

**ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA**  
**Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and**  
**Labrador**

**Bishop: The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey**  
**Peddle**

**Anglican Church of St. Philip**  
**Rector: The Rev. Edward Keeping**  
**(Home)- 754-3748 (Cell) - 687-7109**  
**(Church) -895 - 0715**  
**Deacon: The Rev. Edgar Bonnell**

**Honorary Assistants**

**The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse**  
**The Rev. Canon Don Morgan The Rev.**  
**Russell Osmond**

**Parish Mission**  
**Statement**

God's people in the Parish of St. Philip, in a covenant relationship with God through Baptism, are called....

- ñ To be Fishers of people in response to the call of Jesus, in the power of the Holy Spirit;
- ñ To be a House of Prayer
- ñ To be a Centre for Christian Teaching;
- ñ To be Disciples in learning;
- ñ To be a fellowship of Loving and Sacrificial Service;

ñ 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**



Website: [www.anglicanparishofstphilip.com](http://www.anglicanparishofstphilip.com)

**Rector's Warden – Harvey Hiscock – 895-2011**  
**People's Warden – Gary King - 895-6239**  
**Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Year A)**

**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**

We have arrived at the last Sunday in the Season of Advent. The next time we meet together

we will be celebrating the birth of our Saviour. What does that mean to us?

The theme of today's readings is telling us that what we are preparing to get ready and celebrate is God's presence among his people through the person of Jesus. That's what we

celebrate at this time of the year. For many, the main things for them is shopping and Santa Claus. We have lost the most important thing of this season. The church and community needs to bring back, as we heard often, "Keep Christ in Christmas." We have lost it. Not only have we lost it in the Christmas Season, but throughout the year, especially in Easter as well. Our world and the church has become so secularized that we have lost the true meaning of Christmas. How do we get it back? Gifts are more important than the baby, parties are more

#### **MAINTENANCE**

**FUND:** We are now asking our parishioners to give monthly through the Maintenance Fund to help us low our debt on the new furnace. We have borrowed in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Bank of Montreal. This loan is out for seven years. We will be paying **\$653.93** per month starting on Dec.31<sup>st</sup>, 2016

#### **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.**

#### **The Collect, Epistle and Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

##### **Scripture Readings for today, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading:**

**Isaiah 7: 10-16  
Psalm 80: 1-7, 16-18 (Page 732)  
(Lori Gosse)**

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:**

**Romans 1: 1-7  
(Reegan Gosse)**

**Gospel: Matthew  
1: 18-25**

##### **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.**

##### **Stewardship Thought for the Week**

Have you been trampled yet this Christmas shopping season? You will be! People really seem anxious to spend their money.

Our financial secretary wasn't trampled last week, but at least he heard footsteps. Our special gifts reflected great love and joy. And more of you are learning the blessings of giving all the time. The gifts will be used to the glory of Christ.

**Church Chuckle**

##### **Memory - the First to Go**

Two elderly women in my

church were discussing the problems of growing older. One commented, "The worst thing is when your memory starts to go. I've known you all my life and I can't think of your name. What is it?" The second lady thought for a moment and said, "do you need an answer right now?"

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

ACM will be hosting a Supper and Dance for Valentine Day on Saturday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> @7 PM. Cost: \$20.00 per person.

ACM will be hosting the Pancake supper on Tuesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. Cost: \$ 8.00.

### **Harvest Festival Supper – Oct. 2016**

Income: \$1,753.70  
Expenses: \$366.98

**Recyclable Donations:-**  
**Recycling is a fund-raising 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 and 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. If you can help with sorting the recyclables on Monday or Tuesday nights, please call John Parrell.

### **The ACM could really use your help.**

important than the baby. Really, the baby takes second or even last place in our lives during this time of the year. We have become so commercialized that we have lost the meaning of the season. This is truly reflected in the life of our church, not only here but everywhere, churches are finding their numbers down, offerings down and many parishes are only surviving. If we do not know Jesus then his love is not shown by us in the world.

Somehow or someway the church has to get the true message of Christmas out to her people.

It was a tradition, and still is in my mind, that Anglicans were supposed to receive the Eucharist during Christmas and Easter of each year. Now, for many, that rule has fallen on hard ground. Soon we will be doing less church services because the need won't be there. That is a sorry fact of what is happening in the life of our beloved church.

I want you to encourage your family and friends to share with us in one of the services of

Christmas Eve.  
Let's, together,  
help to "Keep  
Christ in  
Christmas". Let's  
put Christ first  
and foremost in  
our Christmas  
planning. We  
can change the  
world if we  
renew ourselves  
with the stories  
of the gospel,  
the Good News  
of our savior and  
Lord.

