

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

**Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador
Anglican Parish of St. Philip
Bishop: The Right Rev Dr. Geoffrey Peddle
Rector: Rev. Edward Keeping**



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**A WARM WELCOME IS EXTENDED TO ALL OUR
PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS WHO ARE WORSHIPPING
WITH US TODAY**

November 23rd, 2014 (Year A)

**The Bulletin today is given to the glory of God and in Loving
Memory of:**

GEORGE SPURRELL
Nov. 27, 1928 – Oct. 10, 1998
By Ruby, Janice & Donna
“Forever In Our Hearts”

FATHER AND GRANDFATHER
WILFRED WALTER MERCER
By Ernie, Barbara, Nicholas & Melissa; Bernadine & Miranda;
Wilf, Coreen & Alicia; Wanda, Jason, Rosalie, Jamie, Jennifer &
John;
Darren & Rita

MALCOLM TUCKER
By Walter & Susie

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**



From the Rector's Desk

I am offering Advent Reflections for your reading and
meditations this Advent. There are four devotions and they are
offered by bishops from the Anglican Church of Canada and the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, the Episcopal (Anglican)
church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. As you
know, the Anglican Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church
are in full communion with each other.

The first devotion (Advent Sunday) is written by
Elizabeth Eaton. She is the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America. The last devotion in the series
(Advent 4) is written by Fred Hiltz, Anglican Primate of Canada. I
commend these devotions to you.

Prayer - “God beyond time, help us to live in the tension between
what you have done and what you will do, and into the truth that
Christ will come again.” Amen

By Elizabeth Eaton – The Burpee Seed Catalogue is the epitome of beauty, grace and proportion. Its pages display the Platonic ideal of which my garden is a poor reflection. Leafing through the catalog I have been beguiled by images of perfect vegetables and beautiful flowers.

I remember my first encounter, my first brush with the excitement and danger of the Burpee's catalogue, a phone and a credit card. It was the page with the fields of lavender. I could turn our Columbus, Ohio house into Provence! But the fact that our lot was small enough to mow the lawn with a weed whacker brought me back from the abyss. I decided to order tulip bulbs instead.

Tulip bulbs must be planted in the fall. (They also must be planted right side up I discovered, but that is another story.) We all know how autumn is in the parish: the start-up of Sunday School, choir rehearsals and committee meetings. I didn't plant in September or October.

Finally, toward the end of November, I took my tulip bulbs, bone meal and trowel and set out to transform the backyard. Soil in Ohio is often clay. It was cold. It was raining. It was muddy. My husband would look out the back window and shake his head. After a while even the dog left me. By the time I had finished it was dark and the backyard was a soupy, lumpy, clay-ey mess. But all I could see were rows of brilliant red tulips warmed in the spring sun.

Advent is an odd season. It isn't culturally accessible. It doesn't lend itself to retail. There are no made-for-TV movies telling heartwarming stories about the great and terrible day of the Lord. It is an unsettled season that holds in tension the now and the not yet, longing and hope, judgment and redemption. This is clear in the readings for the First Sunday in Advent.

In Isaiah, the people of Israel are languishing in Babylon. The nation had been defeated, the Temple destroyed, Jerusalem sacked and the people forced into exile. Israel had experienced the liberating power of God in the Exodus. Israel was waiting to be set free from exile in Babylon by God with that same power. The people are pleading with God, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down so that the mountains would quake at your presence" (Isaiah 64:1). They were caught between the first Exodus and waiting for the second exodus, this time out of Babylon.

In Mark, Jesus tells his disciples that the Son of Man will come in clouds with great power and glory. "Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven" (Mark 13:27). But Jesus does not give a timeline. To his disciples, to the early church, to us, Jesus is not talking so much about *here* as about *near*.

We have celebrated the first Christmas. We know that the babe in the manger grew to adulthood, inaugurated the new age of reign of god and was crucified. We are on the other side of the first Easter, the resurrection, the triumph over sin and death. We confess, "Christ has died. Christ is risen." But we find ourselves in the muddy, lumpy mess of a fallen world.

Scripture tells us that "God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31). We have heard Jesus' promise from the cross to the criminal: "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). And yet we live in a world still marred by sin. What a terrible tension: we stand between two Edens, the one at the dawn of creation and the one at the close of the age.

Now we can see the beautiful logic of Advent. Where the culture (and my heart, too, if I am honest) celebrates and holds on to the manger and the star, the shepherds and wise men, to Mary and Joseph and the Christ child, the church calls us to look for the return of the King. Advent deepens the tension between what the

world was created to be and what it now is, between what God has done and what God will do.

