



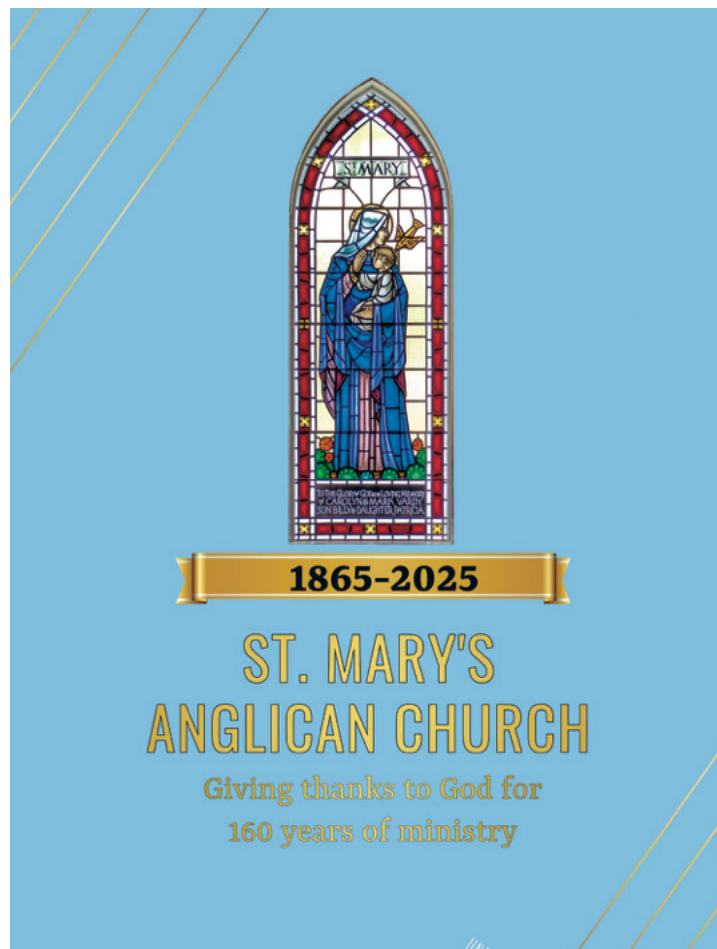
A Sacred Trust: 160 Years of Faithful Ministry in Corner Brook

Article and photographs by
 The Rev'd Cynthia Haines-Turner

160 years! That's the milestone anniversary which the Parish of St. Mary the Virgin in Corner Brook celebrated in 2025. When The Rev'd Ulric Z. Rule arrived in the Bay of Islands on July 13, 1865, a week before his 25th birthday, he was rowed ashore from the schooner by two young boys, James Parsons, aged 8, and William Bagg, aged 6. He founded what was to be the first church of any denomination in the Bay of Islands and Bonne Bay area. A store, which he purchased at Birchy Cove in 1866 and which became a temporary residence and place of worship, was described by the bishop as "a miserable shed" when he conducted the first confirmation service there in 1867. Humble beginnings indeed.

Rule was followed by The Rev'd J. J. Curling. John Edgar, a parishioner at St. Mary's who has an extensive knowledge of the history of the parish, described Curling as a "rich young naval officer [who] was moved to become a priest and to use his money and many practical and leadership skills to serve in Newfoundland, but particularly at St. Mary's." He also pointed out that J. J. Curling donated his yacht, the Lavrock, to the diocese for use as a church ship.

The leaders that followed these two pioneers continued to build on their foundation—building and extending a church and then building another church when the first



Top photo: the bulletin cover for the celebration of 160 Years in the Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, Corner Brook

Bottom Photo: The mug design depicting Rule being rowed ashore on his arrival

one was destroyed by fire. Again, to quote John Edgar, "The successors to Rev'd Rule and Rev'd Curling were no less diligent in getting schools and chapels built throughout the [Bay of Islands]. They were disciples as well. These people did more than administer the sacraments, more than provide spiritual nourishment, they built community, advanced education, and advocated for government services from communications to transportation to welfare and health." Faithful servants, ordained and lay, have kept ministry alive over the years.

