

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): Almighty God, through the waters of baptism your son has made us children of light. May we ever walk in his light and show forth your glory in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 light, your word brings to us a new vision of your glory. Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Father, through your goodness we receive your Son in word and sacrament. May we always have faith in him, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families (this week we remember): Diane Pollett, Bruce & Susan Powell, Val & Karen Puglisevich, Helen Purcell and Mary-Lou Quilty, and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, the Most Revd Paul Kwong – Archbishop of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui and Bishop of Hong Kong Island.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Churchill Falls (Joint Ministry), Rector - The Ven. Julie Brace; and the Parish of Cow Head (6 congregations) – Priest-in-Charge - The Rev. Canon Terry Rose.

Provincial Prayer Care. We pray for the Diocese of Western Newfoundland – Bishop John Organ.

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

March 22nd, 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 I write my reflection for this week's bulletin, it is with the knowledge that on this Sunday (March 22nd) our church building, like most every other church in our province and across our nation, will be closed to public worship. In my 28 years of ordained ministry, and, in my 56 years of living I have never known a situation like we are in now. I dare to say that many of you much older than me cannot remember such a crisis either. My first instinct was to forego our weekly bulletin altogether, but, on further reflection I am reminded that the Church is not really the building now closed to us, it is the people. It might sound like an old cliché, but we have been telling our people for many years that the Church is wherever the people are. Therefore, we will endeavour to post a scaled back bulletin on our parish website each week to bring you any parish and diocesan news, especially as it relates to Covid-19. Because our public worship spaces are closed for now, and parish halls are empty of organizational meetings, fundraising, etc., there may not be a lot of information to share, but, I do believe it is still important to keep in touch with our friends and parishioners during this time of crisis and social distancing. This Sunday, at 11:00 am, our bishop will gather with a very small number of people at the cathedral church to celebrate Holy Eucharist, it will be live streamed on Facebook, and everyone is invited to tune in to

make it a diocesan service. Following that, I hope we can use technology to broadcast similar services here at St. Philip's church. It is not the same as being able to meet together on a Sunday morning in worship, but it may have to be a new normal for however long our churches have to be closed. It really reminds us of the early beginnings of the Christian Church, where people gathered in homes, underground, street corners, seashores and open fields, to proclaim the risen Lord. Even though we are disconnected from our public worship space on Sunday morning, we are still connected in heart and spirit, with a faith so strong and deep that nothing will keep us apart. In the letter to the Romans we read these words: *Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.* Please know that the ministry of the church in your parish is still happening, the office is open, and I am available to you. In the meantime I ask each of us to do what we can to protect our own health, that of our families and community, and to be of assistance to those who may need our help. The church is at work and at prayer in this critical time we find ourselves in. May God bless you with good health and well-being throughout this difficult time.

(Rev. Randy)

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

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***I am the light of the world,
says the Lord; those who
follow me will have the light of
life.***

**The Collect, Epistle
and Gospel for
the 4th Sunday
in Lent**

**1st Reading:
1st Samuel 16: 1-13**

**Psalm 23
Pages: 731**

**2nd Reading:
Ephesians 5: 8-14**

**Gospel
John 9: 1-41**

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.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mar. 22nd - Dear Friends: As the Bishop mentioned in his Pastoral Letter, *"This coming Sunday, March 22, at 11 a.m. I will gather at our Cathedral of St. John the Baptist with a few members of our Cathedral Chapter to celebrate the Holy Eucharist on behalf of our Diocese. This service will be livestreamed from our Diocesan Facebook Page*

- www.facebook.com/AnglicanEastNL/ - for all who wish to join in online as a church family during this time of special need and concern." This is the fastest way for the Diocese to do this at short notice, but if this becomes the standard moving forward, we will try to make it accessible through our Website or YouTube. The Link is: <https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanEastNL/>

Mar. 31st – Will be the deadline for those wishing to be confirmed this year to register. Again, this year the Bishop will be coming to the parish for Confirmation on December 6th. Anyone wishing to enroll in classes must be 11 years of age on or before December 31st.

