshall@gmail.com)
- Rev. Gail MacDonald – ph.: 709-730-9290 or email: [reverendgail@nl.rogers.com](mailto:reverendgail@nl.rogers.com)

**The 98.5 FM frequency is always in use** whenever we are gathered for worship. There is still the ability to listen to the service through your car radio while in the parking lot of the church. We found this to be especially helpful during the pandemic, but it is activated all the time.

**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.

**With 2026 around the corner** the new church envelopes will be arriving soon. If you have not been receiving a box and would like to have them, please let us know. Some people are signed up for regular E-Giving on a monthly or biweekly basis. If you would like to avail of this option the e-giving forms are available at the parish office. The parish also does EMT contributions, just include in the message box what your offering is for and your envelope number. To do this simply use the parish email address: [stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com](mailto:stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com) Whichever way you decide to contribute is fine, what is important is your ongoing regular support of our parish so that we can continue to be in a strong financial position. Thank you for your generosity.

**We still have a number of 2026 church calendars for sale.** The cost of the calendars are \$8 This is not a fundraiser, we simply sell them for what it cost to get them. Speak to Rev. Randy and he will be able to help you.

**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.

**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](mailto:lockyerrandy@gmail.com) This is a good way to know about news and events going on in the life of the parish.

**The parish financial books will close on** Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>. All financial contributions will need to be in by that date to be credited for 2025. We thank you for your generous giving in 2025 and ask that you help ensure that our parish ends this year on a strong positive note.

**Are you receiving our monthly tri-diocesan newspaper?** You may recall some years ago the name of our church paper was *The Newfoundland Churchman*, but for many years now the name has been changed to *Anglican Life*. It is a very interesting read for 10 months of the year and provides a picture of what is happening in the life of the church throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. It also includes our Anglican Church of Canada national paper, *The Anglican Journal*. This monthly paper arrives in your mail each month from September to June and is free. There are opportunities to make donations to offset the cost of production, and is voluntary as well. If you do not currently receive this paper and would like to, simply speak to Rev. Randy and he will get you added.

**The ACW Christmas Gift Card Tree ticket draw** will take place following the worship service on December 7<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to purchase your tickets (3 for \$5.00) they will be sold right up to the draw date. Thank you for your support!

**The annual Christmas Tree of Remembrance** sheets are available at the back of the church. We ask that you return your sheets by Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The actual lighting of the tree(s) will be Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. This year, rather than cutting down a tree, we are going to light up the two large cedar trees, which have grown quite high now. All the names of loved ones will be read aloud, a prayer will be said, the trees will be lighted, and then we will have Christmas music, hot chocolate and Timbits in the parish hall.

**With the Christmas Eve services drawing close we really need more children in order to have our traditional Christmas Pageant.** Please encourage your children and grandchildren to sign up for a part in the program.

**NOTICES /MEMORABLE DATES**

**December 7<sup>th</sup> - Coffee Hour** - hosted by Karen Puglisevich and Hayley (Puglisevich) Fagan.

**December 7<sup>th</sup>** – Draw for Christmas Gift Card Tree.

**December 9<sup>th</sup> - Vestry meeting** will be held on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**December 16<sup>th</sup>** – Annual Christmas Tree of Remembrance Lighting.

**December 21<sup>st</sup> - Congratulations** to Canon Shirley Gosse on the 33<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of her ordination to the priesthood.

**December 21<sup>st</sup> - Congratulations** to Canon Don Morgan on the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

**December 24<sup>th</sup> - 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

**December 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day:** 9:30 am Holy Eucharist (Please note that there will only be the one early service on Christmas morning).

**December 31<sup>st</sup>** – Parish Financial Books Close for 2025.

**THIS BULLETIN  
IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD  
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:**

**Edwin Collis**  
(December 8, 1930-March 28, 2015)

**Given by:**  
**Debbie, Bob, Marie & Nicole**

**Ernest Jones**  
(December 11, 1947 – May 16, 2025)  
“Forever in our hearts”

**Given by:**  
**Maxine, Nadine, Ashley  
Kaelyn & Evann**

**Rick Thomas**  
(March 24, 1957 - December 27, 2024)

**Given by:**  
**Linda, Tanya, Rodney  
& Family**

**John & Elsie Sharpe**  
**Given by:**  
**The family**

<p><b><u>December 7<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Scriptural Sentence</b> “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.”</p> <p><b><u>1st Reading</u></b> Isaiah 11: 1-10 Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19 Pages: 797-798 (Lori Gosse)</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</u></b> Romans 15: 4-13 (Reegan Gosse)</p> <p><b><u>Gospel</u></b> Matthew 3: 1-12 (Deacon Ed Bonnell)</p> <p><b><u>Collects &amp; Prayers</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Collect</u></b> – 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 for ever. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer over the Gifts</u></b> – 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.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer after Communion</u></b> - 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.</p>	<p><b><u>December 14<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Scriptural Sentence</b> “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.”</p> <p><b><u>1st Reading</u></b> Isaiah 35: 1-10 Psalm 146: 4-9 Page: 905 (Allie Wheeler)</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</u></b> James 5: 7-10 (Glenda Winter)</p> <p><b><u>Gospel</u></b> Matthew 11: 2-11 (Deacon Ed Bonnell)</p> <p><b><u>Collects &amp; Prayers</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Collect</u></b> – 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 for ever. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer over the Gifts</u></b> – 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.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer after Communion</u></b> - 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 for ever. Amen.</p>	<p><b><u>December 21<sup>st</sup></u></b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Scriptural Sentence</b> “A virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel: God with us.”</p> <p><b><u>1st Reading</u></b> Isaiah 7: 10-16 Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18 Pages: 812-814 (Canon Don Morgan)</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</u></b> Romans 1: 1-7 (Canon Shirley Gosse)</p> <p><b><u>Gospel</u></b> Matthew 1: 18-25 (Deacon Ed Bonnell)</p> <p><b><u>Collects &amp; Prayers</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Collect</u></b> – Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer over the Gifts</u></b> – Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer after Communion</u></b> - Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.</p>	<p><b><u>December 24<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>Christmas Eve Liturgy</b> <b>Scriptural Sentence</b> “I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people.”</p> <p><b>4 PM</b> Children’s Family Service with shortened Eucharist</p> <p><b>7 PM</b> <b><u>1<sup>st</sup> Reading</u></b> Isaiah 9: 2-7 Psalm 96 / Page: 834 (Dr. Greg Brown)</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</u></b> Titus 2: 11-14 (Betty Lewis)</p> <p><b><u>Gospel</u></b> Luke 2: 1-14 (15-20) (Deacon Ed Bonnell)</p> <p><b>11 PM</b> No appointed readers</p> <p><b><u>December 25<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>Birth of the Lord</b> Christmas Day Eucharist <b>9:00 AM</b></p>	<p><b><u>December 28<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas</b> <b>Scriptural Sentence</b> “Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”</p> <p><b><u>1st Reading</u></b> Isaiah 63: 7-9 Psalm 148 / Pages: 907-908 (Rev. Russell Osmond)</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> Reading</u></b> Hebrews 2: 10-18 (Joan Osmond)</p> <p><b><u>Gospel</u></b> Matthew 2: 13-23 (Deacon Ed Bonnell)</p> <p><b><u>Collects &amp; Prayers</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Collect</u></b> – Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer over the Gifts</u></b> – God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.</p> <p><b><u>Prayer after Communion</u></b> - Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.</p>
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