It is this sacred trust that we celebrated throughout the year, with special bulletin covers, mugs, and pens. The mug featured a drawing by Warwick Hewitt, now deceased, which depicted Rule being rowed ashore on his arrival, a drawing which was originally commissioned for the 140th anniversary of the parish. One of the highlights of the celebration year was a dinner on October 22, when once again, the community came together to provide good food, music, and fellowship and to hear messages of congratulations and encouragement from near and far. May we continue to have many more years of ministry, in the love of God, strengthened by God's Holy Spirit, and through Jesus the Christ who abides in us.

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The Rev'd Mickton Phiri
Diocesan Administrator, Western NL

Finding Strength in The Quiet Light of Epiphany

The month of January often brings a quiet honesty that settles in after the fullness of Christmas. Once the decorations are put away and the pace returns to normal, we begin to feel both the weight and the wonder of a new year. In Newfoundland and Labrador, that feeling is sharpened by long nights, unpredictable weather, and the simple reality that life does not pause because the calendar has turned. It is into this season that Isaiah speaks a word that reaches across centuries with remarkable tenderness: "Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." – Isaiah 40:31.

This renewal is not the same as avoiding tiredness or pretending everything is fine. It is not a call to push ourselves harder. Instead, it is the promise that God meets us precisely where we feel worn, stretched, or uncertain. The strength God offers is the kind that settles into the bones slowly, much like the warmth of a wood stove after coming in from the cold. It does not erase the demands of life, but it steadies us so that we can face them without being overwhelmed. Many people across our province know what it is to walk through seasons when energy is thin: caregivers who spend long nights supporting aging parents or loved



photo by bradford zak on unsplash.com

ones; families navigating financial pressures that keep them awake long after the rest of the house has gone quiet; parish volunteers who continue to give their time faithfully even when responsibilities pile up; and those carrying grief that resurfaces without warning. In all these places, the promise of Isaiah is not abstract. It is deeply personal: God knows. God sees. God strengthens.

Epiphany, which follows closely after Christmas, helps us understand how this strengthening happens. The season celebrates the ways Christ reveals himself: Sometimes boldly, like the star that guided the Magi, and sometimes quietly, like a whisper in prayer or the unexpected kindness of a neighbour. God's presence in our lives is often small and steady rather than dramatic. A familiar hymn that brings comfort. A scripture verse that settles the heart. A conversation that lifts a burden, even

slightly. These small signs become reminders that God has not stepped back from our lives but walks with us through every valley and every storm.

We carry a long history of perseverance. We know how to press on when the weather turns, how to help each other without being asked, and how to hold hope when the road ahead is not entirely clear. Isaiah's words honour that resilience but also reframe it. Our ability to keep going is not meant to rest entirely on our own strength. God does not expect us to manage everything alone. Instead, we are invited to lean on the One who never grows tired and never loses track of us.

As we step into this new year, may you find moments when God renews your spirit in ways both gentle and profound. May the light of Christ guide your steps, ease your burdens, and steady you for all that lies ahead.

Wishing you a gentle and hope-filled New Year.

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ANGLICAN LIFE

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Please email your parish submissions to: anglicanlifenl@gmail.com

ANGLICAN LIFE
NEWSPAPER FOR THE THREE ANGLICAN DIOCESES IN
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

ACW Fellowship Day Brings Together Women of Central Newfoundland

Article and photographs by
Dolly Hart

On October 4th, the ACW at Holy Trinity, Grand Falls-Windsor, hosted an ACW Fellowship Day. Fifty-four women from the Central NL District attended this event. Our guest speaker, The Rev'd Daphne Parsons, Co-ordinator of the ACW in the Central NL Diocese, and our Diocesan Treasurer, Frances Pickett, shared information on the new structure for the ACW in Central.

Our fellowship day began with a Communion service followed by a cold-plate luncheon. The afternoon sessions included a "get-to-know-you game", which was a lot of fun. A few other games were played, giving all women a chance to receive small gifts.

Our focus was "Shine Your Light", and being so close to Thanksgiving, we were given the opportunity to acknowledge our blessings. The shining light of blessings, fun, and friendships — new and old — made it truly a fellowship day.





Do you have a story about the history of your parish?
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News From Port aux Basques

Articles by Lisa Brown
Photographs by Barbara Hardy



ACW Anniversary and All Saints' Day

On November 1, 2025, the ACW Ladies of St. James' Church in Port aux Basques started their morning with a service of Holy Communion, led by Rev'd Kuda, to celebrate their 127th Anniversary and also to keep All Saints' Day. Following the service, they gathered at the Memorial Centre for lunch.

