

July 26th.

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Oh God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever and ever. Amen

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison): God of grace, accept all we offer you this day, as we look toward the glory you have promised. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): God of grace, we have received the memorial of the death and resurrection of your Son. May your love, poured into us, bring us to your promises. We ask this in the name of our Redeemer Jesus Christ. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) William & Rebecca Tucker, William & Rhonda Tucker, Thomas Tulk, Kevin & Joyce Whelan, Jeff & Faye Williams and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the team responsible for preparing the Lambeth Conference, which was due to be taking place now – please pray for them as they consider the implications of its postponement in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Pistolet Bay (5 congregations), Deacon-in-Charge – The Rev. DCN Arthur Kinsella and the Parish of Plum Point (5 congregations), Priest-in-Charge – Awaiting appointment.

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

Bishop: The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle

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 – Harvey Hiscock - 895-2011

People's Warden – Gary King- 895-6239

July 26th. and Aug. 2nd., 2020 (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.

From the Rector's desk: As we continue in the global chaos of Covid-19, I sense a tiredness in many of the people that are tasked with the job of having to appear on public media every day. Though we are really getting a handle on the virus in Canada, number of infections and deaths are dramatically down, and we are looking at jump-starting our economy again. For all of that we are still living with a sense of anxiety and dread, knowing that it wouldn't take much to stoke the flames of Covid-19. We are especially fearful because of what we see happening with our friends and neighbours in the USA. They have not yet found a way to slow down the spread of the virus, as a result many thousands are still being infected daily, and thousands are still dying weekly. Please continue to pray for them, and for their political leaders that have yet to find a way to cooperate and act together on what is a matter of life and death for their people.

This week we are able to take solace in some good news coming from Oxford University, as they reported some very promising signs of a potential vaccine on the horizon. Even with that as a hopeful possibility we are still some time away from a vaccine being available on a global scale, so we must still conduct our day-to-day lives with a heightened sense of caution and care. I talked of a sense of tiredness creeping into those who are on the frontlines of Covid-19, health professionals, political leaders and researchers. We must not confuse that with hopelessness, for a lot of good work is being done by so many and we are the beneficiaries of that. I suppose even if you look at the church, by this time there likely is a sense of tiredness as well. We have been nearly five months outside of our buildings, and many of the normal things we were used to doing, worship (especially Eucharist), meetings, ministry programs, fellowship dinners and fundraisers, etc. we have not been able to do. We try our best to find some sense of normalcy with parking lot services on Sunday morning, and Facebook postings, but it is not a perfect substitute for being together. I hear every day from parishioners that are so tired of not being able to sit in a pew on Sunday morning, and miss

together corporately and communally. For the Christian there is a deep need for community, we find our strength and faith in supporting and encouraging one another. I hope when we emerge from this barren time of a Pandemic we will all rekindle that flame that has perhaps been smouldering within us for the last few months. For now we may feel like the children of Israel wandering the desert following their captivity in Egypt, but let us remember they were there for 40 years before they found their way home, I hope we all have the spiritual stamina to get through this Pandemic, God willing it will be sooner rather than later. We are never without hope, by definition we are a people of hope because we are people of the Resurrection. God is able to reach into every situation of life, even when human beings lose hope, and bring about something wonderful and powerful. I'm positive God's hand is at work in our lives and in our world during this difficult time. I love the story in Ezekiel Chapter 37, that details a vision by the prophet depicted in a dream. Ezekiel is in a valley full of dry human bones. He is commanded to carry a prophecy. Right before his very eyes the bones connect into human figures, then they are covered with tendon tissues, flesh and skin. Then God reveals the bones to the prophet as the people of Israel in exile and commands him to carry another prophecy in order to revitalize these human figures, to resurrect them and to bring them to the land of Israel. So, we see the power of God to bring hope where there is doubt and fear, light where there is darkness, and life from death. So my friends if you are feeling a little bit fatigued at this point, don't lose hope or courage, good things are happening around us, and I feel that by God's grace we will soon emerge from this valley we have been in for so long now. In the past month I have had the privilege of doing two baptisms and a wedding at St. Philip's church. As long as we respect the rule of no more than 50 people and physically distance, and clean up after, we can do weddings and baptisms inside. Deacon Bonnell had the honor a few weeks ago to baptize their first grandchild, what a joyous event in their family life. So, we are moving in the right direction, good things are happening, and we want each of you to continue to pray for one another, for the parish, the clergy, our bishop and diocese. Please maintain your regular financial support as well; our level of givings have decreased with the building

We received a grant from the Anglican Foundation to help with the plans we have for the cemetery space around the columbaria. Given the difficult year it is shaping up to be for investments we are very fortunate and grateful to receive this grant of \$2500. When we start and complete these beautifications will depend on the lifting of restrictions around Covid-19. Our parish supports the work of the Anglican Foundation, and, our own Debbie Collis is a member of the Foundation.

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

Anyone desiring to have children baptized, please speak to Rev. Randy. We can do baptisms as long as we abide by the government and health regulations around Covid-19.

If anyone is going through a difficult time and in need of food because of the Covid-19 closedown please contact Rev. Randy by calling the church office at 895-0715 We have been reminding people that the church is here to help, and, if someone is in need of food we will do our very best to help with that.

