

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.*

“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.*

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

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Metropolitan: Archbishop David Edwards

Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

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Honorary Assistants

The Rev. Canon Shirley Gosse

The Rev. Canon Don Morgan

The Rev. Russell Osmond



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February 2025 (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: We have now completed the first month of 2025, and with it a reminder of how fast time marches along, and with it our own lives. I don't know if the television series, *Days of Our Lives*, even comes on anymore, but I recall the beginning of it, when it would say, *like sand through the hourglass, so are the days of our lives*. I never cared to watch the show, but those words of introduction were always very thought provoking, because of the depth of truth in them. I remember the hype and fear back in late 1999 when our clocks and calendars were about to roll into the year 2000. People had all kinds of fears, that it would be the end of the world, that airplanes would fall from the sky, that computers would crash, data lost, bank accounts would disappear, and so much more. Of course, none of that happened and we slipped into a new century virtually unscathed. To me, it seems that the past 25 years have gone by in a flash, maybe you have had the same experience too, or maybe it has dragged on for an eternity. Most people I speak to seems to notice how fast time goes. Of course, we all know that there is still 365 days of the year, 24 hours in a day, so time hasn't really changed, just our concept of it. Our lives have become very busy, the lives of our children have gotten very busy as well, I hear from parents all the time that they are on the move constantly with the children, dropping them off, picking them up and off to the next thing. When we are so busy I wonder what are the things we miss going through life? What are the simple pleasures we don't have time to notice anymore? Psalm 46:10 God says, *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."* It is in the quietness of our lives that we can truly come to appreciate the beauty of creation, and the hand of God in everything we see. Ecclesiastes 4:6 says, *"Better one handful with tranquility than two handfuls with toil and chasing after the wind."* Isn't that sometimes the story of our lives? We want more, so we work harder, we miss out on simple pleasures, such as more time with our families, and, in the end what we achieved is much less than what we lost. How do we achieve that balance of life that feeds and nurtures us in mind, body and spirit?

St. Matthew 6:33 says, *"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."* One of the problems of the age we live in is that we have it all reversed, we do everything else, and then we have neither the time nor the energy to put into nurturing our soul, and we become disgruntled with God if things aren't going the way we want. We have to, *seek first the Kingdom of God*, we don't find time for God when we have everything else done, which most days we never achieve anyhow, rather, we begin with God. We pray first before we start our day, and if we are extremely busy that day, we really need to pray first. If our lives are going sideways, we really must get out to church, hear God's word, and be fed and nurtured by the Eucharist. These are the kind of things we do as we *seek first the Kingdom of God*.

2 Corinthians 4:16 says, *"Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day."* We all know that, as time goes on, we grow older and weaker, but if we have become more mature in faith, steadfast in our belief that God is the author of our lives, and that our lives are in God's hands, then we have made the most of the time God has given us. Our lives are never wasted if we have lived them in faith and served the Lord gracefully. Matthew 6: 28-29 says, *See, how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.* When we don't seek first the Kingdom of God, and we feel that we have to be totally in control of our lives, it doesn't leave much room for God to work in our lives in magnificent ways. Jesus reminds us that if God can create something as beautiful as a flower, so that it amazes us to see it, how much more does God care about us. Sometimes we have to let go of certain things in our lives, which can cause us a lot of anxiety in itself, so that God can amaze us with goodness and beauty.

I think as our lives move along, seemingly too fast, we have to find time to enjoy the simple beauty and pleasures of life. Our world is a place of chaos, uncertainty, and can sometimes appear to be out of control. The good news is that God is always in control, it is not our political leaders, some of them might want us to think they are in control, but God is. Our country is living under a lot of worry and stress now from what president Donald Trump may do to our economy, his threats of tariffs and making Canada a 51st state, and so much other rhetoric that comes from insane leaders, both current and of the past. In America, many have made him a kind of demigod, they actually believe he is there by divine providence, but we know he is not, he is a weak man that has mastered the art of deceit and manipulation. He would like for people to worship him, and many have blurred the line between God and Trump, but he is a trickster. We will not be intimidated by his threats and rhetoric we will stand strong as a nation and in the end prevail. We will *seek first the Kingdom of God and all these things will be added to us*. In all our fears and anxiety let's make room for God to work in our lives to bring us peace and harmony.

