

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

Anglican Priest and Rector

The Reverend Shirley J. Cole

Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM's)

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Churches

St. Elizabeth's, Springfield

St. Mark's, Kensington

St. Stephen's, Irishtown

St. Thomas', Spring Brook

May 5, 2024
6th Sunday of Easter

*Welcome to everyone gathered here today.
Please make yourself known to the greeters.*

Today's Readings

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

St. Luke's, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

~ The Rev'd Matthew Sponagle, Rector, and Katie

St. John's, Westphal, Nova Scotia

~ The Rev'd Gary Barr, Rector

Provincial Prayer Care

Diocese of Western Newfoundland, Bishop John Organ

Council of the North

Diocese of Moosonee

~ Archbishop Anne Germond & Archbishop Fred Hiltz

DCS Cycle of Prayer – St. John's, Ellerslie

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside

May 12 – Ascension Sunday (white)

Readings: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Readers: Sandra H, Grafton C; Jean R, Hilda J;

Savannah M, Marie M; Blaine C, Velma H

Prayers of the People: Sandra H, Doreen Cole, Doris M

Worship Times: 9 am – St. Stephen's MP

11 am – St. Mark's MP

11 am – St. Thomas' HE

7 pm – St. Elizabeth's HE

Council Meetings

May 13 – 7 pm – St. Thomas' Church Council
June 5 – 7 pm – St. Stephen's Church Council
June 17 – 7 pm – St. Mark's Church Council
June 19 – 7 pm – Parish Council at St. Mark's Church

ScripFund order will be 1 week later; place your order by May 5.

Kensington Peoples' Cemetery spring clean-up will be held on Saturday, May 11, 9 am (rain date: May 18). Please bring your rakes and shovels. All willing volunteers would be greatly appreciated!

Rectory Clean-Up

There will be a clean-up of the grounds around the Rectory on Monday evening, May 6. Please come out for a couple hours and help out!!

Bulletin Pick-Up

Now that spring has arrived, the Bulletins will again be left in the front porch of the Rectory for pick-up.

St. Mark's Church -- Yard, Bake, and Plant Fundraiser --

Saturday, June 1 from 9-12. All donated items should be clean and in good condition. A bake sale table, as well as a variety of plants, will be included as part of our fundraiser. To schedule donation pick up, please call Dianne (902-836-4978), Marlene (902-836-4303), or Alan (902-439-1627).

Free Seniors' Lunch!

Saturday, May 11, from 11:30 am – 2 pm

at the Kensington Presbyterian Church (fully accessible).

Please join us for a Free Seniors' Lunch, and take a meal to give to a friend or neighbour! Entertainment will be provided by Mark Wall and Kevin Arthur (from 12:30 – 2 pm). Please RSVP to 902-836-3477. All are welcome!

Bible study continues weekly. Starting May 1, we will meet online and in person at the Rectory at 10:30-11:30 a.m. (rather than 9:30). Anyone wishing to join is most welcome. If you would like a Zoom invite, please let Rev. Shirley know.

Vacation Bible School 2024

We're excited to announce that our VBS 2024 registration is now open! Come and join us at "*Camp Firelight*" July 8-12 from 9 am-11:30 am at the Murray Christian Education Centre, Kensington. Ages 4-12. Cost is \$25 per child (3rd child registers for free!) You can register on-line at: <https://forms.gle/vn4pQ21frUPGZtH46>. Payment can be made through etransfer: kensingtonvbs@gmail.com, or by cash or cheque on the first day of camp. Looking forward to seeing you! For more information, please contact the church office.

COLLECT (p 341)

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you riches beyond imagination.

Pour into our hearts such love toward you,
that we, loving you above all things,
may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS (p 342)

God of glory, accept all we offer you this day,
and bring us to that eternal city of love and light,
where Christ is King. We ask this in his name.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (p 342)

Father, you restored us to life by raising your Son from death.
May we who receive this sacrament
always be strengthened to do your will,
in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

THANKS!

Thanks once again to all of you who participated in any way toward the success of the Bishop's Kitchen Party, with an extra special shout out for all the quick work in the background to get us going. Many verbal and written comments were received; this one from Rev'd Margaret Collins from DCS is a lovely summary of what has been received: *'Thank you for the tremendous work you all put into last night's "Kitchen Party" for Bishop Sandra and the region. It was a roaring success and a wonderful opportunity for folks to meet and reconnect. Parishioners went above and beyond, and it was a wonderful, uplifting, and encouraging gathering!'*

From Rev. Shirley... Thanks so much to those who came out for the **Administration and Finances 'RoadShow'** offered by Diocesan Staff on the Saturday afternoon past at St. Paul's in Charlottetown. I think the information has left us with some things to ponder and discuss further! Again, much appreciate your taking time to attend to this important aspect of our Parish and Church life.

Sunday, June 30th Anniversary Celebrations

Plans are well underway for the 250th Anniversary/Founder's Day commemorating the arrival of the *Elizabeth* and *Lovely Kitty*, in the summer of 1774, which included settlers who were Anglican and over time would form our Parish as we still know it today. Activities will be held at St. Thomas' Church and Hall and Grounds, and will include Parish Service at 11 am, followed by lunch (provided) and in the afternoon displays and period games for children and talks for adults about topics relevant to the day. More detailed information and formal invitations will be forthcoming soon - please hold the date - and if you are interested in being on the planning Committee or helping out as the date looms closer or on the day - please contact the Church Office - as more help would be greatly appreciated!

Rectory Energy Efficiencies -- Much appreciation is extended to Tim Ogilvie who ensured the overall arrangements for the recently installed Central Heat Pump System in the Rectory - and to Jim Evans and Grafton Cole who provided electric heaters for the week without heat - and stopped by regularly to ensure the work was proceeding without issue! All is now up and running and it's awesome!

A READING FROM ACTS 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

A READING FROM 1 JOHN 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN 15:9-17

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other.