Cold Plate Fundraiser

On October 28th the ACW Ladies of St. James' Church prepared cold plates for sale as a fundraiser for their Church. Great day of fellowship and hard work. A huge thank you to all the ladies who helped to make this a great success.





The Rev'd James Spencer
Columnist

A New Year of Freedom: Trading Duty For Christ's Love

It's a tradition in my house that every New Year's Day, as my wife, my children, and I sit down to eat, we talk about what our New Year's resolutions will be. I'd like to say that what gets presented are meaningful ideas, full of deep self-examination and dedicated focus on improvement and growth. But mostly it's all just standard stuff: lose some weight, learn a skill, work harder, relax more, be kinder, more patient, healthier. It sounds more like wishes than intentions after a while. And before long, most of it gets lost in the shuffle of day-to-day life. Not abandoned... just settled into a predetermined comfort zone.

By the time the next New Year rolls around, we either feel bad for failing to live up to our own goals, or we can't even remember what we had intended to do. There's an entire marketing scheme built on selling us permanent reminders of our negligence, in the form of exercise bikes and other workout gear destined to become convenient clothes hangers.



photo by Remedios Remon on unsplash.com

I've learned not to put much faith in the self-promises spoken around the table on January 1st. It's a fun moment, but to me it's not much different than reading fortune cookies.

Besides, for me, the new year really started a month earlier. It's happening now, as I write this. Tomorrow is the First Sunday of Advent, and if there are resolutions to be made, I think this is a better time to make them.


The word "resolution" has an interesting meaning. Modern usage has it conveying a strong decision or statement, but its Latin root actually means "to loosen or untie." We commonly "resolve" to bind ourselves to strict diets, exercise or activity routines, and disciplined practices meant to force alteration of our bodies or our minds. And yet the true heart of the word we use suggests being set free.

That's why I look to Advent as the time to make resolutions; not because I seek to bind myself to some alteration of behaviour, but rather so that I may invite the coming Christ to set me free from all the ways the world tries to bind me. I don't need to take part in fad diets, buy a yoga mat and a set of weights, or read a series of self-help books. I just need to know the love of Christ and let it free me. And in doing so, I can share it more readily with others, which is the purpose to which we are all called.

It doesn't have to be Advent, of course, any more than it has to be January 1st. These are just moments on a calendar, and the freedom to which we are invited is available always. It doesn't require a subscription or special equipment. But by committing to a closer relationship with Jesus, resolving to let Him share in the burdens we carry, so much more can be achieved than we ever could do on our own.

Make your resolution... loosen your bonds and be set free in Christ... and have a very happy New Year.

“Suddenly nothing made sense anymore...”




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Alongside Hope's Global Impact

Article by Debra Gill
Alongside Hope Representative
Diocese Central Newfoundland
Photos by Alongside Hope

Ever wonder where your donations to Alongside Hope go? Here's a quick snapshot of some of the ways you helped in 2024/25.

Canada

The ecclesiastical province of BC/Yukon are ready to respond to wildfire emergencies with a \$50,000 grant from Alongside Hope.

After the Jasper wildfire, the Diocese of Edmonton partnered with the Jasper Employment and Education Centre to offer critical support in employment, immigration and emergency assistance to more than 1,500 evacuees, including temporary foreign workers and their families.

440 people participated in 30 "Mapping the Ground We Stand On" workshops across the country. Through this hands-on exploration of the Doctrine of Discovery, participants deepened their understanding of what it means to live in right relations.

Cuba

5015 families received training to increase their resilience to disaster.

Mexico, Peru, Ecuador

342 indigenous midwives were supported to improve health service delivery and reduce maternal mortality.

Colombia

Grupo Comunicarte developed more than 400 radio programs with local youth, promoting environmental protection and sustainability, and reaching approximately 3,750,000 people.

Ukraine

More than 300 people living with disabilities developed critical social skills, especially challenging in times of war.



Ecuador midwives



Al Ahii Hospital in Gaza



Shallow well in Kenya



Zimbabwe biodiversity project



"Mapping the Ground We Stand On" exercise

Gaza

18,205 patients have been treated at Gaza's Al Ahii Hospital since the beginning of the current conflict.

Nepal

1990 flood-affected individuals received food relief in Kathmandu.

South Sudan

9,510 people received monthly food relief.

Uganda

6,730 adolescent girls and young women received training in entrepreneurship skills, resulting in increased knowledge and interest towards starting and managing businesses.