Rev. Randy

Notices / Memorable Dates

Feb. 16 - The next scheduled Sunday for baptism will be February 16th. Anyone wishing to have a child baptized at that time should speak to Rev. Randy very soon.

Feb. 23 - The annual meeting of the congregation will take place on Sunday, February 23rd following the 10:30 am worship service. We will have a potluck lunch in the Canon EB Cheeseman parish centre, followed by the meeting. All committees or parish groups should have their 2024 annual reports submitted to the rector by February 16th. All are welcome to attend.

March 4 - Pancake supper (Shrove Tuesday) will be held on Tuesday, March 4th at 6:30 pm. Tickets for this will be available in the coming weeks.

Thank you to those sponsoring the coffee hour for February (Gloria & Barb) we are still in need of sponsors for March 2nd and April 6th. If you are able to help with either of these dates, please let Lisa Brown or Rev. Randy know.

Columbarium units are still selling. The new units are at Family Memorials ready for installation in our cemetery in the near future. We are selling them quickly at times on a first-come basis, and the price is \$4000 (no tax). Anyone interested in purchasing a niche in the units are asked to speak to Rev. Randy.

E-Giving is available for parishioners to use. This is an excellent way for members of the parish to regularly support the parish financially. Forms are available from the parish office, and can be emailed to you as well. Simply fill in the pertinent information, including your banking information, how much you wish to give monthly or biweekly, sign it and bring it to the church and our parish treasurer will set it up. Several parishioners are doing this and find it works excellent for them.

St. Philip's Parish continues it's support of St. Lawrence's food bank in 2025. Since the food bank opened in Portugal Cove we have placed receptacle bins in our foyer, where parishioners drop in non-perishable food items weekly. We encourage parishioners to continue to do so, and we have designated the third Sunday of each month to be *Food Bank Sunday* in our parish. That Sunday we invite parishioners to place their food items on a table at the front of the church. This is to draw attention to the need for donations to the food bank. Please continue to drop items in the bins in the foyer every Sunday.

There are still 2025 church envelopes in the foyer. If you did not receive your box, please check on the table for it. If you did not have a box last year in 2024 but would like to have one for 2025, please speak to Rev. Randy, or our envelope secretary, Marie Chafe.

Our parish is set-up to receive E-Transfers. If you would like to make online contributions to St. Philip's parish by EMT it is very easy to do so. Simply use the parish email as follows: stphilipsanglicanchurch@nf.aibn.com and use the message box of the transfer to indicate what your donation is for.

Many parishioners are also set up for automatic E-giving. If this is something you would like to do, please visit the parish office to obtain the proper form, fill it out and return it. Our parish treasurer will then set it up and biweekly or monthly deductions (whichever you prefer) are automatically transferred to the parish from your banking institution.

Seniors fraud has become a real concern in our society and seems to be escalating in recent times. Perhaps not always seniors even, we can all be vulnerable, especially when the people on the other end of the phone are so well trained to scam us. If you receive a call from someone you don't know, a number you don't recognize (they can manipulate numbers to appear familiar to us) it would be wise not even to engage in a conversation. Most legitimate businesses and charitable organizations no longer use the telephone to solicit money. It is never a good idea to agree to give personal information, including bank information over the phone regardless. So, be very careful scammers are increasing in volume and they are very shrewd.

Our men's group (ACM) is part of a larger group of our diocese called DAMA (Diocesan Anglican Men's Association) and would love to have more men involved in the association. Our ACM and our ACW are so critical to the work we do here at St. Philip's church. They do so much to enrich our parish life, and we can only wonder what they could achieve if they had more involved. At the end of 2024, between the two groups they contributed about \$20,000 to the parish budget. They work hard, and would love to have more in our parish get involved in this work. If you would like to help out, attend their meetings, etc. please speak to the ACW president, Bernice King or the ACM president Gary King.

Altar Guild ladies and cleaners are needed. We have several teams that clean and look after the sanctuary of the church, and prepare the altar for Sunday Eucharist, setting up the vessels, cleaning and putting them away after, etc. As is the case in many churches, some of our ladies are unable to continue this, they get older and have health issues, etc. We are asking other ladies of our congregation to step in and take on some of this work. It might mean helping once per month, or whatever level of commitment you can make. If you are able to help with this please speak to Margie Tucker and she will be pleased to add you to the schedule and explain the work they do.

