

ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

Anglican Priest and Rector: The Reverend Shirley J. Cole
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Illustration by Rev. Mel Malton

July 12, 2026 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship on July 12

9 am – St. Stephen's MP
11 am – St. Mark's MP
11 am – St. Thomas' HE

Today's Readings

Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112;
Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

~ Church of the Good Shepherd, Beaver Bank, Nova Scotia
~ Church of the Holy Spirit, Mt. Uniacke, NS
~ All Saints, Bedford, NS

Provincial Prayer Care

Diocese of Quebec - Bishop Bruce Myers

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

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside

July 19: 8th Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Worship Times: 9 am – St. Stephen's HE
11 am – St. Mark's HE
11 am – St. Thomas' MP
7 pm – St. Elizabeth's HC

Readings: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23;
Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Readers: Grafton C, Sandra H; Jim D, Darlene L;
Laura N, Marie M; Grace H, MacKenzie C

Prayers of the People: Jim E, Amy M, Doris M

For July and August, Parish secretary Bonnie LaFrance will be in the office on Wednesday evenings (5-7 p.m). Please forward information for the bulletins by noon on Wednesday (nlparish@eastlink.ca). Bulletins will be available for pick-up on Thursday.

Rev. Shirley will be on holidays from July 31 until August 20. Pastoral coverage information will follow. Thank you to the LLMs and congregational members who will be covering the three Church Services while Rev. Shirley will be away.

You are invited – Come Walk in Faith

Are you looking to spend an hour with Parish friends?

Beginning **Thursday, July 9**, bi-weekly (July 23, Aug. 6, Aug. 20, Sept. 3) from 10-11 a.m., weather permitting, meet at St. Mark's parking lot. Using faith cards as a conversation starter, either walk the trail or sit and enjoy a time of fellowship. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy refreshments on the Rectory lawn afterwards. All are welcome! For more info, contact Leanne Brister – 905-867-5378; or the Church office – 902-836-3303 – nlparish@eastlink.ca.

Clinton View Lodge sing-a-long will be held on Thursday, August 6, 2:15 p.m. All are welcome!

August 30 Parish Worship will be held at St. Thomas' (with Holy Eucharist) at 11:00 a.m., followed by pot luck lunch and musical entertainment. Recognizing that the end of August is moving us into the harvest season and knowing how much for which we have to be thankful, the theme for this Church Service will be *'To God be the Glory'* focusing on joy and happiness. All are welcome to attend!

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.
May we find peace in your service,
and in the world to come, see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A READING FROM GENESIS 25:19-34

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddanaram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

PSALM 119:105-112

Your word is a lantern to my feet*
and a light upon my path.
I have sworn and am determined*
to keep your righteous judgements.
I am deeply troubled;*
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.
Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips,*
and teach me your judgements.
My life is always in my hand,*
yet I do not forget your law.
The wicked have set a trap for me,*
but I have not strayed from your commandments.
Your decrees are my inheritance for ever;*
truly, they are the joy of my heart.
I have applied my heart to fulfil your statutes*
for ever and to the end.

**Lord, you are just and your commandments are eternal.
Teach us to love you with all our heart and to love our neighbour
as ourselves, for the sake of Jesus our Lord.**

A READING FROM ROMANS 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Father,
your word creates in us a yearning for your kingdom.
Receive all we offer you this day, and keep us in your peace;
for the sake of Jesus Christ the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living God,
in this sacrament we have shared in your eternal kingdom.
May we who taste this mystery
forever serve you in faith, hope, and love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.