

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendor of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive 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): Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and forever. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our 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): **William & Rhonda Tucker, Thomas & Leila Tulk, Lorna Walters, Kevin & Joyce Whelan, Jeff & Faye Williams and their families.**

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Kita Kanto – (Japan) The Rt. Revd. Zerubbabel Katsuichi Hirota

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

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for The National Indigenous Bishop and the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples – Bishop Mark McDonald

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



Website: www.anglicanparishofstphilip.com

Rector's Warden – Harvey Hiscock – 895-2011
 People's Warden – Gary King - 895-6239
 Dec. 24th, 2016 (Year A)

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 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

For the past four Sundays, we have been into the Season of Advent. The word "Advent" means "coming". We have been preparing ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child.

Tonight, this event has arrived and we have gathered here at our beloved church as a family to celebrate the birth of our

Christ-Child. I do welcome you and pray that our Christmas Eve services will be a blessing to you as we begin celebrating the twelve days of Christmas.

This is a special time of year for families because family members have come home to help celebrate this special season with you. We welcome those who are visiting with us on this Christmas Eve.

The church is like a family in many ways, we have our dislikes, disagreements, etc.; but at the end of the day we find forgiveness and love and move on to build on the solid foundation that **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.31st, 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 Christmas Eve

Scripture Readings for today, Dec. 24th.

1st Reading: Isaiah 9: 2-7

**Psalm 96 Page 834
Joyce Keeping**

**2nd Reading: Titus 2: 11-14
(Todd Martin)**

**Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14
Deacon Bonnell**

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

Little more needs to be said at offering time this day than to direct our attention to one bulletin cover. That's why our giving has powerful significance.

"Unto Us a Son is Given."

Church Chuckle

After hearing the Christmas story, and singing "Silent Night" a Sunday School Class was asked to draw what they thought the Nativity Scene might have looked like.

One boy did a good likeness of Joseph, Mary and the infant Jesus, but off to the side was a roly-poly figure. The teacher, afraid that he had somehow worked Santa Claus into the scene, asked him who that was. She wasn't sure whether she was relieved or even more worried when the boy replied, "Oh, that's Round John Virgin."

UPCOMING EVENTS

ACM will be hosting a Supper and Dance for Valentine Day on

Saturday, Feb. 11th @7 PM.
Cost: \$20.00 per person.

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

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.

*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 by adding extra to your weekly envelopes.

has been given to us by Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate on this most Holy Night.

It is amazing to all of us that after 2000 plus years, we continue to celebrate an

event that happened so long ago! Why? God showed his love to us and sent his Son into the world to bring redemption and hope to every man, woman and child from the stable to this generation. The story of the birth of Christ has remained the same, nothing has changed. The message of Christmas is simply that God loves you and sent his Son into the world as a baby for you. Our prayer this evening is that the Christ-Child will be reborn anew in your lives, that you will allow Him to come in and live with you forever.

Christmas is more than one day, it consist of

twelve days. I encourage you, over the next twelve days, to read from Scriptures the stories of the announcement of the birth to Elizabeth, and finally the story of the wise men coming and presenting gifts to the Christ-Child, which is old Christmas Day or the Feast of the Epiphany. That is the Christmas Story.

God sent his Son into the world to save us and this is the message of Christmas. So we pray tonight that He will be reborn in us and we will live for him and be faithful to our calling.

I like to say thank you for your work and ministry with us

here at St. Philips. We encourage others to be more involved with us in 2017.

Joyce and I want to wish each and every one a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. May God richly bless you in the New Year with joy, happiness, peace and all the blessings of this life and the life to come?

Rev. Ed

The Scriptural Sentence for our worship

today as appointed in our BAS Lectionary. Page 273:

I bring you good news of a great joy which will

come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.

The bulletin today is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of:

**Father, John L Picco
Never forgotten and given by
Daughter,
Carmella Evans & Sons, Carl Picco (Ann) and Richard Picco**

**Husband, John Lewis Picco,
Parents, Ben & Evelyn Squires,
Brothers, Wallace & Winston Squires & departed loved ones
Never forgotten & given by
Louise Picco**

**Husband,
William J Clarke
Dec. 6th. – July 18th. 1997**

**Never forgotten & given by
Wife, Martha Clarke**

Schedule of Services
Christmas Eve – Dec.24th

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

Feast of the Epiphany – Jan. 1st.
10:30 am – Said

Holy Eucharist(BCP)
Sidesperson: Karen Puglisevich

Notices
2017 Church Calendars – Now available.
Cost \$5.00. Please see Rebecca.

Please pick up your 2017 envelopes as you leave the church following the service. If you would like to receive a package of envelopes for 2017, please speak to the sidesperson.

We encourage you to use the E-Giving method for giving to the life and witness of the church in this community. You will find forms in the foyer that will have to be signed & returned to the church.

There will be no 8:30 am service on Sunday, January 1st, 2017

The church books will close on Sun. Jan.1st for 2016.

Bishop's New Years' Day Levee:

Sunday, Jan. 1st
Cathedral Crypt
1 PM – 3PM

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

Tickets – are now, on sale for the **New Year's Eve Party** here at the Parish Centre on Saturday, Dec. 31st 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 th 2016	
Regular Giving	\$ 1
Maint. Fund	\$

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