

The Bishop's Charge
Diocesan Synod of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador
33rd Session
Theme: "Set Sail: Charting the Course for Christ's Church"
November 2, 2024

My Dear Friends in Christ,

As we gather for this year's Synod, I greet you with the love of Jesus and with joy and anticipation for our journey ahead. While we are once again online, we do so out of care for the stewardship of God's Church and the finances of our parishes. As reported in the media, the excessive increase in flight costs from Labrador significantly hampers our ability to come together as a Diocesan Family. It is inconceivable that it should cost thousands of dollars to fly a Synod delegate or anyone from Labrador to St. John's. I join the call of Indigenous and community leaders for urgent Government action and intervention against this injustice for the people of Labrador. It is still my deep desire and hope that by our next Synod, we will be able to be together in person once again.

Our theme for this Synod, "**Set Sail: Charting the Course for Christ's Church,**" is not just a catchy slogan - it is a call to action, an invitation to envision where the winds of God are directing our Diocese and our plan as we embark on a voyage of faith and navigate uncharted waters to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

Preparing to sail requires careful planning, deep faith, and courage to leave the safety of the harbour. Today, as Christ's Church in Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador, we stand at the edge of our harbour, ready to hoist our sails and venture forward with God's guidance. Our commitment to Christ and God's mission should compel us to chart a course rooted in Scripture, grounded in deep prayer, and driven by God's love for all Creation.

Navigating the Waters

As we will hear this afternoon from our Strategic Plan Organizer, Ms. Angela Morgan, our Diocese has been preparing for almost two years for Set Sail. We began last year with an inward focus on the first two Ships: deepening relationships and transforming Discipleship. By examining our relationships and Discipleship, we have intentionally made the Baptismal Covenant the compass by which we set the course of our faith and ministry as Anglican disciples.

Our Baptismal Covenant is not just a ritual; it's a transformative commitment that shapes our lives and deepens our relationships. It's the 'how to' for navigating our

Discipleship - our life in Christ. The promises we make—to continue in the apostles' teaching, to persevere in resisting evil, to proclaim the Good News, to strive for justice and peace, to respect human dignity and be good stewards of God's Creation—are more than words; they are pathways to deepening relationships, transforming Discipleship, renewing stewardship, and engaging partnerships.

I am overjoyed to see that the majority of our Diocese has set individual and congregational goals and commits to regularly examining the Baptismal Covenant and our response as disciples in God's world.

It is inspiring to see our Church Family in the Parish of Bay de Verde set the goal for parishioners to invite a friend to worship and try to reach out to transient workers in the community, which was recently held with a multilingual Friend's Day worship in the community of Bay de Verde.

It is heartening to see our Cathedral Family set the goal of furthering our Reconciliation journey with the Indigenous community by reflecting and acting on the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. I also commend Queen's College for highlighting these Calls to Action through an online video series.

It is encouraging to see our Church Family in the Parish of Labrador West recognize the need to renew personal faith as the first step intentionally and to look at opportunities both in and out of worship to focus on Christian education and reach out to others.

These are a few examples from those parishes prioritizing Set Sail in their mission and ministry.

I understand that not everyone may fully embrace the Set Sail initiative, and some may have more urgent concerns about their congregation's future and sustainability. That's okay. As your Bishop, I am committed to being with you through this journey and supporting you as long as I am in this role. Our Diocese is a Family; no one is left behind. We are all on different sailboats, embarking on our voyages at various times, and that's okay. Set Sail is not a race where the fastest church wins. It's about supporting each other as we follow where God leads in our own context and circumstances. As God's Family in this Diocese, we love and support one another. We pray for and are there for one another. You are not alone in this journey.

When I think about Set Sail, I think about the Gospel story of Jesus calming the waters. Do you remember the story? We learned it in Sunday School. Jesus and His disciples set sail on a boat to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. A fierce storm arises while they

are at sea, causing waves to threaten the ship. Jesus is asleep in the stern, and the disciples, fearing for their lives, wake Him, asking if He cares that they are perishing. Jesus then stands up, rebukes the wind, and commands the sea to be still, resulting in immediate calm. He questions the disciples about their fear and lack of faith, prompting them to reflect on His authority. He says to them and us today: "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

Just as the disciples experienced fear and uncertainty during the storm, the Church faces various challenges today, including declining membership, dwindling financial resources, rising costs, and a shortage of clergy. It is getting harder and harder for congregations to support their ministry, the ministry of the parish, and, thus, the ministry of the Diocese. People are fearful of the future. Where are we going? What's going to happen? Do you not care, Lord, that we are perishing?

"Why are you so afraid?" Jesus asks us today. "Do you still have no faith?" Just as Jesus was in the boat with the fearful disciples, He is also with us in our Diocese. But do we believe in this? May we trust that Jesus will lead us through this and every storm we face. May God's Spirit fill us with love and enable us to go where God is leading us.

Deepening Relationships and Transforming Discipleship

That's what the first two ships of Set Sail are all about: deepening our relationship with God and one another and transforming our Discipleship from being fearful to being faithful.

