



**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**  
**Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador**  
**Bishop: The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle**

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

**Anglican Church of St. Philip**  
**895 -0715**

**Rector: The Rev. Edward Keeping**  
**(Home)- 754-3748 (Cell) - 687-7109**

**Deacon: The Rev. Edgar Bonnell**

**Honorary Assistants:**

**The Rev. Canon Bert Cheeseman**  
**The Rev. Russell Osmond**

**The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse**  
**The Rev. Canon Don Morgan**

**Rector's Warden – Margaret Boone 782-0988**  
**People's Warden – Margaret Tucker 895-2251**

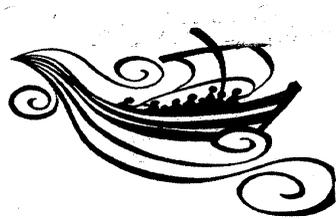
**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (Year C)**

Parish 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.

**Launching out into the Deep...  
Into New Spiritual Depths**



**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.**

**Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9 am - 1:30 pm  
Friday: 9 am - 12 noon  
From the Rector's Desk**

I want to welcome you to our Christmas Eve celebration of the Holy Eucharist, as we celebrate the birth of the Christ-child.

At our 4:00 pm service, the young people of our Sunday School will present the Christmas story through songs, drama and scriptural readings. I want to thank the Sunday School teachers for the time they have put into this and preparing the young people for today. In this service we will have a shortened form of the Eucharist because of the many parents and grandparents who will be here and won't be back to the other services. This service has really become a highlight of Christmas Eve here in the Parish. Therefore, it is important that

those present receive their Christmas communion. I would encourage all to stay to receive communion at this service.

During the season of Advent we have been preparing ourselves for this time. The time has arrived!! Tonight is special!! We will recall the events of over 2000 years ago when the angel told Mary that she would bear God's Son. Mary didn't understand but, in obedience, she accepted. Tonight, once again, we celebrate the arrival of that child in a stable in Bethlehem. We, too, with the shepherds and angels, proclaim the birth of the Christ-child. Through the great love that God has for his people, he sent his Son into the world. He humbled himself and came among us as a baby born in a stable because there was no room in the inn in that little town of Bethlehem.

We come this holy evening to celebrate the birth of our Saviour and pray that he may find room in our hearts to receive him forever.

Christmas is about the birth of a child who came to earth for us. As a Christian community of faith, we must never lose sight of that fact. If we do, then the message of Christmas will be lost and we know how the world has become over the years with buying and selling. Let us keep "**Christ**" in Christmas. Yes, we should celebrate the season with family and friends but do not lose sight of why we celebrate Christmas. We celebrate more than anything the birth of our Saviour.

On behalf of Joyce and myself, we would like to wish you all a happy and merry Christmas.

Rev. Ed

**Church Chuckle**

**You Better be Good:** Sarah and her 13 year old sister had been fighting a lot this year. This happens when you combine a 2 year old who is sure she is always right with a young adolescent. Sarah's parents, trying to take advantage of her newfound interest in Santa Claus, reminded the 2 year old that Santa was watching and doesn't like it when children fight. This had little impact.

"I'll just have to tell Santa about your misbehavior," the mother said as she picked up the phone and dialed. Sarah's eyes grew big as her mother asked "Mrs. Clause" (really Sarah's aunt; Santa's real line was busy) if she could put Santa on the line. Sarah's mouth dropped open as Mom described to Santa (Sarah's uncle) how the 2 year old was acting. But, when Mom

said that Santa wanted to talk to her, she reluctantly took the phone. Santa, in a deepened voice, explained to her how there would be no presents Christmas morning to children who fought with their sisters. He would be watching and he expected things to be better from now on. Sarah, now even more wide eyed, solemnly nodded to each of Santa's remarks and silently hung the phone up when he was done. After a long moment, Mom (holding in her chuckles at being so clever) asked, "What did Santa say to you, dear?"

