

May 21st

Collect for the Day: (In Unison) – Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord. Keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of his peace, and bring the whole of creation to worship at his feet, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) – Eternal God, our Saviour Jesus Christ has promised to be with us until the end of time. Accept all we offer you this day, and renew us in his transfigured life; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison) – Eternal Giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom. Confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: We pray for our parish families – this week we remember: David & Ann Lambert, Calvin & Joan Lamswood, Paul and Deanna Lander, Bernadine Lawlor, Cynthia LeRoux and Rev. Randy & Ada Lockyer and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Church in the Province of the West Indies.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Harbour Breton (3 congregations) – Rector – Vacant.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Montreal – The Rt Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson and The Ven. Robert Camaro - Executive Archdeacon & Vicar General.

May 28th

Collect for the Day: (In Unison) – Almighty and ever living God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal, keep us in the unity of your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and for ever. Amen

Prayer over the Gifts: (In Unison) – Giver of life, receive all we offer you this day. Let the Spirit you bestow on your Church continue to work in the world through the hearts of all who believe. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Prayer after Communion: (In Unison) – Father, may we who have received this eucharist live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth his gifts 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: Winnie Lynch, Joan MacRoberts, Todd Martin, Nina Martin-Sheppard, Emily McDonald, Courtney & Darren Melindy and their families.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: We pray for The Extra-Provincial Churches.

Tri-Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish of Harbour Grace (2 congregations) – Rector – The Rev. John Nicolle and the Parish of Heart's Content (Shared Ministry with the Epiphany) – Rector – The Ven. Eli Evans.

Provincial Prayer Care: We pray for the Diocese of Quebec – The Rt Rev. Bruce Myers and The Ven. Dr. Edward Simonton - Vicar General and Archdeacon.

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Primate: Archbishop Linda Nicholls

Metropolitan: Archbishop David Edwards
Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Bishop – The Right Reverend Samuel Rose

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 – Gloria Earle – 895-3404

People's Warden – Gary King- 895-6239

May 21st and May 28th, 2023 (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:

Greetings from the parish of St. Philip's. As I reflect today (May 18th), it happens to be "Ascension Day", as we follow the church liturgical calendar and lectionary. That reminds us we are nearly at the end of the Easter season, though, in some ways, we are always in the season of Easter, for we are Easter people, and every Sunday is a celebration of Easter. The glory of Easter is the solid foundation upon which the Church is built, and upon which our faith is firmly established. Ascension Day commemorates Jesus' return to the right hand of God in heaven. Following his resurrection, Jesus spent the next 40 days preaching and preparing his disciples to perform the work of preaching and baptizing all people. As glorious as this was, it was also a very difficult time for his disciples and loyal followers, for they had become accustomed to Jesus being with them in the flesh for over three years of public ministry, now he is talking about going away from them into heaven. They were fearful, and they felt inadequate for the task Jesus was leaving to them. They had either witnessed or heard about his horrendous crucifixion, and though Jesus spent 40 days of his post-resurrection preparing them for his physical departure, not everyone had the experience of encountering him in the flesh, for some it was hearsay, and they knew the dangers of publicly proclaiming Jesus. It was still a very confused and fearful group of disciples and followers even after Jesus reassured them that he was going back to heaven, but he would not leave them without a guide, but *would send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit to lead them into all truth.*

Before we begin to talk about the story of Pentecost, we too need reassurance that we are not alone in the work God calls us to, whether that be in our own personal lives of prayer, worship and service, or in our corporate living out of faith. We live in a very difficult world, and often the presence of Christ among us, can be eclipsed by our own fear and trepidation. Pressures upon us from external forces, and daily stresses can often make it difficult to see proof of Christ's presence among us. We can miss the beauty of God's creation when we don't have time to stop and smell the flowers, or to sit quietly on a beautiful, sunny day, and admire the blue sky, and listen to the birds chirping. There is so many glorious things going on around us that remind us of God's presence, but they can be missed if we focus only on the ugly and dark things in the world. Sometimes it's a good thing to spend a day or so not listening to bad news stories of war, violence, crime, political

corruption, and so much more that highlights the negative and evil side of humanity. As we sometimes spend time in prayer and physical fasting in order to draw closer to God, it might prove also to be a worthwhile experience to practice mental fasting, going a day or two focusing only on good news stories that reinforce our faith in the goodness of humanity. Despite what we see and read in the news, there are good things happening in our communities and in our world. As the ones that were gathered together in one place when Jesus came and stood among them that first Pentecost, were a confused and frightened group, so too we can be quite overcome by fear and uncertainty even today. Strong faith requires a discipline of finding time to be together in community, and, sometimes we can, if we listen intently, still hear that voice of Jesus saying to us – *Peace be with you.* That good feeling, which we get from this reassurance that he is with us, and the enthusiasm by which we propel ourselves into the world to do ministry, is that same Holy Spirit Jesus breathed on them so long ago.

