

Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>

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 for ever. 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 for ever. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) Bruce & Susan Powell, Val & Karen Puglisevich, Helen Purcell, Mary-Lou Quilty, Ethel Rees and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for The Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury) The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton – Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Central Newfoundland Synod Office Staff – The Rt. Rev. John Watton, the Ven. Terry Caines, Ms. Ada Fudge, Ms. Lori Wheaton and the Rev. Harvey Bullen, Wellness Officer.

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**

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

**Rector's Warden – Gloria Earle – 895-3404**

**People's Warden – Gary King- 895-6239**

**Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 (Year B)**

**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:**

As I write this brief reflection we find ourselves half-way through the season of Advent. We have already focused on the themes of *Hope* and *Peace*, and this Sunday coming (Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>), we will be lighting the third candle on our Advent wreath, the pink candle of *Joy*. Then, on the fourth and final Sunday of Advent we will light the candle of *Love*. The fifth candle, *the Christ Candle* we will light on Christmas Eve to signal the birth of our Saviour. Have you ever thought about the nature of the Advent Wreath, why we have the themes of hope, peace, joy and love in a circular wreath with the Christ Candle burning brightly in the centre? One can search Google these days and find information on just about any conceivable concept or idea, but have you thought about what the Advent Wreath means to you in a personal way? As we begin Advent each year we do so with a goal in mind, and, for most of us I believe that goal is to focus in on each of the themes week by week, so that when Christmas Day arrives we feel we have had a spiritual journey. As we zero in on these themes during the four weeks of Advent we also realize that *Hope, Peace, Joy and Love* are among the defining characteristics of our daily Christian living all year long. They are the ideals we regularly pray for in our world, because they are what Christ came into the world to instill in each of us. The world Jesus was born into was one devoid of these four ideals, one where the darkness of sin had diminished the light of God. It was a world where those still in relationship with God desired that light to shine brightly again. We catch many glimpses of this from the writings of the Old Testament prophets, especially from those of Isaiah. We are especially familiar with the prophecy of Isaiah during Advent and Christmas, because he is one bright light in the darkness of the world, as he proclaims the coming of Christ about 740 years before Christ is born. Isaiah 7:14 says *"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the young woman shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel"*. These Old Testament Messianic prophecies kept hope alive for a long time before they were fulfilled in the birth of Jesus.

patience, as well as much hope, peace, joy and love as the guiding principles of our waiting time. The Advent wreath is round, it neither has a beginning nor an end, and neither does the symbolism of each candle. Hope, Peace, Joy and Love ought to permeate the DNA of every Christian. You remember the old chorus we sometimes sing – *and they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes they'll know we are Christians by our love*. We could easily sing it using the other Advent ideals of Hope, Peace and Joy as well. As we follow Christ in the modern age we can find stark similarities to our own time and that of Isaiah nearly 2800 years earlier, where many people had fallen away from following and serving God opting instead for a *"Me Only"* way of life. When we forget God, the creator and sustainer of our lives, and decide to make our own way in the world, our world becomes darker and more dangerous. That was the experience of the prophets, people were no longer listening or heeding God's commandments; however, they never gave up believing that God was still present in their lives and in the life of the world. Those prophecies were fulfilled by the birth of Jesus, and more than 2000 years later that light still shines in our world. That's why the Christ Candle stands majestically in the centre of our Advent wreath, symbolizing Christ as the very centre of our lives. Of course there are things that happen in our world that threatens to extinguish that candle, and sometimes that flame almost seems to smolder, and darkness seems close, but it never has gone out because no matter what we choose to live with Hope, Peace, Joy and Love with Jesus at the centre of our lives. As you continue to focus on these weeks of Advent leading up to the celebration of Christmas day, think about these ideals and how you will use them daily to be the guiding lights of your journey with Christ. We all have the power to bring light to our world in how we choose to live our lives. We also have the power to make our world a little darker with a little less hope, peace, joy and love. When we all decide to be agents of light, beacons of hope, we make Advent and Christmas an even more

**Baptisms and weddings are still being done inside the church building.** For now, baptisms are still taking place outside the normal worship times. We must still adhere to the maximum number of 100 persons and sanitizing the building after each use. If you need to book a baptism or wedding please call Rev. Randy. We can do these as long as we abide by the government and health regulations around Covid-19. If you have a child to be baptized please call Rev. Randy to set up a time.

**Christmas Food Hampers** will be made available to people in the community should there be a need. Many people struggle to provide enough food for their families all the time, and at Christmas they often struggle even harder to make it a joyful occasion for their children. If you know of anyone that might be struggling this year at Christmastime and could use a little help, please let Rev. Randy know. Most of us are very blessed to have more than enough, if you would like to sponsor a hamper for a needy family please speak to Rev. Randy about that as well.