Rev. Ed

\*\*\*We have hired a  
company to come by  
every two weeks to  
clean the  
boardroom, offices,  
foyer, bathrooms  
and the Parish  
Centre. The ladies of  
the parish are unable  
to do this work due  
to the large amount  
of usage for the  
building. Some said  
that they would give  
more to the weekly  
envelope to cover  
this cost because  
they were unable to  
come and clean. Your

vestry is asking you  
to fulfil this promise  
and encourage  
others to come on  
aboard for this  
service. The cost per  
month will be  
\$350.00. \*\*\*

The Scriptural  
Sentence for our  
worship today as  
appointed in our BAS  
Lectionary. Page 271:

**A virgin shall  
conceive and  
bear a son, and  
his name shall  
be called  
Emmanuel: God  
with us**

**We welcome  
into the church  
today through  
the Water of  
Holy Baptism  
Maisie Jane  
daughter of  
Roger and  
Stacey Whalen**

Schedule of  
Services  
Fourth Sunday of  
Advent - Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>

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

**Assistant:** Jennifer  
Tucker

**10:30 am** – Holy  
Eucharist (BAS) &  
Sunday school  
**Eucharistic**

**Assistants:** Mose  
Tucker/Charlie  
Gosse

**Counters:** Jeanette  
Osmond/ Karen  
Puglisevich  
**Sidesperson:** John  
Parrell

Christmas Eve –  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>

**4:00 pm** –  
**Children's program  
with shortened  
form of Eucharist  
Eucharistic  
Assistant** – Ches  
Barfitt

**Sidesperson:**  
Gerald Sharpe/Todd  
Martin

**7:00 pm - Holy  
Eucharist (BAS)  
Eucharistic**

**Assistants** - Joan  
Tucker/Dave  
Bartlett

**Sidesperson:**  
Donald Morgan

**10:00 pm** – Holy  
Eucharist (BCP)  
**Eucharistic**

**Assistants** – Debbie  
Collis/Harvey  
Hiscock

**Sidesperson:** John  
Parrell

### Notices

#### 2017 Church

Calendars – Now  
available.  
Cost \$5.00. Please  
see Rebecca.

#### Flowers For The Altar

– Anyone  
wishing to place  
flowers on the Altar  
for the  
**Christmas Season**  
in memory of  
departed loved  
ones can now pick  
up a Sanctuary  
envelope in the  
foyer.

**There will be no  
8:30 am service on  
Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>,  
2017**

**The church books  
will close on Sun.  
Jan.1<sup>st</sup> for 2016.**

Bishop's New  
Years' Day Levee:  
**Sunday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>  
Cathedral Crypt  
1 PM – 3PM**

**The Diocesan  
Resources Centre is  
now open from  
Mondays to  
Saturdays from**

**9 AM – 4:30 PM.**  
**Drop by to see the Christmas selections.**  
Refugee Committee Update  
**The five churches' committee continues to meet and plan in an effort to bring a refugee family to Newfoundland. We have been successful in raising the initial amount of money required to complete our application. Anyone wishing to donate can still do so by placing an envelope marked "Refugee Project" in the collection plate. This money will be used to help support the family once they arrive. A family has been identified, consisting of a mom, dad and young child. The family has suffered significant trauma and has been given some hope by our initiative. As with all such projects, there are road blocks and long waits. We ask for your prayers for**

**this family and for God's direction and guidance upon all who are involved in processing this application. An update will be provided to the congregations as the process unfolds. Greg Brown Chair Refugee Committee**

**There is an after school program taking place in our Parish Centre from Monday to Friday afternoons. To register your child, please contact the group using this email: There is space available to register your child at [ballicatterasp@gmail.com](mailto:ballicatterasp@gmail.com) Tickets – are now, on sale for the **New Year's Eve Party** here at the Parish Centre on Saturday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> beginning at 9:00 pm. Help us to get the message out and reserve your ticket now. Cost: \$15.00. Tickets can be purchased from a**

member of Vestry or at the Church Office. There will be taped music and we will be serving soup, sandwiches and cookies after the New Year is brought in. Come and bring a friend to welcome in 2017.

**Stewardship Statement**

Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup> 2016
Regular Giving
Maint. Fund

**"Prayerfully consider your parish in your estate planning".**

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.

**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 forever. 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**

**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): **Wade &  
Judy Tucker, Walter  
& Susanna Tucker,  
Warren & Moya  
Tucker, William &  
Rebecca Tucker  
and their families.****

**Anglican Cycle of  
Prayer: We pray  
for Kilmore, Elphin**

**& Ardagh –  
(Armagh, Ireland)  
The Rt Revd Ferran  
Glenfield.**

**Tri-Diocesan Cycle  
of Prayer: We pray  
for the Diocese of  
Western  
Newfoundland ,  
Synod office staff,  
Retired clergy,  
Deacons and other  
licensed clergy.**

**Provincial Prayer  
Care: We pray for  
The Diocese of  
Western  
Newfoundland –  
Archbishop Percy  
Coffin**