

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

Anglican Priest and Rector: The Reverend Shirley J. Cole

Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM): Kim Gallant, Dennis Cole

Office Administrator: Bonnie LaFrance

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December 22, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent - LOVE

Welcome to everyone gathered here today.

A Candle is Burning

(sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger")

A candle is burning, a candle of LOVE,
a candle to point us to heaven above.

A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.

Today's Readings

Micah 5:2-5a; Canticle 18 (Luke 1:46-55, page 86);

Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Northumberland, NS

St. John's, Truro, NS



Provincial Prayer Care

Diocese of Fredericton, Archbishop David Edwards

Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Armed Forces Nigel Shaw,
and all military chaplains

Council of the North

Diocese of Athabasca – Bishop David Greenwood

DCS Cycle of Prayer – St. Stephen's, Irishtown

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside

IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and In Loving Memory of

Clayton MacLeod

+July, 2017

Son – David MacLeod

Dec. 25, 1957 – Sept. 26, 2024

Arthur K. Campbell

June 20, 1910 – August 19, 1966

Gladys B. Campbell

Sept. 9, 1915 – Nov. 18, 1989

Philip Campbell

Nov. 11, 1951 – Nov. 5, 2010

Baby – sister

August, 1933

Baby – brother

May, 1947

Grandson – Noel Graham

Jan. 20, 2023

*Those we love don't go away;
they walk beside us everyday.*

Always loved & missed by Grace & family



IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used
within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and In Loving Memory of

LAURETTA JOLLIMORE

+December 21, 2018

JAMES JOLLIMORE

+January 31, 2019

*Your spirit lives as Christmas nears
Memories remembered of other years
Within our hearts we hold you dear
In our thoughts throughout the year.*

Always loved & remembered by
Cheryl & Tommy

December 29 – First Sunday after Christmas (white)

Readings: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148;
Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

Readers: Doris M, Norma T

Prayers of the People: Bronwyn C

Worship Time: 11 am – Parish Service at St. Mark's
Thomas Haslam will be guest speaker, and the combined choirs
will provide music. We are hoping that this service will be available
online through the website, but you are most welcome to join us
in person! (please check the website by December 27)

December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship Services

4 pm – St. Stephen's HE (St. Stephen's choir will be singing carols
for 20 minutes before church. All are welcome!)

7 pm – St. Thomas' HE

9 pm – St. Mark's HE

December 25 - Christmas Day Worship Service

11 am – St. Elizabeth's HE

For safety precautions and convenience, during the winter months
we will use the black mailboxes located on the outside railing of the
ramp going into the office. If you are picking up bulletins or have
anything to drop off, please use these mailboxes. Thanks!

We are waiting for the **Daily Bread** devotional books to arrive by mail;
we will distribute them as soon as they arrive.

PLEASE NOTE...

Rev. Shirley and Bonnie's office time will be modified over the
holidays. If you have announcements, memorials, or information
for the bulletin, please call the office and leave a message
(902-836-3303) or email nlparish@eastlink.ca. Thank you!
Deadline for December 29th bulletin = December 26;
deadline for January 5th bulletin = January 2.

A READING FROM MICAH 5:2-5a

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”
Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.
He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.
And he will be our peace
when the Assyrians invade our land
and march through our fortresses.

A READING FROM HEBREWS 10:5-10

Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said:
“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you prepared for me;
with burnt offerings and sin offerings
you were not pleased.
Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—
I have come to do your will, my God.’”
First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin
offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them”—though
they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, “Here I
am, I have come to do your will.” He sets aside the first to establish the
second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice
of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 1:39-45

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

COLLECT (pg 272)

Heavenly Father,
who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace,
to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour,
now fill us with your grace,
that we in all things may embrace your will
and with her rejoice in your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS (pg 272)

Gracious God,
by the power of the Spirit
who sanctified the mother of your Son,
make holy all we offer you this day.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (pg 272)

Faithful God,
in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.
May we, like the Virgin Mary,
be obedient to your will.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

*The Fourth Sunday of Advent -- **PROMISE OF LOVE***

Reader 1: Through the prophets, God promised a Messiah. In a dream, God promised Joseph that Mary "will have a son, and you will name him Jesus -- because he will save his people." God's promises have been kept.

Reader 2: The birth of a child is a sign that life will carry on. It was through the birth of a weak and vulnerable human baby that God has most closely identified with each of us. The mighty God has become Emmanuel, "God with us." This was astounding news, then, at that first Christmas. It is astounding news now. Christmas is about God, with us.

Reader 1: In the birth of Jesus, God's promise of hope and healing is made in a new and wonderful way. We remember, though, that strength and determination are necessary in fulfilling any promise. Joseph and Mary showed great courage as they responded to God's call.

Reader 2: We relight the Advent candles of waiting in hope, dreaming of peace, and healing with joy. Their flames remind us that God is active in our lives and in the world around us.
(The candles are relit)

Reader 1: God promised to love and care for all that God created. The rainbow is one sign of this promise; the birth of Jesus is another wonderful sign that God has not left us on our own. The flame of this fourth candle gives us courage for our daily living by reminding us of the promise of Emmanuel - God is with us. *(The fourth candle is lit)*
(unison prayer)

Loving God, we thank you that you have fulfilled your promise. Emmanuel has come. We rejoice in your faithfulness. Give us courage to respond with love and compassion. Amen.