Two school campaigns provided sexual and reproductive health rights information and knowledge to 833 students. This resulted in better awareness of gender rights, menstrual hygiene, reduced absenteeism, and the formation of two new school health clubs.

Kenya

11 shallow wells were built this year, for a total of 99 since 2019, providing water to 25,000 people a day.

ECLOF serves more than 40,000 low-income entrepreneurs and farmers, primarily women. Last year, with support from Alongside Hope, 570 farmers were trained in sustainable dairy and agriculture practices,

leading to an increase in yields and household income.

Zambia

593 adolescents attended weekly group meetings and learned about safe sexual behaviours, alcohol and drug abuse and children's rights.

Zimbabwe

4,857 farmers revitalized and preserved local biodiversity.

The Philippines

747 people benefitted from the rehabilitation of two local drinking water systems damaged by typhoons.

Read more about the work of Alongside Hope at their website alongsidehope.org.

If you'd like you can donate today online at alongsidehope.org/give-today or by calling 1-866-308-7973.

As I wrote in an article a year or so ago, don't forget the **World of Gifts** is about more than just Christmas!

God bless you all for your continued support of Alongside Hope!



**Alongside
Hope**



The Rev'd Cynthia Haines-Turner
Columnist

From Camp Songs To The Body of Christ

For many years, I served as a camp counsellor and director at Killdevil Camp. Anyone who has been to a summer camp knows that camp songs, most often with actions, are de rigueur. You sing on waking up, before meals, during the day, and in the evening! One of the songs that the campers inevitably requested during chapel time was “The Community Song,” and it was accompanied by actions. The lines were simple, beginning with the verse, “It’s you, it’s you, it’s you who builds community,” adding, in subsequent verses, “me,” “us,” “love,” and “God” so that the last verse says, “It’s you, it’s me, it’s us, it’s love, it’s God who builds community,” and the last line says, “Go and do your part to build community.”

It’s a simple song, yet it holds a profound message. It upholds the value of community and emphasizes our role, exercised in the love of God within us, in building that community. It also holds implications for Church life.

A friend of mine recently reflected, “As the world becomes increasingly impersonal, the Church must become



photo by Benito sanity on unsplash.com

more personal.” I would add that in a world where pretty much anything and everything can be accessed through your laptop or tablet, the Church has to consider what it has to offer. Gathering in community helps the Church become more personal and allows us to be together in a way that is incarnational.

This is not to reduce the Church to a service-based industry but to ask the simple question, “What can you find in a Church setting that cannot

be accessed from the comfort of your home and which helps foster a sense of belonging?” Because, let’s face it, online, you can pray, watch a worship service, listen to a sermon, hear good inspirational music, and even interact with a community of others. So why gather?

Simply put, there is an added dimension when you gather which is intangible, yet real. As we gather in community, as we work to develop that community, the Spirit moves. We worship and

come together as unique individuals who may disagree and rub each other the wrong way from time to time, but that doesn’t make us any less a part of the community, nor does it diminish our connection. Rather, we become greater than our individual parts. As Paul says, “if the ear were to say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ that would not make it any less a part of the body... The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of

you’ ... If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”(1 Corinthians 12:16, 21a, 26-27)

That is not something that is done in isolation; for it to happen, we need to gather in community, and through God’s Spirit, we live into the mystery that is the body of Christ.

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Emily F. Rowe
Editor

The Shepherds: A Blueprint For Us Today

The Gospel that’s in the lectionary for January 1st this year is from St. Luke, and is about the shepherds who go to the manger to find Jesus. It is a story of faith, response, and mission. The reaction of the shepherds provides a powerful blueprint for how we, as modern believers, should respond to the “Good News” in our own lives.