In almost a whisper, Sarah sadly but matter-of-factly stated, "Santa said he won't be bring toys to my sister this year."

**A Stewardship Thought for the Week**

Lesson from the infant Jesus: It is interesting to note that, while throughout his adult life, Jesus always taught us to give and to serve. He first came into this world as one who needed assistance. It was no accident that He was born without a place to lay his head. In coming to our world in this way Jesus shows us there is no shame in being poor. A risk we take when we practice stewardship is that we may begin to think of ourselves as better or luckier than someone in need and consciously or unconsciously look down upon those who need our generosity. When we look down upon the poor, we look down upon the infant Jesus Himself.

**Stewardship Statement**

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Regular Givings: \$ 1,700.00

Maint. Fund 150.90

E-Giving

**Preauthorized Payment (e-Giving) of Church Offerings**

is an option for our parishioners. Many people find it a safe and convenient way to make their offerings and, if you are interested, **please complete the form which you will find in the pamphlet rack in the foyer.**

**For those who are giving by Pre-authorized (e-Giving),** there are plastic cards available in the foyer which read "Giving electronically to the Anglican Parish of St. Philip". We want our people to think about giving to the church by this method.

**Recyclable Donations:** -Recycling is a fundraising project of the ACM and your assistance is needed. "*We thank you for your co-operation in removing screw top covers from all bottles – plastic & glass - and further ask that you remove corks and screw tops from alcoholic beverage containers.*" For your convenience, boxes are located near Sharpe's Store on Thorburn Road and Country Convenience, corner of Old Broad Cove Road and Bennett's Road. If you can help with sorting the recyclables on Monday or Tuesday nights please call John Parrell. **The ACM could really use your help.**

**Maintenance Fund:** We want to thank you for your continued support. It is very important for us to build on this fund so that the necessary repairs to the church can be completed in a timely manner. Please keep in mind that we were encouraged after the church was debt free to continue to give a dollar per day to this fund.

**Parish Hall Rentals:** The Parish Centre is available to members of the congregation and the public to rent for birthdays, weddings and anniversaries. Please consider renting the hall for your next important event. Any person wanting to rent the Parish Centre can call the church office at 895-0715.

**The Scriptural Sentence for our worship today as appointed in our BAS Lectionary, Page 273:**

**I will bring you news of great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.**

The Bulletin today is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of

Husband, Father, Poppy,  
**George King**

**Sept. 24, 1941 – June 4, 2013**  
By Selina, Tanya and Sienna

**Bill & Evelyn Clarke and other family members**  
By Lewis Clarke & family

Our precious loved ones:  
**Father: William G. Tucker**  
**Mother: Eliza May Tucker**  
**Brother: Walter Tucker**  
By Catherine, Baxter & Michael Rose & family

**Lewis Tucker**

By wife Louise, son Leonard, daughter Bonnie and grandson Blake

**Mother: Alma Earle**

**Parents: Gerald & Claudine Gillingham  
Grandparents, and Noah Cassell and Ruby Gillingham**

By David, Gloria, Christopher and Mark

**My husband John Lewis Picco**

By Louise Picco

**My father, John Lewis Picco**

**“Never to be Forgotten”**

By Carmella Evans, Carl Picco and Richard Picco

### Schedule of Services

### Christmas Eve Services

**4:00 pm** - Children’s Program and a shortened Holy Eucharist service (BAS)

**7:00 pm** - Holy Eucharist (BAS)

**11:00 pm** – Holy Eucharist (BCP)

### First Sunday after Christmas Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>

**8:30 am** – Holy Communion (BCP) Eucharistic

Assistant: Christopher Earle

**10:30 am** – Holy Eucharist (BAS), & Sunday school

Eucharistic Assts: Jennifer Tucker

Counters: Susan Powell, Tom Tulk

Sidesperson: Gerald Sharpe

### Notices

**“Belize Project” I want to thank you for the support you gave when a team from this Diocese went to Belize to help build a new worship centre for the congregation of St. Mark’s in Hattieville.**