**Our ACW is now up and running again** after a long 8 month break. Unfortunately they were not able to carry out all their planned fundraisers in 2020 but are doing what they can to contribute to the parish budget. Presently they are selling tickets that will be drawn today, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ACW Church Calendars are now available.** If you would like to purchase a 2021 calendar please speak to our ACW president, Pheobe Parrell, or see Rev. Randy in the parish office. The cost of the calendars remains at \$5.00

**Diocesan Resource Centre MOVING SALE** – 19 King's Bridge Road Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm until December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS** will take place on **December 20th at 11am and 7pm at Cochrane Street United Church**. Soloists this

## ***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.**

In these anxious days of waiting in a global pandemic we need to be reminded that waiting upon the Lord often requires much

spectacular celebration of the Christ-Child.

*Rev. Randy*

year are Mary Antle, Meg Herder, and Darrin Martin along with our Music Director Evan Smith and our choir. To register to attend <https://www.cochranestreetuc.com/christmas-instjohns>

## NOTICES/MEMORABLE DATES

**Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> our Advent theme is "JOY".** "Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament. Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". A rose candle is used on the Advent wreath to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near.

**The consecration of our Bishop – Elect, Archdeacon Samuel Rose,** will be held at our **diocesan cathedral on Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 pm. This event is by invitation only because of the Covid-19 restrictions. Please keep Archdeacon Sam and his family in your prayers as he prepares to lead our diocese forward.

**The Consecration of our new bishop will be live-streamed.** It is our plan to **live-stream it to our screens here at St. Philip's church this coming Tuesday evening, Dec. 15, at 7:00 pm.** We will treat it as a worship service, adhering to all the Covid-19 protocols, and when Eucharist is administered during the consecration service, we will share Eucharist here as well through the reserved sacrament. If you would like to join us for this service you must register by letting Donna and Janice Spurrell know. You can do this by speaking to them on Sunday morning (Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>) or calling 895-3581

**Christmas Tree Lighting change of day.** The tree lighting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm will now take place on **Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.** All are welcome to attend. There will be prayer, carols, names of loved ones read and the official lighting of the tree.

**The first official role of our new bishop following his consecration** is to join us on Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm for our annual tree lighting ceremony. Rev. Randy issued the invitation to Bishop-elect Samuel and he graciously accepted. We will give him the honor of officially flicking the switch to turn on the tree.

**This year our Christmas Eve services may be different than past years,** however, we want to let everyone know that we will be having services that day (Thursday Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>). Unfortunately, because of Covid-19 our children will not be doing the usual pageant that day, which we will miss seeing, but we do want our young families to still make the 4:00 pm family service. Rev. Randy will also be offering a 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm service that night as well. It will be necessary for everyone to call up our registrars, Donna and Janice Spurrell (895-3581) to register for whichever service you plan to attend. At the moment our maximum numbers are still set at 100 people at a time. Of course we are still in the grip of the pandemic and things can change quickly, but if all is as it is now we will have three time slots to choose from on Christmas Eve.

**December 20<sup>th</sup> is the last Sunday of Advent and our theme is that of "Love".** The fourth candle is lit on this day along with the first three. It is the Angel's candle, reminding of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed Christ's arrival with "Behold, I bring unto you good tiding of great joy!" God's love for us is why we have the Incarnation, God coming to us in human form to show us the way into the Kingdom. Love is the very essence of all our relationships with each other and with God. The greatest example we have of unconditional love is that shown by Jesus by his life, ministry, death and resurrection.

**The FM frequency channel will be purchased in the new year.** To date we have received a couple of generous contributions toward the cost. We expect it to cost around \$2800 and to date we have received \$2200. If anyone else would like to add to this amount please speak to Rev. Randy. This is a great piece of equipment to have because it enables people to sit in their vehicles and tune in to the church service, especially in times like these where there are restrictions on the number of people allowed in the building. It would also allow people that, for example have mobility issues to listen to the Flower service in their vehicles. Once we have the remaining amount (\$600) donated we will proceed with the order.

**Thank you to all who supported the ACW ticket fundraiser.** The lucky ticket will be drawn on December 13<sup>th</sup>. This year of 2020 impacted heavily the ability of our church organizations to hold their regular fundraising events and thus make their regular contributions toward the parish budget. Both our ACW and ACM have been doing what they can under the Covid-19 restrictions, such as the salmon take-out dinners and ticket sales. Thank you for supporting them each time as you always do so faithfully.

**What is Advent?** It is the four Sundays preceding Christmas, and the very word *Advent* means "Coming", hence the weeks of preparation for the celebration of the coming of Christ at Christmas. Some people like to purchase advent calendars and, as they count down the days of advent, break open a window each day and eat the little piece of chocolate. Some people like to place their very own advent wreath on the table and light a candle each week to remember each theme – hope, peace, joy and love. So, as we prepare our hearts and lives for the celebration of the birth of our Saviour, use the four weeks of advent to help us get ready for the greatest event in human history – the birth of our Lord, bringing light and hope to a dark world.

The deadline for submitting names for Sanctuary Christmas Flower List is **Sunday, Dec. 20.**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Canon Don Morgan who celebrated his 59<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being ordained a Priest on December 10th.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Canon Shirley Gosse as she celebrates her 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being ordained a Priest on December 21<sup>st</sup> .

