

APRIL 19TH

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ’s blessing, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison): God of grace, you have freed us from our sins and made us a kingdom in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in the new life you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Father, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each other, through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) Shirley P. Sharpe, Steve & Majella Sharpe, Tony & Sharon Sharpe, Tracy & Blair Sharpe, Olive Sharpe, and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Church of Ireland (vacant).

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Forteaux (4 congregations) – Priest-in-Charge, Rev. Nathan Larkin and the Parish of Fortune/Lamaline (2 congregations) – Rector, Rev. Alan Fry.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador and for all parishes now closed due to the pandemic.

APRIL 26TH

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison): Creator of all, you wash away our sins in water, you give us new birth by the Spirit, and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Author of life divine, in the breaking of bread we know the risen Lord. Feed us always in these mysteries that we may show your glory to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember) Howard Sheppard, Margaret Sheppard-Boone, Wayne & Tracy Simmons, Keith Skanes, Derek & Barbara Skinner, Ruby Skinner, and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East – the Most Revd Michael Lewis – Archbishop, Jerusalem & the Middle East and Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Gambo (4 congregations) – Rector, Rev. Hannah Dicks and the Parish of Gander (2 congregations) – Rector, Rev. Brian Candow and Assoc. – Rev. Harvey Bullen.

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

April 19th and April 26th, 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:

Well, we have made it through Easter Sunday and now we are on the first Sunday after Easter, and, will be in the Easter season for a number of weeks. The celebration of Easter has always been of utmost importance and significance to all Christians, for it is the very foundation of our faith. As I spoke to several people (over the phone or at a distance) most everyone talked of how different their Easter was this year with our church building closed, however, for those with computers and access to Facebook, they were very grateful that at least they could watch an abbreviated worship service that I posted on Easter Sunday. As much as possible I will continue to post a short service each Sunday until we are able to gather again. Please continue to keep in touch with your church and know that I am still available to speak to people, and am here at the church most every day for a period of time. Many of our seniors do not have the ability to watch and listen to the services posted to Facebook, I encourage those who can, to please call up someone and play the service to them over the phone, I'm sure it will be very meaningful to that person. We find ourselves in very unusual circumstances, and, are finding new ways to keep in touch with our parishioners, not that this will become the norm because there is nothing more meaningful than God's people meeting together in fellowship and worship within the house of God. I think that as we go forward, we certainly will make greater use of technology to communicate to our people, in addition to our gathering together as the family of God. Most of us have experienced a certain amount of loneliness even now as we cannot gather with our family members and friends, the same is true with our church family, we miss each other through this separation from our building and worship services. God has created us to be in relationship with each other and when that cannot happen we find it very difficult. But hang in there, as time passes so will this crisis of Covid-19 and we will meet here at St. Philip's parish church soon. As we continue to see the numbers of those infected with the virus increase on a global level, we

also are saddened with the number of people that have died, and, our hearts go out to their families. So, we are all still living in a time of fear and despair, but in that we see many bright lights of hope, as we witness the kindness and compassion of others working diligently to care for the sick and get each other safely through this difficult time. For Christians the brightest light of all in the circumstance of any crisis is the peace of Jesus Christ. When we find ourselves in the face of adversity, such as the present or any difficulty in life, we need to hear the words of Jesus in the gospel reading today – *"Peace Be With You!* It's one week after the resurrection, the disciples are gathered in a room afraid of what might happen to them now that Jesus is not present to them (the resurrection had not yet sunk in for them). Then, Jesus stands among them and says- *Peace be with you, as the father has sent me, so I send you!* Of course there is much rejoicing in that room and reassurance that everything is going to be ok. However, Thomas was not present at that time, and, when they told him that Jesus was there, he would not believe it unless he could see it for himself. Of course one week later Jesus appears again and this time Thomas is there, and he does come to believe in the resurrected Jesus. We have the great advantage of the scriptures written down for us, we know the words of Jesus, and, so we must now be reminded of them. The same Lord that rose from the grave and stood before the disciples and declared peace to them is the same Lord we serve today. May we take peace and courage from Jesus who stands with us during this difficult time of Covid-19, and, may we pass along those words of comfort and encouragement to those we encounter living in fear of the unknown as it relates to their health and well-being. I think that is what Jesus meant for us to do when he said –*As the Father has sent me, so I send you!* As we go through yet another week of separation and crisis may we find our own ways to reach out to others and give them a greater sense of peace in their lives from what we do and say.

(Rev. Randy)

We will ring the church bell every Sunday during our church close-down. Last Sunday (Easter Day), we joined with many other churches throughout our diocese in ringing the bells at 11:00 am. Rev. Randy heard from a parishioner after that who spoke very emotionally of how wonderful it was to hear the bell. It had a very moving impact on that person. Therefore, each Sunday that we are closed to public worship, we will continue to ring the church bell. It has great symbolism as it reminds the community that the church is still here and alive. It will help to keep that connection going with our people during this difficult time. So, if you are within earshot please listen on Sunday morning at 11:00 am for the church bell at St. Philip's.

