

ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

Anglican Priest and Rector: The Reverend Shirley J. Cole
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February 8, 2026 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

Worship on February 8

10 am – St. Thomas' HE

Today's Readings

Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 112:1-9; 1 Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - Crapaud, PEI

Provincial Prayer Care

Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario

- Archbishop Anne Germond and the Provincial Council

DCS Cycle of Prayer - St. Mary's, Summerside

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside

We are delighted that for the second year in a row, an application for the Connectors Eight (Missional Leadership Learning Community) has been approved. Congratulations, Dennis Cole! We're sure that you and the Parish will benefit greatly from your time in this program.

February 15: Transfiguration Sunday: Last after Epiphany (green)

Worship Time: 10 am – St. Thomas' MP

Readings: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Readers: Jean R, Hilda J

Prayers of the People: Doreen C

ANNUAL MEETINGS

- **St. Elizabeth's** – Sunday, February 8, 2 pm at the Rectory

- **St. Mark's** – Monday, February 9, 7 pm (alt. Wed., Feb. 11)

PLEASE NOTE: Parish Annual Meeting has been moved to Sunday, February 22, following 10 am Service at St. Thomas'; light lunch will follow at 11:15 am, and meeting will get underway by 11:30 am-11:45 am. (alt. Wed., Feb. 25).

All Parish Reports, including Financials, still need to be in to Bonnie by 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 11. Thank you!

~ **Bible Study** - Thursday mornings, 9:45-10:45 at the Rectory.

~ **Valentine Social** at St. Thomas' Church Hall on February 10, 10:30 a.m. (storm date - Feb. 11). Valentine fun, games, stories, food, and fellowship! Please bring a food item for the Food Bank and an unsigned Valentine card for a shut-in within our area. All are welcome! To help the organizers, can you please let us know if you are attending: Amy McCarville (902-786-9300); Sandra Harrington (902-836-4571).

~ **Ash Wednesday Service** will be held on February 18, 11:00 a.m. at St. Mark's. Rev. Shirley Cole and Ellen Locke will lead the Service. Imposition of Ashes will be included.

~ **Kensington & Area Christian Council** meeting – Mon., Feb. 23, 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Holy Family Parish, Kensington.

~ **Confirmation classes** are getting underway. If you have a family member interested, please contact Rev. Shirley directly by email or phone as soon as possible.

Heart & Stroke - February is Heart Month, and Sheila Harrington is raising funds again this year to support research, advocacy, and education initiatives that help Canadians live longer, healthier lives and enjoy more moments with people they love. You can give by: **ONLINE** at <https://heartandstroke.crowdchange.ca/128299> **MAIL** cheque (to Heart and Stroke) to: Heart & Stroke Foundation, 1200-2300 Young Street, Box 2414, Toronto, Ontario, M4P 1E4. (Write "CANVASS" and "Sheila Harrington" on the memo line.) **IN PERSON:** Sheila will take cash or cheque, made out to Heart and Stroke, from February 1st to February 28th. All donations of \$20.00 or more will receive a receipt. Your mailing address must be provided.