To our muddy, soupy, lumpy mess – when we walked in darkness – God sent God's midnight Son. Because of Emmanuel, God with us, we can stand in our clay and see glory. Advent is the season when we can say, "Christ has died. Christ is risen. *Christ will come again.*"

In the meantime, we plant tulips and wait for Spring.

Noteworthy Events

The ACM of our parish will be providing an outside Christmas Tree complete with BLUE LIGHTS. Donations in memory of loved ones are requested and as the donations are received, the blue lights will be replaced with WHITE LIGHTS in memory of the particular loved one. BY CHRISTMAS EVE, THE TREE SHOULD HAVE ONLY WHITE LIGHTS.

Diocesan Resource Centre, opened Saturdays from Nov. 1st – Dec. 20th for the Christmas Season.

Blue Christmas

For whatever reason, Christmas can be painful for some. The grief experience can often make us feel alone in the midst of celebrating and the joy of Christmas. On **Sunday, November 30th at 6:30pm at St. Mary's Anglican Church**, they will be offering a Blue Christmas Service. Come, sit, reflect and listen to the quiet music of classical guitarist, Charlie Barefoot, with hymns & reflections as well, to help people to face the upcoming season.

Grieving – Coping with the Holidays

Eastern Health Pastoral Care & Ethics Dept. invites you to "**Coping with the Holidays**" on **Monday, December 1st from 2:00pm – 3:30pm in the HSC auditorium**. Or, choose to attend an **alternative slot on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd from 7:00pm – 8:30pm**. The events are designed to provide people, who are spending their first couple of holiday seasons without a loved one, with helpful information and suggestions. For further information, please call Rev. Jacintha Penney or Paul Grimes at 777-6959.

Tree Lighting Ceremony – Town of Portugal Cove – St. Philips - **Tuesday, Dec. 2nd at 6:30 pm**, at the Town Hall

Portugal Cove-St. Philip's and Volunteer Fire Dept. Christmas Parade – **Sunday, Dec. 7th at 2:00pm starting at Beachy Cove Elementary School and finishing at the Royal Canadian Legion.**

Messiah at the Basilica! Join the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra and its Philharmonic Choir for Handel's Messiah on Friday, Dec. 12th & Saturday, Dec. 13th at the Basilica of St. John the Baptist. Both concerts begin at 8:00pm. Tickets (\$25/\$30) are available at the Arts and culture Centre Box Office - 729-3900 - online www.artsandculturecentre.com and at the concert. If Messiah isn't already a part of your holiday tradition there's no better time to start. Featuring renowned soloists Shannon Mercer (soprano), Julie Nesrallah (mezzo soprano), Michael Colvin (tenor), and Philippe Sly (baritone), this promises to be a performance that will make you want to stand up and shout "Hallelujah!"

Schedule of Services

Advent Sunday, Nov. 30th

8:30 AM – Holy Communion (BCP)
Eucharistic Assistant: Ann Lambert
10:30AM – Holy Eucharist (BAS)& Sunday School
Eucharistic Assists: Jennifer Tucker, Charlie Gosse
Counters: Karen Puglisevich, Susan Powell
Sidesperson: Todd Martin

2nd Sunday of Advent, Dec. 7th

8:30 AM – Holy Communion (BCP)
Eucharistic Assistant: Ches Barfitt
10:30AM – Holy Eucharist (BAS)& Sunday School
Eucharistic Assists: Larry Bradley, Joan Tucker
Counters: Don Morgan, Ruth Hiscock
Sidesperson: Gerald Sharpe

Baptismal Preparation:

In preparation for baptism, it will become the practice in the parish that the priest will visit the family for information purposes and to get to know them.

The Saturday before the baptism, the parents and godparents will meet at the church, at an agreed upon time, for preparation. This is a teaching time for baptism.

Following the service, the priest will continue to have follow-up with the family.

Baptism will usually be the first Sunday of the month but often due to work commitments of the family, we may have to work with them to find another alternative.

“TODAY” & “OUR DAILY BREAD” - Please pick up the latest copy of **“Today”** and **“Our Daily Bread”** for your daily devotion. They are on the table in the foyer. We are encouraging people to use them for their own spiritual growth. Please put a quarter in the container provided, so we can support these ministries.

MILESTONES

Congratulations to Jennifer Tucker on being chosen Valedictorian at her High School Graduation last week. She received numerous scholarships, including The Governor General’s Award and The Centenary of Responsible Government Award. She also received the highest mark in Math and Science. What wonderful accomplishments, Jennifer!!

A Stewardship Thought for the Week

A significant change in Christian maturity happens when we move from saying, “Why doesn’t somebody do that?” or “why don’t you do that?” to “why don’t **I** do that?”

Our giving pattern, as we grow, takes just the same course.

Church Chuckle

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples.

