

Dismissal Songs

“Go Now in Peace”

*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.*

“May God’s Blessing”

*May God’s blessing Surround you each day,
As you trust Him and walk in his way.
May his presence within
Guard and keep you from sin,
go in peace, go in joy, go in love.*

“Let There Be Love”

*Let there be love shared among us,
let there be love in our eyes;
may now your love sweep this nation,
cause us, Oh Lord to arise;
Give us a fresh understanding,
of Christian love that is real;
let there be love shared among us,
let there be love.*

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

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Metropolitan: Archbishop David Edwards

Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Bishop: The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

Anglican Church of St. Philip

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Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse

The Rev. Canon Don Morgan

The Rev. Russell Osmond



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Dec.1, 8 & 15, 2024 (Year C)

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: December 1st marks the beginning of another year in our church calendar and lectionary. As we follow the cycles of A, B and C, we make the transition from one to the other on the first Sunday of Advent. Today we move from year B to year C, and, will use the scripture readings for that cycle for the next 12 months. The three-year Common Lectionary allows the whole of the New and Old Testaments to be proclaimed in our morning worship services during that time. Proclamation of scripture is emphasized very much in our liturgies; every Sunday morning we hear an Old Testament reading, a Psalm, a New Testament Epistle and a gospel read. The Anglican Church is known for its emphasis on *scripture, reason* and *tradition*. As the scriptures are read and expounded upon, we encourage every person to meditate and apply the spirit of them to his/her life in a way that remains true to the foundational message of the gospel. We are guided by nearly 500 years of tradition as an Apostolic Church. If we look at the three areas of emphasis when reading scripture and relating it to our own lives, *scripture, reason* and *tradition*, and see them figuratively like a three-legged stool or tripod, we will see that when we emphasize one leg over the other (one leg is shorter or longer than the others) we get the difficulty and danger of an unbalanced stool. I believe it's this kind of imbalance that helped create the political mess in the United States in the November election; fanatical extreme right-wing churches, that helped elect an unstable man to be the next president. We are now seeing evidence of how this will affect all our lives in Canada, as he sets his sights on high-jacking the Canadian economy. To interpret scripture 100% literally, without applying our own thought processes, understanding of culture, or dig below the surface to see a larger truth, is a very dangerous practice, destined to create chaos. When the interpretation of scripture leads us to hate others, mistreat others, demonize immigrants and refugees, be okay with racism, then we know we missed something important because it is not backed up by Jesus' words and actions. So, we have to be careful who we follow and pledge our allegiance to in this world today. As we begin our Advent journey, we must keep before us the

coming of the Christ-Child, the one who would show us how to live. As we look at our world political institutions of government on almost any level, and the amount of war, oppression and injustice, we can quickly see we are way out of touch with the way God wants us to live. With Advent, we are reminded of the importance of our faith, how we arrived at where we are, in what we believe and practice, and whether it lines up with why Christ came among us. We are also reminded that our faith is an ever moving and living one, and, as such we are constantly being shaped and reshaped on our journey. God did not stop interacting with his people after the book of Revelation was written, God is still moving among God's people, the spirit still moves over the face of the earth. When we are attuned to God's spirit in our lives, we are open to new and exciting things God has in store for us; in other words, we are constantly in a state of anticipation and waiting for what is to come. That's the essence of the season of Advent, that we are watching and waiting upon the Lord, for Christ is alive, and constantly breaking into our lives in all kinds of ways. The constant theme we will hear throughout this Advent season is "be on guard, wait, watch, be alert and pray". I think these are good words for us to hold before us daily on our journey with Christ. May this season of Advent be, for all of us, a time of renewal and preparing our hearts and lives for the "Christ", the "Messiah", the "One who has come and will come again"

Rev. Randy

A beautiful service was held on Sunday evening at St. Philip's church. After many months of preparing, we finally unveiled and re-dedicated the *Christus Rex*, which hung for many years at the former St. Michael & All Angels parish, at both locations. The Christus Rex, was designed back in the 1950's by the late Canon Felix Honeygold, who served as rector of St. Michael's 1956-1976. It was in his honor we re-dedicated the Christus Rex, and his son, Peter, had the privilege of attaching the plaque underneath. Many former parishioners of St. Michael's were in attendance for the service, and a time of fellowship and refreshments was held in the Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre after. The Christus Rex (Latin for *Christ the King*), hangs beautifully on the wall above the organ, to remind us that Christ is indeed our King, and, to Him only we bear our utmost allegiance.

