

April 18th

Collect for the Day: (In Unison) Almighty God, your Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving love. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) Merciful God, accept all we offer you this day. Lead us to love you with all our heart, and to love all people with your perfect love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison) Gracious God, in the eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. Grant that strengthened by these holy gifts, we may show your love in our lives and know its fulfilment in your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) Mac & Sandi Tucker, Margaret Tucker, Mark & Sharon Tucker, Moses G. & Linda Tucker, Raymond & Sharon and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Church of Ireland.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Forteau (4 congregations) - Rector –The Rev. Nath Larkin; and the Parish of Fortune/Lamaline (2 congregations) – Rector – The Rev. Allan Fry.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Quebec, Bishop Bruce Myers.

April 25th

Collect for the Day: Almighty God, grant us the Spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we who can do nothing good without you, may live according to your holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) Merciful God, your word inspires us to bring an offering of our love. May we always be ready to work according to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison) Faithful God, as we are nourished by heavenly food, may we live according to your will and show the fruits of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) Joan Tucker, Victor Tucker, Wade & Judy Tucker, Walter & Susanna Tucker, Warren & Moya Tucker and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Gambo (4 congregations) – Rector – The Rev. Hannah Dicks; the Parish of Gander (2 congregations) – Rector – The Rev. James Beaton and Deacon – The Rev. Diane Sacrey; and the Satellite Ministry, Holy Trinity Gallants – Corner Brook Clergy.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Fredericton, Archbishop David Edwards and Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Armed Forces, Nigel Shaw and all Military Chaplains.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Primate: Archbishop Linda Nicholls

Metropolitan: Archbishop Ron Cutler

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

Apr. 18th and Apr. 25th, 2021 (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: Greetings from me and from your parish church, I hope you all are feeling blessed as we travel through this Easter season. In the life of our church calendar the Easter season ends on May 16th, which is "*Ascension Sunday*"; however, we are reminded that by virtue of who we are as Christians, we are Easter people, so every Sunday we gather to worship and praise the Lord is a celebration of Easter. It is the very foundation of the Christian Church, it is our hope for eternal life. We have four more weeks to journey through the season, so let us really focus our hearts and spirits on the joy of the Resurrection, and the belief that, because Jesus lives, we too will live forevermore.

Last week, we looked at the gospel story of Jesus that Easter evening appearing in a locked room, proving to the disciples that he was indeed resurrected and alive. We saw that Thomas was absent, and when told about this appearance refused to believe unless he could see for himself, and feel the wounds of Jesus where the nails and spear were driven in. Jesus appears again a week later and this time Thomas is present, and he has the opportunity to feel the wounds, and he comes to believe as well. Jesus ended that gospel reading by saying - "*you believe because you have seen, happy are those who have not seen and yet believe*". The disciples were in a unique position to encounter the risen Lord before his ascension into heaven, what about you and I, how do we encounter the risen Lord in our lives?

We have no choice but to be one of those Jesus talked about, the ones who have not seen in a physical sense, but come to believe anyhow. I guess this is what we call faith, and is perhaps a good definition of what faith is, believing and trusting in the risen Lord even though we have not seen him in a physical way. Though this is faith it is by no means "blind faith". You see one week after the Ascension we come to *Pentecost Sunday*" (May 23rd) , where we celebrate the fulfilment of Jesus' promise to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit. It is at this time that the disciples, and followers of Jesus are infused with a power and presence that brings the Church into existence. The story of Pentecost is the story of the birth of Christ's Church. It is this Holy Spirit that convicts us, and works within us to assure us that Christ is real, his promises are real, and the faith we have is powered by this presence and power of the risen Lord. Does it mean that henceforth we will never struggle again, will never have doubts again, and life will be filled with everlasting joy and excitement? Of course not, but we already know that don't we? Naturally we will encounter lots of challenges and struggles along the way, though there will be great joy, there will also be times of great disappointment, loss and sorrow in our lives, and in the life of our faith community, because that's what we do in community, we rejoice with each other in good times and we share pain and sorrow in times of failure and despair. That's the nature of this human condition we share. That's the kind of life that Jesus experienced as well when he walked among us, he knew great joy and he also knew great sorrow. God doesn't promise to insulate us from sorrow, pain and loss, but God does promise to be with us through it all. I am always reminded of that glorious Psalm 23, where the Psalmist says – "*Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff comforteth me*". *That's the power and promise of God, that's the fulfilment of this promise in the resurrection of Jesus.*

So, we need not lose hope in times of despair, times when the foundation of our faith is tested, times when we cry out - my God why hast thou forsaken me"? The gospel we read this Sunday (April 18th)

gives St. Luke's account of Jesus standing before the disciples following his resurrection, and saying - *Peace be with you. The reaction of the disciples is one of great fear, because they think they are seeing a scary ghost. Again, Jesus has to go through the whole experience of allowing them to feel his wounds, to touch his physical body, he even has to eat a piece of broiled fish before they are convinced that it is actually him. They do come to believe, and Jesus uses that time to teach them what the scriptures foretold in the Old Testament, and instructs them to go out into the world, as witnesses of his resurrection, and tell others that he has risen.*