May 28th happens to be *Pentecost Sunday* in the life of the church, a time we often refer to as the birthday of the Church. It was really after the event of Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit upon those gathered together, that the mission of the Church began to be articulated in such a way as to empower Christ's followers to make disciples of all nations, as the gospel of Matthew ends with. I invite and encourage everyone to gather with us to celebrate the Church's birthday, and to experience something of that same Holy Spirit that has been leading it for over 2000 years. These are turbulent times for the Church in society, as more and more people abandon it and get swept along in secularism, and whatever else appeals to the senses. If the Church is to reclaim its place in the world as that which proclaims a crucified, resurrected and ascended Lord, who, by the power of the Holy Spirit empowers its people to live out faithful and devoted lives, and gives voice to the voiceless, food to the hungry, hope to the hopeless, and makes our world a better place for all, than we must all make every effort to live out the promises of our baptism, and strive to be all that Christ desires us to be. We are called to give new life to the Church, and at the same time to be the life of the Church, to be Easter people, capable of giving light and life to that which is dark and dead. Imagine being able to take the dark, dead parts of our world, entering into the dark places of peoples' lives, and reinvigorating them with the hope that we are filled with as followers of Christ. If we can do that than we have truly captured the essence of Easter, Ascension and Pentecost. Amen!

The Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre is now available for rentals. If you would like to book the hall, or would like information about rental costs, please contact Donna or Janice Spurrell at 895-3581. Because of costs, earlier this year Vestry made a slight increase to rental rates. It was a very minimal increase and the facility is still the least costly venue in the town.

All individuals, church and non-church groups are reminded that the Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre and washrooms are not to be accessed until the after-school Ballicatter group concludes at 6:00 pm Monday to Friday and all children are picked up. This is in accordance with provincial rules that govern the Ballicatter operation. If access to the kitchen is required, please check with Michelle first. Anyone using the facility during the time the program is operating must have a code of conduct letter on file at the parish office, as well as permission from Michelle, the Ballicatter program administer.

Please keep our building secure. We have had no recent 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, garbage placed in the outside box, 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.

Columbarium niches are still available for purchase. Approximately 31 of the 48 available have been sold since they were first installed in 2016. The cost is still \$3000 (no tax if purchased from the church, funeral home will charge tax) The plan is to install more of them once these are sold, however, the cost of future units will be determined by the cost of purchase and installation at that time. Anyone requiring more information about the columbarium is asked to speak to the rector.

If you would like to receive the rector's messages, bulletins and other parish information from time-to-time please provide him with your email address by contacting him at the following address: lockyerrandy@gmail.com

Dismissal Songs

"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.*

"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.*

More help is needed on the Altar & Church cleaning Guild schedule. If you would like to help out with the cleaning of the church by being placed on a schedule it would be really appreciated. Please let Rev. Randy or Margie Tucker know.

Vestry is now seeking an individual to do weekly cleaning. This would involve about 4 hours per week of ensuring the foyer, Parish Centre, kitchen, washrooms and hallway are cleaned in preparation for Sunday worship. This person would begin on September 1st. Anyone interested in this position, and would like more information, please contact our church wardens. Gloria Earle at 727-8524 or Gary King at 691-3902

Now that our choir is up and going again we would love to welcome new members of all ages. It would be wonderful if we could have enough members to fill out the choir pews on both sides of the chancel. In addition to singing to the glory of God on Sunday morning it is also a time of fellowship and fun each week at practice.

Parish is calling for quotes to re-shingle the roof. In the past year we have had some shingles blow off and in a couple of places we have leaks. At this time, we are looking to get some quotes to give us an idea of what it would cost to replace the shingles (now about 22 years old). Once we have the quotes we will determine if it's something we are able to proceed with in the very near future. If you know of reputable roofing companies, please encourage them to consider giving us their quote.

More help is needed with the ACM recycling program. Did you know that over the many years our ACM has been collecting recyclables they have brought over \$250,000 into the parish? Each week the recyclables are picked up from designated drop off bins in town, taken to the sorting and counting location, and counted and bagged on Monday nights. Once there is enough collected, they are taken to the recycling depot in St. John's There is a need for more help in doing this work. If you would like to be part of this very important work, and can spare a couple of hours on Monday nights, please speak to Gary King or John Parrell.