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."

Diocesan mobile ministry bus. Our diocese is very excited about this project, and, if you receive the Anglican Life magazine every month, there is a big writeup in it about this new ministry. We recognize that many people in our metro region are homeless, sleeping on the streets or wherever they can find a place to tuck away for the night. As we can appreciate, our weather is not always suitable for this, and people are left in the cold, inadequately dressed, and lacking food. The diocese is going to receive a metro bus that is being taken out of service, free of cost, and it will be setup as a mobile unit that will go around the area, especially downtown, handing out essentials, such as socks, mittens, caps, coffee/tea, soup, muffins, sandwiches etc. Every parish is asked to get involved in donating items for the bus, operating the bus, or make monetary donations. Would be a great thing for our parish knitters to think about doing? We are excited to do our part once the bus is operational.

***THE BULLETIN FOR THE
Month of February***

***IS GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD
IN LOVING MEMORY OF:***

Phyllis Naomi Squires
(July 23, 1923 – Jan. 17, 2009)

Forever loved and missed
Canon Shirley

Leila Tulk
Lovingly remembered by
Tom, Renee, Jerred & Alexis

Harvey C. Sharpe

Given by
Mary, Cheryl & Beverly

Alma Earle

(Dec. 24, 1925 – Feb. 25, 2015)

Charles Earle

(Jan. 12, 1925 – Feb. 21, 2018)

Given by

Gloria, David & Family

February 2nd

Presentation of the Lord

Scriptural Sentence

"This is a light to reveal God to the nations and the glory of his people Israel."

1st Reading

Malachi 3: 1-4
Psalm 84 / Pages 817-818

(Allie Wheeler)

2nd Reading

Hebrews 2: 14-18
(Glenda Wheeler)

Gospel

Luke 2: 22-40
(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have sent us your salvation. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit to recognize him who is the glory of Israel and the light for all nations, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts – Almighty God, accept the joyful offering of your Church and grant that your Son may shine in us as the light that lightens every nation. We ask this in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion – God for whom we wait, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon, who did not die till he had welcomed the Messiah. Complete in us your perfect will, that we in Christ may share in your eternal kingdom; for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

February 9th

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Scriptural Sentence

"I am the light of the world, says the Lord. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

1st Reading

Isaiah 6: 1-8
Psalm 138 / Pages 895-896
(Brenda Harding)

2nd Reading

1st. Corinthians 15: 1-11
(Debbie Collis)

Gospel

Luke 5: 1-11
(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – Merciful Lord, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; 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 – God of compassion and forgiveness, receive our offering this day and make us one with him who is our peace, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Prayer after Communion – Eternal God, in you we find peace beyond all telling. May we who share in this heavenly banquet be instruments of your peace on earth, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

February 16th

6th Sunday after Epiphany

Scriptural Sentence

"Rejoice and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven."

1st Reading

Jeremiah 17: 5-10
Psalm 1 / Page 705
(Gloria Earle)

2nd Reading

1st Corinthians 15: 12-20
(David Earle)

Gospel

Luke 6: 17-26
(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – Almighty and everliving God, whose Son Jesus Christ healed the sick and restored them to wholeness of life, look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your power make whole all peoples and nations; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer over the Gifts – Eternal God, you are the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers, receive all we offer you this day; turn our sickness into health and our sorrow into joy. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Prayer after Communion – God of tender care, in this eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. May we show your love in our presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

February 23rd

7th Sunday after Epiphany

Scriptural Sentence

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you."

1st Reading

Genesis 45: 3-11
Psalm 37 : 1-12, 41-42/ Pages 750-752
(Dr. Greg Brown)

2nd Reading

1st. Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50
(Canon Shirley Gosse)

Gospel

Luke 6: 27-38
(Deacon Bonnell)

Collects & Prayers

Collect – Almighty God, your Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving love. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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 – Merciful God, accept all we offer you this day. Lead us to love you with all our heart, and to love all people with your perfect love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer after Communion – Gracious God, in the eucharist we celebrate your love for us and for all people. Grant that strengthened by these holy gifts, we may show your love in our lives, and know its fulfilment in your presence. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen