



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

Website: 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

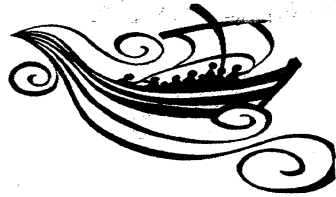
December 20th, 2015 (Year C)

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**

Today, I write to you on two issues that should be of importance to us as Christians and members of the body of Christ.

This Sunday, in our church, is "Belize Sunday", where we ask each family to give to this special appeal. This appeal is supported by the Bishop of the Diocese and every Parish is asked to respond. The purpose of this appeal is to help build a rectory in the mission of St. Mark's, Hattieville. I do ask you to give to this appeal over the next few weeks. We ask that the minimum amount from each family be \$10.00. We are helping our brothers and sisters in another country,

which is our companion Diocese, to have a rectory for their priest and for him to give better pastoral care to them as he lives among them. Please give with a willing heart and God will bless you.

The second issue is the plight of the refugees which we face in the world at the present time. Many people have been displaced by force from their homeland and are looking for a new country in which to live. Our country of Canada has opened the door to give them that new place to live.

As a church in Newfoundland and Labrador, and as Anglicans, we are showing leadership in this issue.

On Monday evening the Vestry gave approval for us as a church to help and support these refugees.

As your Priest, I have been asked by your Vestry, to consult with the Parish of Holy Innocents, Paradise, and the Parish of St. Lawrence, Portugal Cove, and to work with them, if they so desire, to bring a family to the Province or give our time and talents to support a family when they arrive.

The cost to bring a family to the Province is approximately \$27,000.00. We will need to raise \$7,000.00 before we can ask to sponsor a family. The Government of Canada will share the cost if we are willing to sponsor a family. Many families are presently living in camps and it is important for us as Christians to follow the example of Jesus and help them as soon as possible.

The question is – when we are able to find out more details – **are you willing to give of your time which will be needed for an extended period, possibly a year or more?**

As I write this letter, I am listening to Open Line on VOCM and the issue is all about the refugees with some negative attitudes but we need to be positive because what we are planning to do as a church and a Diocese is in the will of God. We are called at this time to help our brothers and sisters who are seeking a better life by coming among us. Jesus said, "if you do it for one of these, you do it for me".

So, I call upon you at this time, to show that we are truly following the teaching of Jesus by giving of our time, talent and money to these two issues. Remember in this season of Christmas God gave his Son for each of us and came among us as a baby born in Bethlehem.

Finally, I encourage you to come and worship with us on Christmas Eve to celebrate that wonderful birth.

Rev. Ed

A Stewardship Thought for the Week

It's Offering Time: "Bye-bye, dear dollars!", some say, almost crying in the offering plates.

But not **many**. The people here happily take important financial partnership in a growing family that seeks to serve the cause of Jesus Christ.

We grow as we give more, and we also grow as more and more of us steadily give.

Stewardship Statement

Dec. 13th, 2015

Regular Givings: \$ 1,349.00

Maint. Fund 290.90

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.

Church Chuckle

The collection plate

A little boy was in church for the first time. He watched as the ushers passed around the collection plate. When they got to his pew, he told his father, "Don't pay for me Daddy, I'm under 5."

Bumper stickers for smark-alecks

Where there's a will, I want to be in it.

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.

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.**

The Scriptural Sentence for our worship today as appointed in our BAS Lectionary, Page 270:

I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word

The Bulletin today is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Our dear Loretta Tucker
by Victor and family
"Forever in our hearts"

Schedule of Services

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 20th

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

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist (BAS), & Sunday school **Eucharistic Assts:** Ches Barfitt, Carol Bartlett

Counters: Susan Powell, Tom Tulk

Sidesperson: Todd Martin

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. 27th

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

This is **“Belize Sunday”** in our Parish and 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 31st, 2016. You have until this time to give your gift to help the people of Hattieville.

Thank you.

Notices

We would like to thank the ladies of the congregation who helped with the annual cleaning of the church on Friday and Saturday of last week. Thank you.

The Vestry would like to thank Clayton Parsons for building the new manger which is now displayed in the Sanctuary. Thank you, Clayton.

The Vestry would also like to thank Neil Penney for building the shelves in the storage room and Parish Centre. Thank you, Neil.

Notices (Continued)

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 31st, at 12:00 noon.

Sanctuary Fund – Flowers : If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one for Christmas flowers in the Sanctuary, envelopes are available in the foyer. Please note the deadline for donations is **Dec. 18th**.

“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.

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. 15th – 23rd.

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

Noteworthy Events (Cont’d)

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 100th 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.

Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent
Scripture Readings for today, December 20th

1st Reading: **Micah 2: 2 – 5a Canticle 18a (Page 86) (Gloria Earle)**

2nd Reading: **Hebrews 10: 5 – 10 (David Earle)**

Gospel: **Luke 1: 39 - 45 (Rev. Ed Bonnell)**

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): 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

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): 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.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): 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.

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): Arthur Squires Jr., Catherine Squires, Christine Squires, Lydia Squires, Edith Lawrence, Laura 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 Yewa (formerly Egbado), Lagos, Nigeria: The Rt. Rev. Michael Adebayo Oluwarohumbi.