Lighting project. Over the last couple of years, we have replaced most of the lighting in the building with more energy efficient LED ones, except for the main area of the church. This was done at a very low cost to the parish, and we have reduced our carbon footprint. The big job remaining is to remove all the existing lighting in the nave, chancel and sanctuary areas and replace with better lighting, burning less electricity. We are awaiting diocesan approval, and expect to complete this job over the coming months. The cost to achieve this work will be around \$40,000 (tax included) We invite members of the parish to consider financial support. Perhaps a family might consider donating the cost of a light? Total number of new lights will be 36 at an average cost of approximately \$1150. Once this project is complete, we will be a good example of a church building and parish going greener, and being better stewards of the environment. We will have done this not only by the lighting, but also by our Geo-Thermal heating system and our recycling program. Again, we call on the generosity of our parishioners to help out.

Update - The new lighting has been ordered by our contractor, and over the next couple of months we look forward to updating our lighting in the main part of the church. Up to this point we do have one of them already given

A call for musical talent is going out to all our parishioners. As we all know, there are a lot of people in our congregation with gifts of music and/or song, which we would like to incorporate into our worship from time-to-time. Rev. Randy hopes to hold a Memorial Hymn-Sing in March, and draw on some of our parish talent to participate in addition to our choir. This service will be held on a Sunday evening on a specific date to be determined later. If you or anyone in your family would like to prepare a hymn(s) or gospel song(s) please speak to Rev. Randy. It is our hope to be able to occasionally do some services to involve members of the congregation in this way.

A message from our hospital chaplains – whenever you are admitted to one of our local hospitals, and would like to receive a visit from one of our Anglican chaplains, please register as “Anglican” and indicate at that time that you wish to see a chaplain during your stay. Unless you do this the chaplain may not know you are there.

Maintenance Fund: We continue to ask our parishioners to give monthly through the Maintenance Fund to help us lower our debt on the heating system. We borrowed the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Bank of Montreal. This loan, we are happy to say will be completely paid off this coming November. Following that we will need to keep paying into our maintenance fund on a regular basis because within the next couple of years we will probably need to replace the roof shingles, among other necessary jobs to be done. Your support of the Maintenance Fund is extremely important to the parish.

2023 church envelopes are available. If you don't have yours, please check the table in the foyer. If you don't see them there, please speak to Rev. Randy and he will provide them to you. If you are new to our parish and would like to offer regular support, please ask for your box of envelopes as well..

Envelope drop-off box in the foyer. The box formerly used to collect Canadian Tire money, has now been repurposed to receive weekly envelopes. This box is accessible most days of the week (Monday – Friday) in the afternoons, when the main doors are open. If you have church envelopes to drop off to the church during the week, and the office is not open, please drop them into the box next to the nursery room door. This box will be checked at the end of each day and any envelopes inside will be transferred to the office safe until monies are counted on Sundays.

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.

www.facebook.com/stphilipsanglicanchurch

St. Philip's parish is set up to receive E-Transfers.

These days many of us do online banking and send e-transfers, so this is another way to make your contribution to the parish.. The parish will receive your offering instantly and a message will be sent to our treasurer and she will ensure the amount gets added to your envelope offerings for tax purposes. It's very easy and convenient. **As we move toward the Summer Season, please remember the needs of the church.** Summer is a time when many parishioners are away on holidays, camping, spending time at the cottage, etc. There are several ways that we can still be regular in our weekly offerings, so that the treasurer is able to keep all our commitments up-to-date. We have many signed up for regular E-Givings, if this is something you would like to do, simply pick up a form from the parish office. We can keep post-dated cheques in the office safe, and we can use the Email Transfer method, by simply using the parish email: stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com You may simply type the message “weekly offering” in the message box. Thank you for all your generous support to the parish, it helps us stay financially strong and viable. This is especially important at a time when some parishes are struggling to stay afloat and joining up with other parishes to share a priest.

Our parish website can be accessed now through a **QR Code** (Quick Response Code). By scanning the code with your cell phone, tablet or some other compatible device you will immediately be taken to the parish website. We are also in the process of updating our website so it can be current. Here is the QR Code:



NOTICES/MEMORABLE DATES

May 21 – In observance of the long weekend there will be no Sunday School today. Class will resume on Sunday, May 28th. The last day of Sunday School will be June 18th. Parents can bring a snack for that day as well.

May 30 - Our Bishop will be holding Information Sessions throughout the diocese over the next couple of months, to provide information, and to receive feedback on the *Diocesan Strategic Plan – Set Sail – Charting The Course For Christ’s Church*. These sessions will be held in parish clusters, and our parish of St. Philip will host one on Tuesday, May 30th, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm., in the Canon EB Cheeseman Parish Centre. This session is open to all parishioners and groups from the following parishes: St. Philip’s, Holy Innocents (Paradise), St. Lawrence (Portugal Cove), St. Cyprian’s/St. Mary’s (Bell Island), All Saints (Pouch Cove), St. Nicholas (Torbay). We encourage our own parishioners to please make every effort to attend.

May 31 – ACW card game will be held on Wednesday, May 31 at 8:00 pm. Please bring your own cards and baskets – tea and coffee will be provided.

July 23 - The 2023 Annual Flower Service will be on Sunday, July 23rd at 3:00 pm. We want to give everyone lots of advance notice, as some people living away may schedule their visit home around the time of the service.

Sunday School is up and going and we encourage parents with young children to bring them to the 10:30 am Sunday service so they can be a part of it. If we have adequate numbers of children we can plan some congregational activities as well. We also encourage others to volunteer as helpers.

We are now receiving names for the 2024 Confirmation class. If you have a child that you would like to have enrolled in Confirmation class later this Fall, please speak to Rev. Randy. The child should be, or will be age 11 by the time the bishop comes for the service (no date set yet but probably in Spring).

Thank you to Ruth & Harvey Hiscock & Dawn Cheeseman for all their work over the past Winter and Spring, covering all the church pews that had torn material on them. This past week they did the last remaining two, and now our pews are looking lovely again.

Thank you to Mr. Mike Lawrence, owner of Lawrence Glass & Aluminum, for fixing the lock on one of our main doors. It appeared that we would have to purchase a new lock-panic bar system for the door, which could have cost the parish about \$1500, however, Mike made two trips from CBS and was able to find a replacement piece for our lock. He fixed the lock and did not charge us for it. We need to point out such generosity and kindness, thank you so much Mike!

Bishop has authorized the return of the Common Cup. For three years we have been receiving Eucharist in one kind only (bread), because of safety concerns during the pandemic. As of Sunday, May 28th (Pentecost Sunday), parishes in the diocese, including here at St. Philip’s, will once more provide the chalice for those who wish to receive from it. This comes from medical reassurance that it is once more, safe to do so. However, we realize that many people will still be uncomfortable receiving from the cup, and that is perfectly fine, and to continue to receive the bread only is also fine. Prior to the pandemic some people received the wine through intinction (dipping the bread in the wine), the bishop has advised that this practice is not to be used in the diocese, because of a greater concern of fingers inadvertently coming into contact with the wine. So, as of May 28th, we can do a couple of things: (1) Receive the bread and drink from the chalice or (2) continue to receive in one kind only (bread). The choice is entirely yours and the validity of the sacrament is real for each one.

If you are not currently receiving our Tri-Diocesan newspaper, Anglican Life, which also includes our national church paper, *The Anglican Journal*, please contact The Rev. Fred Marshall, Officer of the Anglican Joint Committee at 709-727-4346 or send an email to anglicanlifefnl@gmail.com so that he can add you to the subscription list. There is no charge for the monthly paper and it keeps you informed about what is going on in the life of the church in NL, Canada and the world.

THE BULLETIN FOR THE WEEKS OF

May 21st and May 28th

IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

A Dear Wife, Mother & Grandmother

Madge (Majella) Sharpe

(July 25, 1943 – May 21, 2022)

*Given By:
Steve & Family*



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Robert Tucker

(May 1934 – June 2006)

Always in our hearts

*Given By:
Margaret & Family*

May 21st

The Ascension of our Lord
(May 18)

Scriptural Sentence
(Page 342)

Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, to the close of the age.

1st Reading
Acts 1: 1-11

Psalm 47
Pages: 764-765

(Rev. Russell Osmond)

2nd reading
Ephesians 1: 15-23

(Joan Osmond)

Gospel
Luke 24: 44-53

(Deacon Bonnell)

May 28th

The Day of Pentecost

Scriptural Sentence
(Page 345)

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful; and kindle in us the fire of your love.

1st Reading
Acts 2: 1-21

Psalm 104
24-34, 35b
Pages: 843-845

(Todd Martin)

2nd reading
1st Corinthians 12:
3b-13

(Joyce Keeping)

Gospel
John 20: 19-23

(Deacon Bonnell)