We are in need of help in our sound room on Sunday mornings. If anyone is interested in this please speak to Rev. Randy or one of the church wardens.

Many thanks to Carol Bartlett for organizing another successful and fun *Dessert Party*. It was a wonderful event, well attended, and more than a thousand dollars was made and passed over to the church. Thank you also to those who supported her by providing the wide selection of desserts, helped prepare the parish centre, clean up after, etc. Thank you to those who made it so successful by purchasing the tickets to attend.

Confirmation classes will begin soon after the Christmas holidays. Right now, we have only a couple of names, but will accept more names up to the end of December. If you have a child or grandchild that would like to be Confirmed in 2025 (possibly sometime in May) please speak to Rev. Randy very soon.

Our church will be entering a float in the town Christmas Parade on Sunday December 8th. We hope that many parishioners will line the parade route to be part of this event.

The church financial books for 2024 will close on Tuesday, December 31st. Your contribution to the parish is vital to help keep our church financially healthy. At a time when many churches struggle to make ends meet, and some can't do it at all, we are always pleased with the response from our parishioners, which keeps us debt-free and healthy. Your generosity to St. Philip's church is very much appreciated. We are also very happy when others join us, if anyone would like to be a part of our parish, or, perhaps after an absence from church, we would be so pleased to welcome you. That's the mission of the church, to reach out to others and invite them to be part of the great work God is calling each of us to.

Should I stand, sit or kneel at worship? Our goal is worship and not conformity. Whatever you choose to do is right for you. Some people have mobility issues, and we encourage anyone that is uncomfortable standing to please sit. We are a church family, we look out for one another, so please don't worry about sitting down, even if others are standing.

There is an envelope drop-off box in the foyer just outside the nursery room door. It is placed there to provide a place for parishioners to drop off their church envelopes. Most afternoons, Monday to Friday the church is open for the Ballicatter after-school program. If you come and the parish office is not open, please drop your envelope into the locked box. This box is checked every morning.

Our Food Bank Boxes will continue to be placed in the main entrance of the church, to receive weekly donations. Once the boxes are full, they are taken to the Pop-up Pantry at St. Lawrence's church, where the food is placed in hampers to help those in need. **The third Sunday of each month will be known as "Food Bank Sunday in our parish"**. On that Sunday, there will be a table placed at the front of the church during the morning worship, and your food bank donations will be placed on the table for a blessing. This will help us draw more attention to the needs that are around us, as more and more families struggle with the high cost of living.

Cemetery Maintenance: We remind everyone that there are regulations governing the cemetery, so please check with the rector or vestry if you have questions. Please help keep our cemetery, including the columbarium area of it, looking beautiful. Also be safe while doing work on family graves; there may be areas where one could fall or twist an ankle.

From our Coordinating Chaplain, the Rev. David Pilling: “Our Diocese provides pastoral ministry to hospitals in St. John’s. Chaplains provide emotional and spiritual care and support to patients, family, and staff. A chaplain is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and provides the Sacraments of Holy Communion, Reconciliation, Anointing, as well as, prayer, listening and friendly conversation. We are often called upon to pray with a patient just prior to surgery. The power of prayer is real. It is the chaplain’s delight to be prayerful support to you. To access a chaplain; please tell the admitting clerk that you wish to receive pastoral care. To have pre surgery prayers, tell the pre surgery nurse that you wish pre surgery prayers, and the Chaplain will be notified and will respond.”