IN MEMORIAM

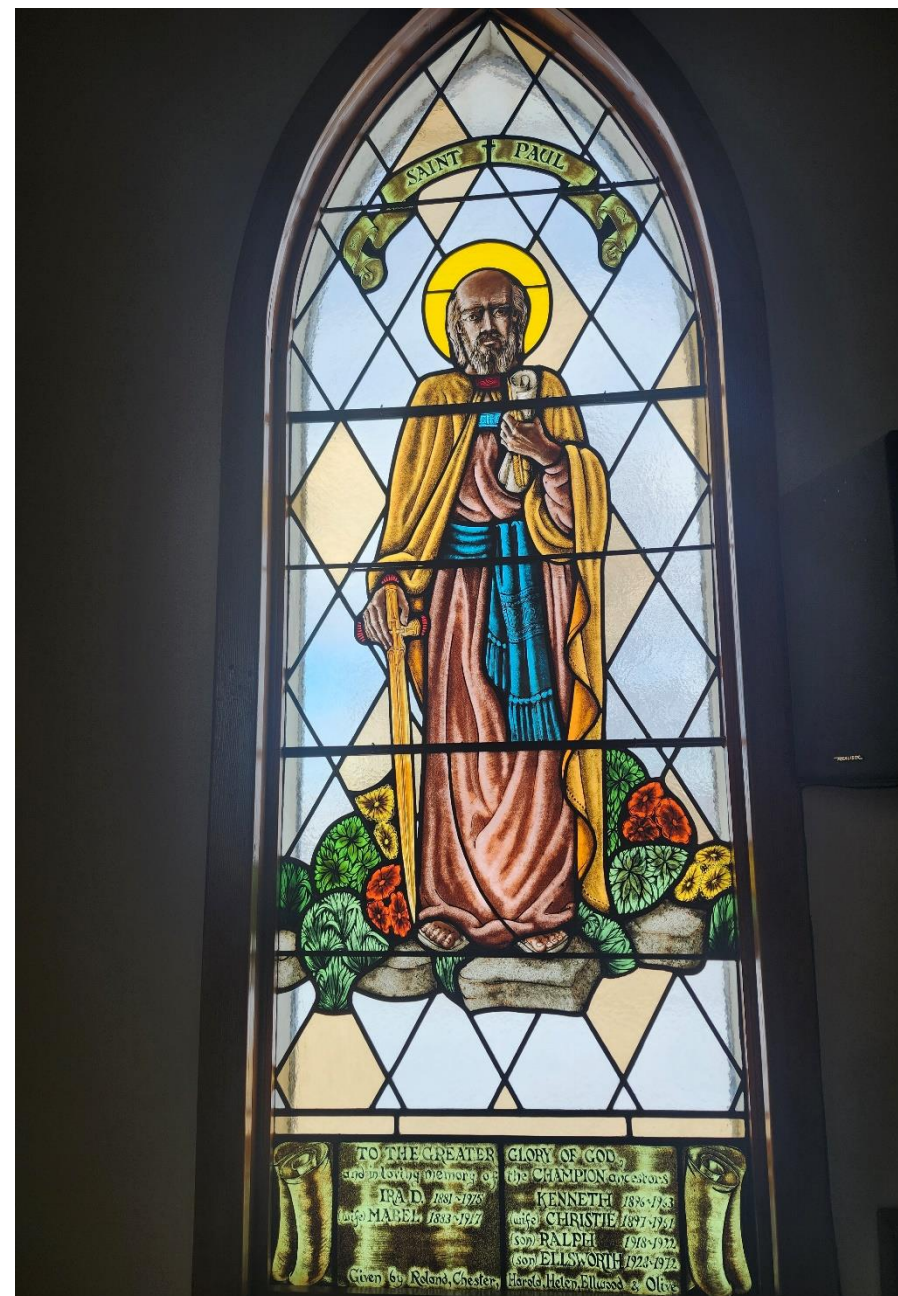
The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of

LINWOOD GILL

+February 12, 1998

*"Our lives are but fine weavings,
that God and we prepare.
Each life becomes a fabric
planned and fashioned in His care."*

Always loved and remembered,
from daughter Laura & family



Installed on June 15, 1986, at St. Stephen's Church

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 for ever.

A READING FROM ISAIAH 58:1-9A

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.
Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if
they were a nation that practised righteousness and did not forsake
the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgements,
they delight to draw near to God. "Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your
own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look,
you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.
Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow
down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will
you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that
I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share
your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your
house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself
from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go
before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help,
and he will say, Here I am.

PSALM 112:1-9

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord*
and have great delight in his commandments!
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;*,
the generation of the upright will be blessed.
Wealth and riches will be in their house;*,
and their righteousness will last for ever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright;*,
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
It is good for them to be generous in lending*,
and to manage their affairs with justice.
For they will never be shaken;*,
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.
They will not be afraid of any evil rumours;*,
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
Their heart is established and will not shrink;*,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.
They have given freely to the poor;*,
**and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honour.**

**God of light, teach us to love each other as you love us,
that we may bring peace and joy to the world,
and rejoice in the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming
the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided
to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of
wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that
your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.
Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom
of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish.
But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed
before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood
this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the
human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love
him" - these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the
Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human
being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within?
So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of
God.

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 5:13-20

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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.

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.