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

Baptism services are also on hold right now! If you have a child for baptism, or have already scheduled a baptism, please know that with our churches closed down we don't know when it can occur. Do call Rev. Randy to discuss the baptism of your child.

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.

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.**

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.

April 29TH – Congratulations to Rev. Randy Lockyer on the 28th anniversary of his ordination as deacon.

April 29TH – Congratulations to Canon Shirley Gosse on the 28th anniversary of her ordination as deacon.

July 26th - Please note the 2020 annual flower service will take place on Sunday, July 26th at 3:00 p.m.

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.

From our Primate: Dear friends in Christ: Recently we have heard news that the Corona virus has now spread into Canada. Many of us remember the SARS crisis and the precautions that were needed when it came close to our communities. First, our prayers are extended to those who are ill with this virus and those who are caring for them. So far there has been no call from public health officials for additional measures in public activities. However it is prudent to ensure that we have reviewed our practices in pastoral care and public worship to keep everyone, especially the most vulnerable due to age or infirmity, safe and to allay fears that may arise.

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

<u>April 19th</u>	<u>April 26th</u>
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Have you believed, Thomas, because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.	Lord Jesus, open to us the scriptures; make our hearts burn within us while you speak.
The Collect, Epistle and Gospel	The Collect, Epistle and Gospel
1st Reading: Acts 2: 14a, and 22-32	1st Reading: Acts 2: 14a, and 36-41
Psalm 16 Pages: 719-720	Psalm 116 1-3 and 10-17 Pages: 864-865
2nd Reading: 1st Peter 1: 3-9	2nd Reading: 1st Peter 1: 17-23
Gospel John 20: 19-31	Gospel Luke 24: 13-35

This Bulletin is Given to the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of:

Father – Hubert Mercer
(Oct. 27, 1925 – Apr. 26, 2011)



Mother – Myrtle Mercer
(Aug. 20, 1929 – Apr. 26, 2016)



Brother – Derek Mercer
(Apr. 16, 1953 – June 13, 2019)



Always Loved & Forever Remembered

by the Family

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.

This Winter has been hard on church attendance. Because of the January state-of-emergency, and a couple of other weather events, plus COVID-19, we have missed a number of Sundays. This naturally impacts our parish finances for the year which is always concerning to Vestry. We ask our parishioners that have been unable to make their offerings to please consider helping us make up the difference throughout the year.

Your continued financial support is greatly needed at this time. Even though the church is closed to public gatherings and worship services, we must still maintain our offerings to keep the financial obligations of the parish up-to-date. Rev. Randy is in the office most days for anyone that would like to drop their weekly or monthly offerings into the parish. Please call ahead first to ensure the office is open 895-0715, if no one is there leave a message and your call will be returned. You can also mail them to 20 Coady's Rd. Portugal Cove-St. Philip's A1M 1L1. A number of people over the past couple of years have signed up for automatic E-givings, where their offerings are made through their banking institution on the 15th and 30th of the month. This is an excellent way of giving at this time when we don't know how long the church building will be closed.

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.

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.

Invitation to be part of our Mission Team. As we enter into a new year (2020) we are going to make mission a big part of our congregational development. As the diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador continues to emphasize the need for parishes to do some work in the area of mission, it is suggesting that every parish institute a mission team with goals and objectives to enable growth, including spiritual growth and renewal. If you have an interest in being part of this team we would love to have you join with us.

This year the ACW will be having a gift card tree as their Lenten/Easter fundraiser instead of filling a sock. The value of this tree is \$500.00. They are asking for your support by contributing a gift card of any value to their tree. The draw date will be determined later.

Interested in learning about what happens at the altar? Canon Morgan would be very interested in teaching you about it. If you would like to know what is involved in serving at the altar and the significance of it all, please speak to him. The invitation is to anyone 12 and over, and there is no obligation to be a server unless you want to be.

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.

What does the future of the Church look like? In this case of a global Pandemic, and, as we see the situation in our own nation, province and communities presently, the whole Church of every single denomination and faith are in exactly the same position. When this is all over every church will be seeking to find once again its place in the community. When we look at biblical history every desert experience ended with new hope and new life. We pray that as we come through this desert time the church will find that it has been strengthened and given a clear vision of ministry. We pray that there will be a resurgence of living faith and that the church will be bold in leading it.

Please keep our building secure. We have had no major security issues, but from time-to-time it is good for us to remind everyone entrusted with a key to the building that it is the responsibility of that person to safe guard the key, and to ensure the key is never given to any unauthorized person. Please ensure that all lights are turned out, the door securely closed and locked. If a person receives a key for a specific duty and that person is no longer in that role the key must be returned so it can be given to the new person in that role.

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).

Church Chuckle

The Ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon!



www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

Prayerfully consider your Parish in your Estate planning.

Stewardship thought for the Week

Stewardship does not only mean giving of our riches, it also means we recognize God owns it all.