Jesus always had much patience and gentleness for those who were slow to believe, those who would not believe until they saw, he knew that love and understanding is key to bringing others into the Kingdom of God. That is true for the church as well, for we are the body of Christ, we are his ambassadors, we are the ones he has entrusted the ministry of the church to, we are the ones commanded by the Lord to show love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control to others in our mission to share the good news of the resurrection. You will know that all of these are the Fruits of the Spirit that Paul talks about in his letter to the Galatians (Ch. 5), and all are essential ingredients in the lives of Christians and in the life of the Church. With these fruits any church can be alive in Christ, and any church will succeed in extending the Kingdom of God. These are challenges we have, and to work our hardest to achieve this standard set by Christ, but also knowing that to falter and fall is to be human and by no means is a gauge of our faith or spiritual depth. It just means we are on a journey together, and we need each other to help us along the way, there is nothing worse than falling and having nobody to help us up. The world has enough people already whose one purpose is to knock others down, our call is to help each other up and to guide and encourage one another along the way.

We will continue to be this way in our parish family life here at St. Philip's, and I see so many examples all the time of how you are doing that. As we continue to support and pray for one another may we know that every kind word we speak, every kind deed we do is a reflection of Christ in our lives. That's what will make the difference in the lives of others, that's what will bring others into our church and grow the Kingdom of God.

I also want to say that, as of Saturday, April 17th, the number of people allowed to worship together in church has been increased to 100 people. We still have to call and register so as to keep an accurate record of attendees if we are called upon for the list. This is good news because it is also a sign that we are gradually getting to a better place excited with infection rates, and as more and more people receive the vaccines we will do even better. So we thank God for this good news. I want to end by asking your prayers for Farrah. She is a young lady that several of our parishes are sponsoring to come to Canada. You will recall that we completed sponsorship of a family of 5 late in 2020, and who are now doing very well on their own, though we still keep in touch with them. Farrah has been waiting in Cyprus for quite some time, and I have been often in touch with her by email. She is a single lady of the Christian faith and she will be arriving in St. John's on April 26th. Because we are still in this pandemic time our committee now has to find a place for her to do a two week quarantine, and then beyond that time find her a small apartment to rent. We are very excited to welcome her, and she is very excited to come among us. Please keep the committee in your prayers, and St. Philip's representatives are myself, Dr. Greg Brown (Chair), Karen Puglisevich, Moses and Linda Tucker. Our big challenge now is around accommodations, so please feel free to let me know of anything you might know of.

Blessings, Rev. Randy

**THE BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKS OF
April 18th . & 25th .**

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

Derek Mercer

April 16. 1953 – June 13, 2019

Hubert Mercer

October 27, 1925 – April 26, 2011

Myrtle Mercer

August 20, 1929 – April 26, 2016

Always in our Hearts

Carol, Ruth, Karen & Families

Clayton Squires

Who passed away on April 21, 2020.

Always remembered by

Lorraine, Bob, Susan, Maria & Chris

Edgar Clarke

A dear husband, Dad and Pop

who passed away Jan. 16, 2018.

Remembered on his birthday

April 8th . by

Wife Joyce, Children and Grandchildren

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.**

NOTICES/MEMORABLE DATES

The FM Radio Frequency is up and going! For the past couple of weeks we have been availing of this new way of worshipping together safely, and keeping warm as we do so. Simply park in the church lot and tune your radio to 98.5 FM and the service will be heard through your car radio. It can also be heard by those who live in the immediate vicinity of the church building. This gift to the church was donated by the following families in memory of their loved ones:

IN MEMORY OF Arthur W Squires (By sisters, Florence Morgan (Canon Don), Winnie Lynch, Dorothy Clarke (Lewis))

IN MEMORY OF Edgar Clark (By wife Joyce and family)

IN MEMORY OF Leila Tulk (By husband Tom and family)

We thank them for this generous contribution to St. Philip's parish and we will be able to make excellent use of it.

The 98.5 FM frequency is always in use whenever we are gathered for worship. If our numbers inside exceed 100 people there is still the ability to listen to the service through your car radio while in the parking lot of the church.

Rev. Randy is available for prayer – during this time of separation and isolation many people may be feeling lonely. If you would like prayer, please contact the office (895-0715) and Rev. Randy will pray with you on the phone.

We are now back to indoor worship for our 8:30 am and 10:30 am services. We are restricted to a maximum of 100 people, including sidespersons, register, organist and clergy. It is also still important that you register for Sunday worship by calling Donna or Janice Spurrell at 895-3581. If you attend on Sunday and you plan to be there the next Sunday just let them know at the registration table.

Who is an ACW member or an ACM member? The short answer is, every woman of our parish is an ACW member and every man is an ACM member. We would love to get the numbers of active members up that attend regular meetings. Contrary to what some might think, it's not always about meetings and planning fundraisers, it is also about fun and fellowship together. We would love to see more of our ladies and gentlemen meeting together, getting to know one another better and growing our parish.