## THE BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKS OF Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>

### IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

### AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

## Leslie McDonald

Given By:  
Cindy Leroux  
&  
Mary-Lou Quilty

~ & ~

Loving Husband,  
Father & Grandfather  
**Winston H. Squires**

Given By:

Tony, Millicent &  
Family



## Notes

With the exception of the weeks of Dec. 27 and Jan. 3 when there will be no bulletins printed, Bulletins will continue to be printed every second week for the foreseeable future. Presently, because of Covid-19 restrictions, outside of regular worship there are not many other activities to report on. A limited number will be available on Sunday mornings, however, we do encourage parishioners to go online at: [stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn](mailto:stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn) to read the bulletins.

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

2021 Church Envelopes are available in the foyer. Please take yours and any others there for family, friends or neighbors. Some people are set-up for online giving but it is still good for them to have their packet of envelopes so that they can use other special envelopes such as PWRDF, Cemetery Offerings, etc.

On Thursday, December 17, 2020, the Alzheimer Society of Newfoundland and Labrador will be hosting another First Link Lunch & Learn online meeting! Join us from 12:30-1:30 PM to get information on our First Link program, including how to become a referring partner. This presentation is free and open to the public. The aim of this webinar is to provide information about our First Link Program and inform you of the process to connect individuals with us. In order to connect with our clients, we require people such as yourself to help bridge those connections by becoming referring partners! If you are interested in being registered for the webinar, email your name, email address and profession and/or position title to: [firstlink@alzheimernl.ca](mailto:firstlink@alzheimernl.ca) or, give us a call at (709) 576-0608.

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.

ANGLICAN ALLIANCE BIBLE STUDIES - FAITH IN THE TIME OF CORONAVIRUS. As we continue to worship at home perhaps the following link will be useful to you. Go online and give it a look: <https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/sqe-anglican/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/22143718/COVID-19-Bible-studies-FINAL.pdf>

**What is the status of parish hall rentals?** At this time The Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre is not available for general rentals. As of September, we made the hall available to our major renters, The Ballicatters and Eastern Health group, as long as they had documentation from Eastern Health showing their start-up plan.

Even though our church building is now open for worship services E-Giving is still a good way to make regular offerings. The form for this is available on the church website with all the relevant information. This is an excellent way to give because even if one cannot get to the church the offering is still given. We do have a number of people making their contributions bi-weekly or monthly in this way. You can also call the church office to get the form.

**Primate's World Relief and Development Fund World of Gifts** - Are you thinking of gift giving for friends and family? Why not check out World of Gifts! Go to gift guide online at [pwrdf.org/worldofgifts](http://pwrdf.org/worldofgifts) <http://pwrdf.org/worldofgifts> and make your purchases 24/7. These gifts can truly change lives! As Christmas may look much different this year in terms of family getting together from away, and many of the traditional gift-giving ideas will not take place, maybe this venue with PWRDF may be a great way to give a gift to a family that will make a meaningful difference. Check out the site and see how cheap it is to provide a family with a gift of a goat, or chickens, or a donkey to carry water, or to provide PPE equipment to keep clinics safe. You can truly give the gift that gives life.

**Did you know that you can advertise your business in Anglican Life?** Our Tri-diocesan newspaper goes out to thousands of homes all across Newfoundland & Labrador every month, and thousand more view the online publication. You can purchase half pages or full pages. For more information please contact The Rev. Fred Marshall, the Tri-diocesan Joint Committee Officer at: [fred.marshall@nljointcommittee.com](mailto:fred.marshall@nljointcommittee.com) or by telephone 709-727-4346 By advertising you reach a greater number of potential customers while at the same time providing much needed revenue to our church newspaper.

## The Scriptural Sentence for our worship as appointed in our BAS Lectionary.

### Church Chuckle

*In this little jingle, there is a lesson true,  
You belong either to the building, or to the  
wrecking crew!*

[www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch](https://www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch)

### Stewardship thought for the Week

*"The Lord loveth a cheerful giver but  
he also accepteth from grouches"!*

St. Philip's parish is now setup to receive E-Transfers. With the church building closed some people are looking for ways to make their weekly, biweekly or monthly contribution to the parish. After being closed down now for 7 Sundays the parish really does need those offerings. These days many of us do online banking and send etransfers, 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](mailto: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.

The parish financial books for 2020 will close off on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Offerings received after that date will be receipted for 2021. Thank you so much for your regular and faithful support of your parish. Throughout this pandemic, even when our church building was closed for more than 6 months, we were amazed at how our parishioners were still ensuring that the parish received their offerings on a regular basis. This support enabled your parish to remain up-to-date with its financial obligations, and, as a result we have been getting through the pandemic much better than many.

Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup> . Advent 3 Page 270	Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup> . Advent 4 Page 271
<i>The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.</i>	<i>I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word.</i>
Epistle & Gospel	Epistle & Gospel
1 <sup>st</sup> Reading	1 <sup>st</sup> Reading
Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11	2 Samuel 7: 1-11 & 16
Psalms 126 Page 885	Psalms 89 1-4 & 19-26 Page 823-824 & 826
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading Romans 16: 25-27
Gospel: St. John 1: 6-8 & 19-28	Gospel: St. Luke 1: 26-38