In today’s world that is often saturated with information—our phones ding with notifications so much that I prefer to have mine on silent a good deal of the time—we can become overwhelmed. We can hear an inspiring sermon, or read a good book, or hear an interesting podcast, but we rarely feel the need to act on them immediately. We think about them for a minute, then something else comes along, and we



Shepherds at Nativity by Bill Egan
from commons.wikimedia.org

get distracted by whatever the new obsession is. The shepherds from the nativity narrative remind us that faith often requires a radical “Go!”—a willingness to move quickly from passive reception to active investigation. They “hurried off” and found the scene just as the angels had described. The message of the angels was confirmed by the reality of finding Jesus. This experience validates the divine message and

roots their faith in tangible reality. When we actively seek out and engage with the central reality of our faith—whether through worship, prayer, or serving others—we often find the reality confirming what we were told, transforming knowledge into conviction. Finding Jesus in the manger caused any doubts to dissolve. For us, seeking this means moving past intellectual understanding of the Gospel to demanding genuine experience: seeing God’s love enacted at the food bank, finding peace in prayer during a crisis, or witnessing the power of reconciliation in a broken relationship. The shepherds then go out into the world again, because you cannot stay there in that moment. When we look at our nativity scenes, it’s

all frozen in time, and the shepherds just lounge around for weeks. In reality, we read that they “returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.” They are the first witnesses, and were able to go back to their lives to share what they had seen and now believed. The shepherds didn’t over-complicate the experience that they’d had, but simply glorified God. For modern Christians, this means that our professional and home lives—the equivalent of the shepherd’s fields—become the stage for continued worship. We must take the message that we receive at Christmas from the Church and take it out into the world. The world is watching to see if our faith

makes a discernible, joyful difference in how we handle stress, loss, and success. In Luke’s Gospel, we are given a powerful example of how to be witnesses to the coming of Jesus into our broken world. The shepherds show us that an encounter with the divine needs to be an active thing, and not a static moment, frozen in time. We cannot just look at the calm of the manger in Bethlehem: we need to take the message of Jesus Christ back to our daily lives. If we can learn to turn off the background noise of today’s messy world, we can follow in their humble footsteps and show that the presence of the Messiah has truly changed everything, and continues to influence the world today, and how we live in it.



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Planning With A Purpose: Getting Your Legacy Program Off On The Right Foot in 2026

Article by Michelle Hauser
Development and
Communications Officer,
Anglican Foundation of Canada

As vestry season unfolds, many parish councils and stewardship committees are taking stock of the year behind them and planning faithfully for what lies ahead. For some, this is the moment when a familiar refrain is heard: “We should really do more about legacy giving.”

It’s an area of stewardship that many churches aspire to strengthen but rarely find the right moment—or the right tools—to begin. Resources from secular charities don’t always translate to a faith-based context, and conversations about wills and bequests can feel awkward or out of place in the life of a congregation.

“We often hear from parishes that they want to start the conversation about legacy giving, but they’re not sure how,” says Michelle Hauser, Development & Communications Officer for the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC). “That’s exactly why we created the **Legacy Talk Parish Toolkit**—to make it easier, more natural, and more spiritually grounded.”



Rather than focusing on financial targets, Legacy Talk connects legacy giving to gratitude, discipleship, and hope for the future of the Church. Each seasonal toolkit aligns with the rhythms of the liturgical year, offering clergy and lay leaders reflections, bulletin inserts, sample messages, and practical templates that can be adapted to any parish setting.

Begin with Vestry Season: Planning with Purpose
Annual Vestry Reports

and planning meetings provide a perfect opportunity to integrate legacy giving into the parish’s financial and spiritual vision.

For example, the Vestry Season Toolkit offers a Parish Council Checklist—simple, concrete steps that can help normalize legacy giving as part of a parish’s ongoing stewardship practice: Add legacy giving as a standing item in stewardship conversations; Include a legacy paragraph in the vestry report;

Ensure your website or bulletin mentions bequest options; Publicly thank legacy donors when appropriate.

“For many churches, the checklist is a great place to start—it helps parishes move from ‘we should do something’ to actually feeling confident about making legacy giving part of their spiritual DNA.”

From Lent to Christmas: A Year of Gratitude, Growth, and Faith

Across the seasons of the Church year, **Legacy Talk** offers practical ways to weave legacy giving into parish life—always grounded in faith rather than fundraising.

During Lent, parishes are invited to reflect on what they treasure and why, exploring legacy giving as a *spiritual practice* rooted in love and intention.

The Easter to Pentecost toolkit celebrates growth and gratitude, encouraging churches to see legacy gifts as *seeds of faith*—planted today to bless the Church of tomorrow.

In Ordinary Time, the focus shifts to steady,

everyday stewardship through simple reflections and conversation tools that keep faith communities engaged year-round.

As All Saints’ approaches, parishes are encouraged to remember, honour, and plan—giving thanks for those whose generosity built the Church we inherit and asking, “*What legacy will we leave?*”

Finally, Advent and Christmas offer a natural moment to express gratitude and hope, reminding us that every generation helps “prepare a place” for those who will follow.