Sunday intercessions at St. Philip’s are also adapted for St. Augustine’s parish. Archdeacon Ed Keeping, though retired, is working part-time in the interim at St. Augustine’s parish, where Joyce often leads the prayers. Joyce is still one of the intercessors taking her turn preparing the prayers for our parish, and someone present leads them. Our intercessors list consists of Ruth Hiscock, Joyce Keeping, Gloria Earle, Ada Lockyer, Joan Osmond and Brenda Harding. Each week, when they are scheduled, they prepare the prayers, send them to Rev. Russell for his perusal and suggestions, then they are printed for that Sunday. The prayers are then adapted weekly by Joyce to be used at St. Augustine’s parish. Rev. Russell and the group are very pleased to be able to share this ministry with St. Augustine’s, and Archdeacon Ed and Joyce are encouraging lay people there to lead them. Here is what Rev. Russell shared with our intercessors **-EXCITING NEWS!!!** *There has been an exciting response to the Intercessions at St. Augustine’s. For the first two weeks Joyce led the Prayers, then Rev. Ed got someone for the third Sunday. Rev. Ed is offering a series of Sermons about Christian Stewardship. Last week he spoke about offering Time and Talent. Following his sermon, four people came forward and offered themselves to lead the prayers of the people. That is remarkable! The Spirit is moving! In time, maybe some will be able to even prepare the intercessions. As Joyce said "small steps". It is remarkable about what a spirit of sharing can do. Thank God for this.* We join Rev. Russell and our faithful group of intercessors in expressing thanksgiving for this ministry that we are able to share with another parish. It also fits very well with the diocesan program “Set Sail – Charting the course for Christ’s church”.

COFFEE HOUR has resumed on the first Sunday of each month. We welcome parishioners and visitors to join with us in this time of fellowship and refreshments prior to the 10:30 am worship.

HOSTING COFFEE HOUR - January to June are currently open for anyone who would like to host. Please contact Lisa Brown for details.

Youth group. Rev. Randy and Brenda Harding are also interested in hearing from young people about the possibility of starting a youth group in the parish. We will be reaching out to the young people that have been confirmed in the past couple of years with the hope of engaging some of them.

Sunday School has resumed again. We want to encourage parents with young children to please register them for Sunday School, even if they can’t be present every Sunday. This is a continuation of the promises of baptism, as we fulfil our promise to bring the children to church, so they may grow in God’s grace. Please speak to Stephanie Smith or Lori Gosse, or Rev. Randy, about registering your child for Sunday School.

ACW 2025 Church Calendars are available. If you would like to purchase a calendar, please speak to Rev. Randy and he will get one for you. The cost of the calendar is \$7.00 which is the actual cost to the church, it is not a fundraiser. Again, this year the calendar contains many beautiful pictures of the church across Canada. The cover photo is of The Northern Lights in Battle Harbour, with the church in the background.

Thank you to our honorary clergy who are leading the worship services on Sunday, November 3rd, while Rev. Randy is away for a family funeral on the west coast. We are very blessed with the clergy we have in our parish.

NOTICES /MEMORABLE DATES

Dec. 1 - **Our monthly Coffee Hour** is on Sunday, December 1st prior to the 10:30 am worship service. There will be coffee/tea/juice and refreshments, and all are welcome. Thank you to Ruth Hiscock and Dawn Cheeseman for sponsoring this month’s coffee hour.

Dec. 17 - **The annual Christmas Tree of Remembrance** be held on Tuesday, December 17th at 7:00 pm. Those who would like to have the tree lit in memory of loved ones please take a form and fill it in, and with your donation place it in the collection plate no later than Sunday, December 15th.

Christmas Eve children’s pageant, as part of our family service. We recognize that many children are involved in other things on Sunday mornings, so we will find suitable times to hold the rehearsals. For those children that are available on Sunday mornings we would love to see them in Sunday School. The important thing now is to register for the pageant by contacting our Sunday School teachers, Stephanie Smith: steve_steph@hotmail.com Lori Gosse: lorigosse@cahill.ca or you may speak to Rev. Randy. We would really love to have more children involved in our Sunday School on a regular basis as well. It is every Sunday morning during the 10:30 am worship.