ACW Lenten Sock Project has been a success again this year. Just a reminder to those who have not returned their socks that there is still time to do so.

Parish Finances is always a concern for us as we endeavor to keep up-to-date on our commitments. Last year (2020) turned out to be an excellent year for the parish financially, as all of you, parishioners of St. Philip's parish rallied to ensure the bills could be paid in the midst of the pandemic as our building was closed. We are very grateful for that, and, not many parishes in the diocese had this experience, and it happened here because of your faithfulness to God and your devotion to this parish. We are now coming to the end of the first quarter of 2021, and we want to remind everyone that the challenges of the global pandemic are still with us, our building continues to be closed down for inside worship and fundraising is non-existent at the moment. We ask everyone to be mindful of our situation and to help us keep up financially by being regular in your financial support of the parish. God bless you for all you do in the life of our parish.

New Vestry members are needed for the upcoming annual meeting. Each year several members go off Vestry having served their 3 year term, which leaves openings for new members. Please give this some thought and speak to the rector or wardens if you would like to offer yourself this year. If you served on Vestry before and have been off for at least one year you are eligible to be nominated again.

If you would like to receive Rev. Randy's weekly email please provide your email address. Periodically, the Rector sends out emails to all those in the parish whose email he has on file. Please provide him with your email address by emailing him at lockyerrandy@gmail.com.

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 - Ballicatter and Eastern Health group - as long as they had documentation from Eastern Health showing their start-up plan.

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 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.

Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:00 pm in the main body of the church.

ACM meeting will be held on Thursday, April 22nd at 7:00 pm.

The ACW Sub Sandwich sale will be held on April 29th. The ACW ladies are already taking orders for the subs so please be sure to get your order in. We ask for your full support of this fundraiser, especially since our ACW have not been able to have many fundraisers in the past year. Your support will allow them to make their contribution to the parish budget in 2021.

The annual meeting of the congregation will now be held on Sunday, May 2nd following the 10:30 am service. Given the kind of year 2020 turned out to be we do not anticipate a lot of time spent on reports as most parish activities were either halted or greatly affected because of the pandemic. We will need additional members elected to vestry to replace those who have served their term.

Hospital visitation is limited to only the appointed chaplain. Whenever any of our parishioners are admitted to hospital, parish clergy are prohibited from visiting because of Covid-19 guidelines. So please ask for the Anglican Chaplain, and, he will be most happy to visit you regularly during your hospital stay.

Rev. Randy is now accepting names for Confirmation. Last year we were about to call for registration for Confirmation when the pandemic was declared and we had to close down. Because we are still closed we are only accepting the names for now. If you have a child for Confirmation please let the rector know. Once we have a definitive number, Rev. Randy will acquire a Confirmation date from Bishop Rose as soon as we are able to safely gather again.

Notes

Bulletins will continue to be printed every second week for the foreseeable future. Due to the church being closed again because of Covid, we do encourage parishioners to go online at: 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

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>

We are now permitted to have up to 100 people in church. This is good news indeed. However, it is still necessary for people to call Donna or Janice to be put on the list, as we must keep an accurate record of attendees just in case we are asked for it. As well, people from the same household are allowed to sit next to any of their 20 consistent contacts. Masks must be worn at all times and can only be removed to receive the Eucharist. Readings and sermons can be done without the mask as long as nobody is within 6 feet of lectern or pulpit. We will continue to adhere to all safety protocols as before for as long as we are advised to do so. It is working and we are seeing the results of it in our province.

The food collection container is still being used. As an Advent project in 2020 we placed a food donation container in the foyer of the church, and encouraged parishioners to make regular donations of non-perishable food items. Each time the box was full we took them to the "Pop-up Pantry" at St. Lawrence's parish, which is a community food bank. We determined that this would be a good outreach ministry to be involved with regularly. So we want to remind everyone that they can still bring the food items for the box as often as they want.

Anyone with children for baptism is asked to speak to Rev. Randy. Because of the restrictions and very limited numbers around gathering, we continue to do baptism outside of the regular Sunday worship times.

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

April 18th Third Sunday of Easter	April 25th Fourth Sunday of Easter
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The Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives.	The Father brought us forth by the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.
1st Reading	1st Reading
Acts 3: 12-19	Acts 4: 5-12
Psalm 4: 1-2, 14-24 Pages: 707-708 (Debbie Collis)	Psalm 23: Page: 731 (Ruth Hiscock)
2nd Reading	2nd Reading
1st. John 3: 1-7 (Gary King)	1st. John 3: 16-24 (Harvey Hiscock)
Gospel Luke 24: 36b-48 (Deacon Bonnell)	Gospel John 10: 11-18 (Deacon Bonnell)

Church Chuckle

**Where is the first mention of insurance in the Bible?
When Adam and Eve need more coverage.**

www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

Stewardship thought for the Week

Seek joy in what you give, not in what you get.

St. Philip's parish is set up 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 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.