



ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador
Bishop: The Right Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Peddle

Website: www.anglicanparishofstphilip.com

Anglican Church of St. Philip
895 -0715

Rector: The Rev. Edward Keeping
(Home)- 754-3748 (Cell) - 687-7109

Deacon: The Rev. Edgar Bonnell

Honorary Assistants:

The Rev. Canon Bert Cheeseman
The Rev. Russell Osmond

The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse
The Rev. Canon Don Morgan

Rector's Warden – Margaret Boone 782-0988
People's Warden – Margaret Tucker 895-2251

December 13th , 2015 (Year C)

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**



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**

Good morning, welcome to the third Sunday in Advent here at St. Philip's Church.

Today we light the candle of "Love" on our Advent wreath. As we light this candle we are reminded that we are getting closer and closer to the birth of the Christ-child. His birth shows us the greatest love story ever told. In John's gospel we read these wonderful words - "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life." (John 3: 16)

In the fullness of time, God sent his Son into the world, not as a warrior ready for war, but as a child

born in a stable. That child was born for you. Why? Because God loves you so much that he sent his son into the world for you. That is really a love story in itself. Soon we will be celebrating the greatest love story ever known to the human race.

As we say today, in the lighting of the candle, "Love is like a candle burning in a dark place". We are told not to put our candle under a bushel but let it shine so all the world can see it. We are called to be his light in the world bringing hope, happiness, peace and joy to those who are living in darkness. That darkness has caused them to be separated from God's love and the love of other people. May this Christmas season mean that each one of us will be a light to others. I am suggesting that you be a light and invite a friend or neighbor to come with you to celebrate the birth of Christ through the Eucharist on Christmas Eve. Let the doors of this church be always open to welcome strangers, former members who want to return to church, and family members. If we are going to do it, now is the right time. Therefore, pray and go and invite someone to come with you. Use this motto in your Christian walk with God, - "**Be a friend and bring a friend to Christ**".

It was John's mission to care for people and he wanted them to repent and find God's forgiveness. It is our mission as well, as baptized people, to bring others to Christ. May we be the light for others in this season of celebrating the birth of Christ because we also celebrate the love we have in Christ.

May his peace be always with you and yours.
Rev. Ed

A Stewardship Thought for the Week

Here's a grand idea about how we can finance an addition to this building. One Sunday, while we are all inside here, someone can auction off all the cars in the parking lot!

That seems a little heavy handed. We realize that we are a people blessed in many, many ways and that God is the source of all these blessings. To God's plan, the church is of tremendous importance.

Our gifts gladly display our determination that the church do all it can do, and we do not need the coercion of an auctioneer.

Stewardship Statement

Dec. 3rd, 2015

Regular Givings: \$ 1,455.00
Maint. Fund 895.00
E-Giving Nov., 2015 \$ 1,115.00

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.

Church Chuckle

Little Johnny was in a relative's wedding. As he was coming down the aisle, he would take two steps, stop and then turn to the crowd, put his hands up like claws, and roar. That's the way it went all down the aisle: step, step, roar; step, step, roar!

As you can imagine, the crowd was near tears from laughing by the time he reached the pulpit.

When the priest asked what he was doing, he replied, "I was being the ring bear".

Maintenance Fund: We want to thank you for your continued support. It is very important for us to build on this fund so that the necessary repairs to the church can be completed in a timely manner. Please keep in mind that we were encouraged after the church was debt free to continue to give a dollar per day to this fund.

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 Centre can call the church office at 895-0715.

Recyclable Donations: -Recycling is a fundraising 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 & 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, corner of Old Broad Cove

Road and Bennett's Road. If you can help with sorting the recyclables on Monday or Tuesday nights please call John Parrell. **The ACM could really use your help.**

"Grieving: Coping with the Holidays."

Eastern Health's Pastoral Care and Ethics Dept. invites you to this event. It is designed to provide people who are spending their first couple of holiday seasons without a loved one with helpful information and suggestions. Two time slots are available: Wednesday, December 2nd from 1:30-3:00pm or Thursday, December 3rd from 7:00-8:30pm. Location: Health Sciences Auditorium, St. John's. For more information, please contact Rev. Dr. Jacintha Penney or Paul Grimes at 777-6959.

Grieving: Coping with the Holidays (free webinar available for entire province)

Eastern Health's Pastoral Care and Ethics Dept. is pleased to offer a free 1 hour webinar presentation on Wednesday, December 2nd from 7:00-8:00pm. This presentation is designed to help people who are spending their first couple of holiday seasons without a loved one. We'll provide people with helpful information and suggestions. For more information or to register, please contact Rev. Dr. Jacintha Penney or Paul Grimes at 709-777-8940.

Milestones

(If you know of anyone in the Parish celebrating a milestone in their lives, please contact the Church Office so that we can share the good news in our church bulletin.)