Coffee-Hour sponsors are needed for the following months in the New Year: January 5th, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 6th, May 4th, and June 1st. If you would like to look after one of these months, please speak to Lisa Brown, or email her at lake99@hotmail.com We will look after the Fall dates later on.

Children wishing to be part of the Christmas Eve Pageant are asked to come to the parish hall on Saturday, December, 7th at 11:00 am to register. Once we know how many children there are we will assign the different parts.

Any individuals or family members that would like to play/sing at the Christmas Eve Family service please let Rev. Randy know very soon. The piano has been tuned and ready to be used for the occasion if there is anyone that would like to avail of it on Christmas Eve.

We are once more selling columbarium niches. Once we had reached the number 48 we ceased selling them until new ones were ordered. The order has been placed and we expect two new units (48 more niches) to arrive later this Fall. The cost has increased considerably since 2016, therefore, Vestry made the decision to increase the purchase price of each niche to \$4000 Anyone interested in buying one should speak to Rev. Randy.

Parish Recycling program is something we are very proud of in our parish. This is a project taken on by our men’s group (ACM) many years ago and still going strong. Residents of the town drop off their bottles and cans at several designated sites, our men pick it up and take it to the recycling trailer, where it gets sorted, counted and bagged every Monday night. Once we have enough, it’s placed on a trailer and taken to the recycling depot in St. John’s. In addition to keeping a lot of stuff out of the landfill, it brings much needed money into our parish budget. There is a need for extra volunteers that can spare about two hours on a Monday night (7-9 pm) to come along and help out. If you can do this, please speak to our ACM president Gary King at 709-895-6239.

There are several ways that parishioners can give on a regular basis. We have the forms in the parish office for those interested in giving electronically, where you have the option of having your offering come directly from your bank every two weeks or once per month. One can also give through Email Transfer, by using the church email: stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com You can include a message in the box to tell our parish treasurer the details of your offering, and she gets notified automatically, and the amount is added to your annual church receipt. There is also a drop-off box in the foyer, next to the nursery room door, where you can drop your envelope into whenever the door is open, or it can be dropped into the parish office. Thank you for everything you do to keep our parish healthy.

A reminder to all those with keys to the building to please ensure windows are closed and locked, lights are turned off, and the door is locked whenever you leave the building.

December 1st

Scriptural Sentence

“Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

1st Reading

1st Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Psalm: 25: 1-9

Pages: 733-734

(Allie Wheeler)

2nd Reading

1st Thes. 3: 9-13

(Glenda Winter)

Gospel

Luke 25: 25-36

(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of tis mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts – God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion – God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. Amen.

December 8th

Scriptural Sentence

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. All flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

1st Reading

1st Malachi 3: 1-4

(in lieu of psalm – Canticle 19)

(Harvey Hiscock)

2nd Reading

2nd Philippians 1: 3-11

(Ruth Hiscock)

Gospel

Luke 3: 1-6a

(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts – God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion – Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet’s call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

December 15th

Scriptural Sentence

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

1st Reading

1st Zephaniah 3: 14-20

(in lieu of psalm – Canticle 3)

(Lori Gosse)

2nd Reading

2nd Philippians 4: 4-7

(Reegan Gosse)

Gospel

Luke 3: 7-18

(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – 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 forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts – 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 – 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 forever. Amen.

**THE BULLETIN FOR THE
Month of December
IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF
GOD**

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

***In Loving Memory of our
dear father:***

Leslie McDonald

Given By:

Mary-Lou Quilty &

Cindy Leroux



IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Our Parents:

Uriah & Louisa

Tucker

Benjamin &

Evelyn Squires

Given by:

Walter & Susana Tucker