The nun made a note and posted it on the apple tray: **“Take only one. God is watching.”**

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note, **“Take all you want. God is watching the apples.”**

Notices

You can pick up your 2015 church envelopes as you leave the church this morning. They are on the tables in the foyer.

If anyone would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one, we are in need of one blind for the church. Please contact Rev. Keeping if you are interested.

As a church, we are called to help needy people in our community and province. The need in this parish at this time of the year is not great. Therefore, with your help, I would like to provide some assistance to the crew that is stranded in Argentia or the Food Bank. We are looking for turkey, other food items; toiletries i.e. shaving cream, razors; clothing i.e. socks & underwear, etc. The deadline is Sunday, Dec. 14th. We have placed three boxes in the local stores in St. Philip’s.

Cards & Darts Fellowship: The Cards & Darts Fellowship will now be held on the **4th Wednesday of each month**, at 8:00pm.

Diocesan Anglican Men’s Association – Notice of General Meeting – Sunday, Nov. 30th – Church of the Ascension, Mt. Pearl Business Meeting at 4:00pm sharp; Supper at 5:00pm; Church Service at 6:30pm. DAMA Pins will be on sale @ \$5.00. Please let Gary King know if you plan to attend this event by the deadline of Nov. 23rd.

Daily Morning Prayer (Mon thru Friday) will begin on Monday, Dec. 1st at 10:00am at the church. Anyone who would like to share in this service is welcome to come along.

Advent Bible Study is beginning.

This week, it will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 2nd at 7:30pm. Dates for subsequent weeks will be announced.

ACW Meeting Wednesday Dec. 3rd at 7:30pm in the Boardroom.

Advent Quiet Day with Bishop Geoff: You are invited to an Advent Quiet Day in the Parish of St. Philip’s on **Saturday, Dec. 6th** with the Right Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Peddle. The theme will be, **“The word was made flesh...and dwelt among us...full of grace and truth.”** Bishop Geoff will deliver a single talk that day in three parts, based upon John 1:14, beginning at 10:00am and ending at 2:00pm with a closing Eucharist. Lunch at a cost of \$5 per person will be provided by the parish (**we ask our parishioners to kindly donate a pot-luck dish**). Please register by contacting the parish directly at 895-0715 or by e-mail at: stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com.

Pot-Luck Lunch cancelled for Dec. 7th

The next Pot-Luck Lunch is planned for the last Sunday in January.

St. Philip’s Anglican Church New Year’s Eve Party – Wednesday, December 31st at 9:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and are available by contacting Una Skanes, Margaret Tucker or Rebecca Tucker.

Advent Envelopes: We encourage the people of our congregation to use their Advent envelopes during this season. These givings are

a separate budget item and we graciously ask for your support at this time.

Christmas Flower Fund: If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one for Christmas flowers in the Sanctuary, please note that the deadline is **Dec. 18th**.

Preauthorized Payment (e-Giving) of Church Offerings can now be offered to our parishioners. Many people find that this is 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 will be 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.

November 16th, 2014

Regular Giving \$1,560.00

Maintenance Fund – It is time to speak once again about our Church Maintenance Fund. Now, that we are into the last quarter of our church’s financial year we want to encourage people to continue giving to this Fund. We know that some regular contributors have dropped off and we want to encourage them to give for the long term. Please use your “Pink Envelope” to contribute this Fund so when the time comes for repairs there will be funds available. **November income will be reported next week.**

MEMORIAL BULLETIN: We encourage you to donate the weekly bulletin as a memorial to a departed loved one. The envelopes and information are available from the pamphlet rack in the foyer.

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 hall can call the church office at 895-0715.

Recyclable Donations: - 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. This is a project of the ACM. If you can help with sorting the recyclables on Monday or Tuesday nights please call John Parrell. **Your help is needed.**

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 First Sunday of Advent
Scripture Readings for today, Nov. 30th

1st Reading: **Isaiah 64: 1 – 9 Psalm 80: 1-7 & 16-18** (Pages 812 & 813) (Harvey Hiscock)

2nd Reading: **1st Corinthians 1: 3 - 9** (Ruth Hiscock)

Gospel: **Mark 13: 24 - 37** (Deacon Ed Bonnell)

The Scriptural Sentence for our worship today as appointed in our BAS Lectionary, page 268:

Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. (Luke 21. 28)

Collect for the Day. (In Unison) Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him 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) God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In unison) God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of 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: Lorraine Parsons, Clayton & Cathy Parsons, William & Judy Parsons, Jim & Barbara Pender, Nicholas & Melissa Pender and their families.

In our Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Hospital Chaplains, University Chaplains and Canadian Forces Chaplaincies.

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: Falkland Islands, The Rt. Rev. Stephen Venner.