“It is our hope that using **Legacy Talk** as a guide will help parishes build a rhythm of gratitude and generosity,” says Hauser, “and that 2026 will be the year more church communities feel inspired to take that next faithful step—turning good intentions into lasting impact.”

To explore or download the full series, visit the Anglican Foundation website: anglicanfoundation.org/legacytalk.



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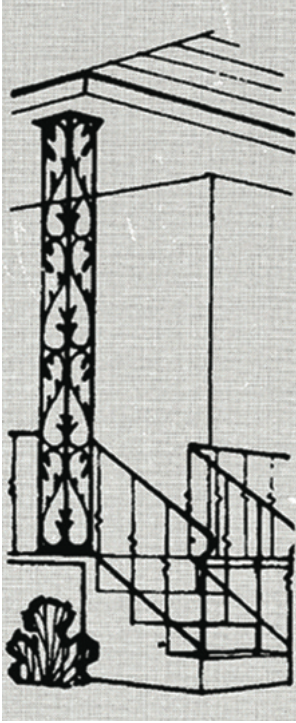
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St. John the Evangelist, Topsail: 1860 - 2025

A Poem by Louise Smith

As we recap our church’s history,
Over a century and a half it began.
We know our forebears faced many a challenge
To arrive where we now proudly stand.

Rev. Charles Palairret from a rich background in France,
Was the first priest we did embrace,
With a vision and foresight to plant roots in our midst,
A church building plan was soon put in place.

James. Harvey, a carpenter from the town of St. Johns
A skilled man at his trade it was said
He was engaged to do framework with the lumber that came
From a sawmill over in Riverhead.

It was on May 16 of the year that we speak,
That a foundation was subsequently laid.
By three local men who freely gave of their time,
They were Jim Hibbs, John Barnes and Matthew Slade.

Rev. Charles Palairret was the catalyst,
Who moved all full speed ahead,
His mission went beyond their spiritual needs
Improving the quality of life as he led.

He was followed by Reverends Hutchinson and Colley,
They served in total, near 44 years.
In appreciation of the contribution they made,
The stained glass east window in their honour is shared.

In 1904, Rev. Temple found refuge in Topsail,
From his hardships in North Labrador.
But ill health intervened and cut his mission here short,
Limiting his capacity to serve anymore.

Rev. Netten’s, appointment just lasted six years,
During this assignment, his duties adjourned,
But he carried on faithfully right up to the end
Till his retirement was due and well earned.

Next came the arrival of a tall stalwart priest,
With aspirations to adorn was his view.
When Rev. Pitman was here, improvements were made with much care
And old accessories were replaced with brand new.

Sir Edgar, a merchant from the homeland he came,
To St. John the Evangelist church, he was loyal.
But the best innovation he graced our church with,
Was when electric lighting replaced lamps of oil.

The late Becky Fowler deserves a bouquet,
For the funds she left in her will.
To build steps and a rail to enhance the old church,
They’ve endured and are functional still.

Rev. Butler was placed in 1934,
And served his term here till late 43.
He had the privilege to celebrate our 80th. Year,
But soon after, he died suddenly.

Rev. Clench was then summoned to take over the charge,
A most interesting priest, so they claim.
When his wife passed away, with his duties he stayed.
Then he married Miss Earle, his old flame.

When we had Rev. Goodland, a parsonage was built.
As a home for the priest, it was called.
But before his mission was done, he fell sick and succumbed,
Then Rev. Camp was then quickly installed.20

Rev. Camp was more senior than most of the rest,
And served fewest of years, per my search.
When he finished his reign, Rev. Bradbrook then came,

As the last priest to serve our old church.

The new church was made ready in 1974,
And consecrated within that same year,
Rev. Bradbrook finished his mission here on our new sight,
Guiding parishioners through the transition with care.

Rev. Tibbo was next to arrive on the scene,
With a fresh vision that could quell any fears
Strong communication skills did lighten his load,
His incumbency lasted eight years.

Rev. Collett came from up west, Corner Brook,
With a persuasive tone to convey not subdue.
No need for loud speakers to hear in the back,
His voice just ricocheted off every pew.

Now for a huge change, there came a shift in the age,
Of the next priest that was put in our midst.
A lively 40 year old, Canon Hynes broke the old mould,
As clapping hands to brisk hymns was the gist.