The Scriptural Sentence for our worship today as appointed in our BAS Lectionary, Page 270:

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted.

Schedule of Services

Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 13th
Human Rights Sunday

8:30 am - Holy Communion (BCP) **Eucharistic Assistant:**
10:30 am - Holy Eucharist (BAS), & Sunday school
Eucharistic Assts: Jennifer Tucker, Mose Tucker
Counters: Susan Powell, Tom Tulk

Sidesperson: Karen Puglisevich

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 20th

8:30 am – Holy Communion (BCP) Eucharistic

Assistant: Charlie Gosse

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

Eucharistic Assts: Ches Barfitt, Carol Bartlett

Counters: Susan Powell, Tom Tulk

Sidesperson: Todd Martin

Christmas Eve Services

4:00 pm - Children's Program and a shortened Holy Eucharist service (BAS)

7:00 pm - Holy Eucharist (BAS)

11:00 pm – Holy Eucharist (BCP)

We wish to express our deepest sympathy and condolences to Ruby Woodward, Janice & Donna Spurrell and family on the passing of David Woodward.

Notices

Offering Envelopes: You will see that the 2016 envelopes are in the foyer for parishioners to pick up. There are a number of families who may be looking for envelopes and can't find them. We are asking these people to ask for them at the office. Over the past few years we have sent out a large number of envelopes with no response and as a cost saving measure, we did not include them this year. If you want a box of envelopes and did not receive them, please check at the office.

Select Vestry Meeting – Monday, December 14th at 7:30 p.m. in the Boardroom.

Belize Project: Last week we included in the bulletin an envelope seeking financial donations from each family in the parish for the Belize Project. We are asking that your donation be received before Dec. 31st. Next Sunday is "Belize Sunday". We do encourage you to bring your donation at that time.

Notices (Continued)

End of Year Financial Contributions: The church's financial books will close for the year on December 31st, at 12:00 noon.

Sanctuary Fund – Flowers : If you would like to make a donation in memory of a loved one for Christmas flowers in the Sanctuary, envelopes are available in the foyer. Please note the deadline for donations is **Dec. 18th**.

"Daily Bread" pamphlet: Please pick up your copy of the Daily Bread on the bookcases as you leave the church.

"Anglican Life": If you would like to receive copies of this publication, please forward your name and address to the church office or email this information to stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com.

2017 Confirmation: Notice to Parents of children who will be confirmed in 2017. We have begun the new **Two Year Confirmation Program** for candidates **who will be confirmed in 2017**. Please note candidates must attend this two-year program in order to be confirmed. Please contact the church office as soon as possible if you want your child to attend.

"Prayerfully consider your parish in your estate planning."

Noteworthy Events

The Threshold Ministries, which was once known as the "Anglican Church Army in Canada", is sharing God's love by giving Hope this season and is seeking donations to carry out their mandate of evangelism and social service. This ministry relies on the generosity of people like yourselves. I am still involved in this ministry although the name has changed over the past number of years.

Can you help with this ministry? Your money will help to initiate a new program and ministries. Without your help this will be impossible.

Pamphlets can be found in the foyer.

St. Luke's Annual Christmas Concert – Sunday, Dec. 6th at 7:30 pm. Hosted by Myrle and Marilyn Vokey. Tickets – \$22.50 (Call 729-3900). Place: Arts & Culture Centre.

Coastal Sounds Choir – Annual Holiday Concert – Friday, Dec. 18th at 7:30 – At All Saints Church, Foxtrap. Tickets - \$20.00 – online at www.coastalsounds.ca

Portugal Cove ACW - Monthly Card Games are held the third Tuesday of each month (or the 2nd last Tuesday, if applicable) at St. Lawrence Parish Hall at 8:00 pm. Cost \$5.00 and lunch is served.

Noteworthy Events (Cont'd)

Beaumont Hamel – On the Trail of the Caribou – June/July 2016 – 10 days/16 meals - Bishop Geoff will be leading a tour to Beaumont Hamel to mark the 100th Anniversary of the First World War. For further information, please see the brochure in the foyer or see the Diocesan website.

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.

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 Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture Readings for today, December 13th

1st Reading: **Zephaniah 3: 14 – 20** Canticle 3 (Page 76) (Lori Gosse)

2nd Reading: **Philippians 4: 4 – 7** (Gary King)

Gospel: **Luke 3: 7 - 18** (Rev. Ed Bonnell)

Collect for the Day: (In Unison): God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for 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 hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison): Merciful God, may this Eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. 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): Derek & Barbara Skinner, Ruby Skinner, Derek & Jean Smith, Fern Somerton & David Ryan, Donna Spurrell, Glen & Lisa Spurrell, Janice Spurrell, and their families.

In our Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador; The Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Peddle, Bishop, and Synod Office Staff, Deacons and retired clergy

In our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Windward Islands (West Indies); The Rt. Rev. Calvert Friday.