Now we are calling upon Anglicans throughout our Diocese to help raise funds for a rectory for the priest who serves at St. Mark’s. I ask each family in this Parish to give through prayer a gift towards this project. We are extending this

**project until January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. You have until this time to give your gift to help the people of Hattieville. Thank you.**

**Offering Envelopes:** You will see that the 2016 envelopes are in the foyer for parishioners to pick up. There are a number of families who may be looking for envelopes and can’t find them. We are asking these people to ask for them at the office. Over the past few years we have sent out a large number of envelopes with no response and as a cost saving measure, we did not include them this year. If you want a box of envelopes and did not receive them, please check at the office.

**End of Year Financial Contributions:** The church’s financial books will close for the year on December 31<sup>st</sup>, at 12:00 noon.

**“Today” and “Daily Bread” pamphlets:** Please pick up your copy of the “Today” and “Daily Bread” on the bookcases as you leave the church.

**“Anglican Life”:** If you would like to receive copies of this publication, please forward your name and address to the church office or email this information to [stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com](mailto:stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com).

**2017 Confirmation: Notice to Parents of children who will be confirmed in 2017.** We have begun the new **Two Year Confirmation Program** for candidates **who will be confirmed in 2017**. Please note candidates must attend this two-year program in order to be confirmed. Please contact the church office as soon as possible if you want your child to attend.

**“Prayerfully consider your parish in your estate planning.”**

### Milestones

(If you know of anyone in the Parish celebrating a milestone in their lives, please contact the Church Office so that we can share the good news in our church bulletin.)

### Noteworthy Events

**Diocesan Resource Centre, 19 Kingsbridge Road**  
50% off Christmas giftware, books and cards from Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Portugal Cove ACW** - Monthly Card Games are held the third Tuesday of each month (or the 2<sup>nd</sup> last Tuesday, if applicable) at St. Lawrence Parish Hall at 8:00 pm. Cost \$5.00 and lunch is served.

**Beaumont Hamel – On the Trail of the Caribou – June/July 2016 – 10 days/16 meals** - Bishop Geoff will be leading a tour to Beaumont Hamel to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First World War. For further information, please see the brochure in the foyer or see the Diocesan website.

### **Response after the Scripture Reading:**

Reader:

For the Word of God in Scripture;

For the Word of God among us;

For the Word of God within us;

**Response: We give you thanks, O God.**

### Dismissal to be sung at the end of the service.

**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.**

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### Collect, Epistle and Gospel for Christmas Eve Scripture Readings for today, December 24<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: **Isaiah 9: 2 – 7 Psalm 96 (page 834)  
(Joyce Keeping)**

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: **Titus 2: 11 – 14 (Margaret Boone)**

Gospel: **Luke 2: 1 - 14 (Rev. Ed Bonnell)**

**Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendor of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who**

**is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

**Collect for Launching out into the Deep: (In Unison): Bless, O Lord our God, the worship and work of this church. Grant that it may faithfully “launch out into the deep” and respond to the call of Jesus to be Fishers of People. By the power of your Holy Spirit, make it a house of prayer, a Centre of Christian teaching and disciples in learning; a community of loving and sacrificial service and a witness to your redeeming love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison): Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever. Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Today in our Parish Cycle of Prayer we pray for our parish families.** (Each week we remember a number of our families in our Prayers of the People): **Gerald & Nina Squires, Gordon & Jackie Squires, Halley Squires, Joseph Jr. & Evelyn Squires, Judy Squires and their families.**

**In our Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Diocese of Central Newfoundland: The Rt. Rev. David Torrance, Bishop, Synod Office Staff and Retired Clergy.**

**In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for York, England; The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Dr. John Sentamu, et al.**