Apr. 19th. - **The next available Sunday for baptism** will be April 19th. Anyone desiring to have their child baptized should contact Rev. Randy so as to be included in the baptismal preparation necessary.

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

Please let us know if you are a senior or someone in need of assistance during this time of social distancing, and we will endeavour to help out where we can. Perhaps someone is in need of a cooked meal, or requires a ride to a medical appointment, grocery store, etc. As is being pointed out, the church needs to be at work in the community, so please don't hesitate to call the church office at 895-0715 or Rev. Randy at 693-8537

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.

Here are some areas to consider in your parish:

Hygiene practices in pastoral care and worship

- *Availability of hand sanitizer in the worship space for parishioners and those serving in the liturgy*
- *Pastoral care workers taking all precautions in personal hygiene before and after pastoral visits in hospital and homes.*
- *Reminding parishioners who are ill to stay at home to recover and to request home communion or a pastoral visit as desired.*

If concern about the common cup is expressed:

- Refresh teaching regarding our theology of the fullness of communion in one kind (bread or wine only).
- [Sharing the national information re Eucharistic Practice and the Risk of Infection.](#)

Alternatives to common cup:

- Receive in one kind only (bread)
- Touching the base of the cup as it is presented but not consuming.

I pray that our common life in worship and pastoral care will be rooted in the compassion of Christ and appropriate care for one another in a time of uncertainty.

With prayers for all: The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls

Archbishop and Primate, Anglican Church of Canada

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, we have missed two Sundays entirely and at least two other Sundays found most people snowed in and unable to get to church. This naturally impacts our parish finances for the year which is always concerning to Vestry. We ask our parishioners that were unable to make their offerings on those Sundays to please consider helping us make up the difference throughout the year.

It is very important to keep our financial support up during this critical time when the church building is closed for public worship. Rev. Randy is in the office most days and you are welcome to drop your church envelopes in, E-Giving is an excellent way to give regularly (download the form from our parish website), or simply to mail them to St. Philip's Anglican Church, 20 Coady's Rd. Portugal Cove – St. Philip's A1M 1L1 Your support is vital at this time as we try to keep all the parish expenses paid to date.

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 after Easter in April.

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.

CFUW (Canadian Federation of University Women) St. John's is collecting gently used books for the annual sale, from **Saturday March 14 to Saturday April 11.** **New location** for book drop off: 2 Corisande Drive, Mount Pearl (Canadian Tire Building). Off Topsail Road immediately East of the Overpass. **Hours: Monday to Saturday 11am – 3pm; Sunday 1pm – 3pm** They accept fiction and non-fiction, all ages and interests in good condition. They **do not take** encyclopedias, textbooks, Readers Digest condensed books, magazines, outdated technology manuals and VHS tapes. The Great Big Book Sale is **May 4-6** at the **RE/MAX Centre**. The sale supports CFUW scholarships and community outreach.

An update on our refugee sponsorship by Dr. Greg Brown. It has been almost five months now since the Haj Ali family arrived in Newfoundland. They are settling in well. This has been a particularly bad weather winter but they have certainly had a good introduction to what our climate entails. The children have enjoyed playing in the snow and Natheer bravely navigates the icy sidewalks to buy groceries. They are beginning to understand money management and how our culture functions. The oldest child has started kinderstart and Natheer has started English classes. In conjunction with the Association for New Canadians, our group continues to meet their needs and help them adapt and integrate into Western culture. Please continue to pray for this family and for our five - church Refugee Committee. *(Greg Brown – Chair)*

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

Funny how we can't think of anything to say when we pray, but how easy it is to chat with a friend!



www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

Prayerfully consider your Parish in your Estate planning.

Stewardship thought for the Week

The world asks: "What does a person own?" and God asks, "How does a person use what he or she has been given?"

February financial update is available at the back of the church. This monthly detailed financial sheet replaces the weekly bulletin updates.

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.