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.

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.**

the weekly opportunities to meet together as a church family. They understand fully why we cannot meet together, but they long for that time to come when we can. We don't know what "church" will look like post Covid-19, I've a feeling that some of the things we took for granted before may need to change, but I hope "we", the church family will not change in our need to be

closed, but thankfully many are still finding a way to contribute. As long as we are faithful in all things God will provide for us. I look forward to when we can be together again, but until then stay safe and may you and your family have a blessed Summer.

Rev. Randy

NOTICES/MEMORABLE DATES

Rev. Randy plans to post another short worship service on Facebook every Sunday. Please share it widely with others once you see it. It will also be on the parish Facebook page.

The past several Sundays Rev. Randy has conducted church services from the church entrance, with parishioners listening from their vehicles. If weather permits we will continue to do so, however, we must insist that everyone continue to maintain the principle of physical distancing by remaining in the vehicle at all times.

Cemetery Services in our diocese have been put on hold this Summer until such a time as congregations are able to meet together. Ours was scheduled for July 26th but as of now, the service will not proceed at that time. Please do maintain the graves of your loved ones as you exercise physical distancing.

Many are inquiring about this year's Flower service. It was originally scheduled for July 26th, however, our bishop sent out a directive to all parishes in the diocese stating that there would be no gatherings of people in any of our cemeteries this year. Right now we don't know when it will be, with a bit of good luck and things are looking better in September maybe then.

Our parish task force is in place to work toward the reopening of our church building. We are gathering necessary items such as; hand sanitizer, disinfectants, masks, cleaners, etc. We must ensure all the protocols are addressed before we can reopen. We want to take every care to make sure that as we open again we will do so safely and not put any of our parishioners at risk.

Let's call one another –we are probably home! Many of us are missing those we are so used to seeing on Sunday morning in church. Why not pick up the phone and give them a call, no doubt it will make their day and reassure them that they are not forgotten. This is a real ministry of the church in which we can all engage.

What is the status of parish hall rentals? At this time The Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre is not available for any rentals. In September we will make the hall available to our major renters, The Ballicatters and Eastern Health group, as long as they have documentation from Eastern Health showing their start up plan. Even this will need diocesan permission.

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

<u>July 26th.</u> Page 367	<u>Aug. 2nd.</u> Page 368
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.	We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Epistle & Gospel	Epistle & Gospel
1st Reading: Genesis 29: 15-28	1st Reading: Genesis 32: 22-31
Psalm 105 1-11 Page: 845-846	Psalm 17 1-7, 16 Page: 720-721
2nd Reading: Romans 8: 26-39	2nd Reading: Romans 9: 1-5
Gospel: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52	Gospel: Mathew 14: 13-21

Whenever it is we will be sure to announce it publicly and on our parish website and Facebook page.

Notes

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.

With Summer upon us in the midst of this pandemic we urge all our parishioners to be regular in your financial support of the parish. It may very well be that some of our diocesan churches might not be able to emerge from the loss of parish revenue during this time of shut-down, especially as we continue on to Labour Day before they reopen. So far, we are holding our own, of course we have suffered a loss of revenue but we are managing to keep it all going. Please, if you can't make it to our outdoor services on Sundays drop off your offering during the week in the office or do an e-transfer. Your faithful support is indeed vital to the financial health of our parish. Thank you for all you do!!

Recently all the exterior lighting of the building was replaced at a cost of nearly \$1400.00 We are grateful that this was paid for by a member of our congregation who wishes to remain anonymous. If you are around the area after dark you will notice a remarkable improvement to the lighting all around the building. The lighting is also energy efficient. Thank you for this

Rev. Randy will be at the church every Sunday morning during close-down for anyone that would like to come by the church to drop off their weekly offering. The time for this will be between 10:00 am – 12:00 noon. Of course you can drop by anytime during the week as well when the office is open, or, you can mail it to the church. It is so important for us to keep up with our regular offerings to the church during this time so that we can keep all the church bills paid.

If your church can be of any help to you during this time of Covid-19 please let us know. We recognize that maybe some of our seniors may not be able to get out to purchase their groceries, or fill prescriptions, etc., if you are in need of someone to do these things for you please call the church office and we will ensure that someone comes to help you. Please call 895-0715 and leave a message or call Rev. Randy directly at 693-8537.

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>

Remember (when things get back to normal) that the first Sunday of each month there will be coffee/tea, juice and other refreshments served prior to the 10:30 am worship service. This is an opportunity for fellowship and welcoming everyone that comes. Thank you to Lisa for organizing it each month and to the youth that help her to serve. Anyone wishing to sponsor refreshments for a future time please contact Lisa Lake (Brown).

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.

During this time with our church building closed down a few people are opting to sign up for E-Giving. 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.

Church Chuckle

"When you take sermon material from one writer, it's plagiarism; but when you swipe it from many writers, it's research."

www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

Stewardship thought for the Week

If we belong to Christ, it's logical that everything we have truly belongs to Him.

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 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.

gift to the parish, it was well needed and also improves safety for those using the building after dark.