During his time here in Topsail, a giant project was planned.
With stained glass windows, the nave to restore.
Engineered by our warden, Bob Dawe, at the time,
Dedicated to those gone before

Fr. John came on board with much prowess,
Conveying lessons in such simple style,
But his departure was abrupt and so sudden,
That Rev. Sandra filled in for a while

Then we had the honour to have Rev.Bellamy,
Who provided a restorative boost for one year.
An experience that will linger forever,
Along with his guidance in spiritual care.

He was assisted by Rev. Sheppard,
And together, we owe them so much.
Not to mention the privilege of meeting,
Both their wives, who were always in touch,

Rev. Parsons then graced our congregation,
With a crescendo voice, taken right from the top.
No trouble to hear, from the front to the rear.
During sermons, you could hear a pin drop.

It was 2016, we had our first female priest,
She did her internship with us here before.
Rev. Jolene was welcomed back into the fold.
As she guided us through the next four.

Our guest priests are enjoying a reprieve now,
As we embrace the permanency of Canon Jotie Noel,
His capacity to inject proper humour in sermons,
Is a special gift that is good for the soul.

His wife Pauline is an active participant,
With ACW, she plays a prime part,
Always ready to help with a project,
Whenever it’s ready to start.

Rev. Deacon Lisa, of course, is our home grown,
Always present through thick and through thin,
Forever steadfast to assist all our pastors,
Every Sunday, to usher us in.

There’s been 22 in all who have answered the call,
Each with their own special gifts stood the test.
With its ups and its downs, the church always rebounds,
That’s our St. John The Evangelist.

Archbishop Anne Germond’s Visit to The Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

Article by E. F. Rowe
Photographs from ENL’s Facebook page, used with permission

Archbishop Anne Germond, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, recently spent several days in the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador for their annual clergy retreat, an experience she fondly described in her blog post as “holy Kairos time.” This visit of a bishop from another part of the Anglican Church of Canada is a long standing tradition, and it serves to strengthen the bonds between us as a National Church while also enriching one another’s communities.

Hosted by Bishop Samuel Rose and Archdeacon Charlene Taylor, the clergy retreat took place at The Wilds, following a day of travels that included meeting with an “iconic member of Newfoundland’s canine family” when she encountered a Newfoundland dog!

Beyond the retreat, Archbishop Anne spent time enjoying the Newfoundland’s rich culture of hospitality, including attending the 133rd Anniversary Dinner and Auction for the Church Lads’ Brigade (CLB). A highlight of the evening



Clergy retreat at The Wilds



Archbishop Anne and Archdeacon Charlene



Bishop Sam and Archbishop Anne



Archbishop Anne meeting a Newfoundland dog

was her winning bid on a silent auction item: twenty pounds of shrimp!

Archbishop Anne’s talks at the retreat focused on calling and vocation, and as she heard stories from the members of the clergy, she found them to be a group serving with extraordinary dedication. She reflected, “There is such a down-to-earth sense of this is where I’m meant to be... They just keep giving and serving God. No complaints. It was very moving.” In her final sermon, drawing on Luke 5, she reminded them that when Jesus calls, “he sees something in each of us that we don’t always see in ourselves.”

Leaving the province with deep thanks for Bishop Sam and Archdeacon Charlene, Archbishop Anne reflected in her blog that “a little bit of Newfoundland has rubbed off on me and I will be carrying it all in my heart as I head home.” Her visit has strengthened the bonds of affection that knit the Anglican Church of Canada together across great distances.



Advent Quiet Day in Port aux Basques

On Friday, November 28th, 2025, the ACW (Anglican Church Women) of St. James’ Church in Port aux Basques held their annual ‘Advent Quiet Day’. The event featured a beautiful worship service led by Rev. Kudawashe Madzime under the theme, “Listening/Obeying the Voice of God”. Following Communion, the ladies enjoyed a bagged lunch and then decorated the hall for Christmas. It was a wonderful morning of fellowship and worship. - article and photographs by Lisa Brown

A group photograph of the Clergy of the Diocese of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, posed in a church sanctuary. The group includes a bishop in red and gold vestments, several priests in white and red vestments, and lay members in white robes. They are standing on a red carpet in front of a wooden altar and stained glass windows.

ANGLICAN LIFE Newfoundland&Labrador