At the heart of our faith is the call to relationship—first with God and then with one another.

We have set two goals to enable Deepening Relationships:

Goal #1: To invite every baptized person to renew their own personal faith through regular examination of the Baptismal Covenant.

As Anglicans, we do not need to be afraid to embrace our relationship with God in Jesus Christ and to renew our baptismal ministry regularly. When we do so, when we become active participants with God, we see our churches and communities transformed into inclusive, supportive, and non-judgemental centers of God's love and grace.

This leads to our second Goal for deepening relationships:

Goal #2: To further develop our congregations as inclusive, supportive, and non-judgmental communities of faith as we continue to seek and serve Christ in

all persons: those already identifying as part of our faith communities; those looking for connections with our faith communities; those against whom wrongs have been done in the name of our faith communities; and the broader community outside of our faith entirely.

Jesus' ministry was rooted in building community, engaging with individuals from all walks of life, and making connections that transcended boundaries. To deepen our relationships, our church must create an environment where everyone feels welcome and valued. We should strive to be an inclusive church where newcomers and long-standing members both feel the warmth of Christ's love. We have promised to seek and serve Christ in all persons - not just those we know or who look like us - but model the radical love of Jesus that pushes us outward to people and places where God is waiting for us to help. Later in this Synod, you will see a video about such a brand new ministry, which will literally be moving us in such a direction.

Discipleship is not static; it is a transformative journey that invites us to grow deeper in our faith and more active in our service. To transform Discipleship, we should commit to lifelong learning and encourage spiritual practices that deepen our relationship with God. Regular prayer, meditation, and scripture study are vital to spiritual growth. Incorporating these practices into our daily routines can transform our lives and equip us to face challenges with grace and resilience.

In Transforming Discipleship, we offer this goal:

Goal #3: To enable every baptized person to explore and express their faith by entering and entering again into the fullness of their Discipleship of Jesus and lead others to do the same.

As we embark on this journey, we must always focus on the central task of making disciples. In Matthew Chapter 28, Jesus commands the Church to go and make disciples of all nations. This call is still relevant as we navigate the complexities of today's world. Discipleship is not merely a program but a relational journey we undertake with one another and those yet to know Christ. Each of us is called to be a guide, helping fellow travellers recognize the presence of God in their lives. As we chart our course, let us ask ourselves how we deepen our commitment to Discipleship within our congregations. How can we create situations and possibilities where faith can flourish, where every individual feels seen, known, and loved? How can we model Jesus's love for our neighbour in a tangible, transforming way? I pray that we are vessels of God's grace, inviting others into the transformative journey of faith in the love of Jesus.

Discipleship is not merely an inward journey; it must also propel us outward into our communities and God's world. As we grow inward in faith, we are called to go outward to love and serve others. That brings us to the following two ships of Set Sail.

Renewing Stewardship and Engaging Partnerships

Stewardship goes beyond financial giving; it encompasses our time, talents, and treasure. As we renew our understanding of stewardship, we recognize that everything we have is a gift from God entrusted to us for the sake of God's kingdom.

Financial stewardship is vital for the sustainability of our church. I know we are all struggling with the high cost of living and that our financial support as a Church before COVID-19 has declined. As a Diocese, our primary source of revenue comes from you - the parishes. While we have seen slight growth in the past two years in assessable income, we are nowhere near where we were before COVID. So, we have had to be proper stewards of God's resources and adjust our budgets to reflect this. As a Diocese, we use income from our investments to support our operating budget. Using our financial resources in this way places less demand on receiving money from our parishes to cover our Diocesan operations while at the same time making the necessary adjustments to reduce expenditure. Our Finance Officer, Mr. Fred Dinham, will present our audited statements later today, reflecting stewardship renewal in our Diocese.

Our parishes are also renewing their stewardship by embracing new funding sources to support ministry. The St. Lawrence Thrift Store in Portugal Cove and The Hall in Holy Innocents, Paradise, are two examples. When faced with declining revenue, these parishes decided to be entrepreneurial and seek out partners to help. Both congregations have repurposed their Church Halls to become community centres of outreach ministry and hospitality while at the same time generating revenue. I commend them for taking these innovative initiatives and encourage others to contact the people of St. Lawrence, Portugal Cove and Holy Innocents, Paradise for more information.

In Renewing Stewardship, we offer two goals:

Goal #4 - To renew our understanding of the true, holistic nature of our stewardship and responsibility to all of God's Creation, both individually and together, as faith communities.

And,

Goal #5: To examine our current environmental footprint in light of the ongoing climate emergency and take action to tangibly reduce the negative impact we, as individuals and faith communities, have on God's Creation.

Renewing Stewardship is not only about money and finances. It is about how we care for God's Creation.

We are a Church called to live our baptismal commitment to be stewards of God's Creation, which protects, sustains, and renews the life of the Earth. This is not something we should do but must do if we want to be faithful to our baptismal promises and to try to save this fragile Earth, our island home, from destruction.

If we are to take renewing stewardship seriously, we have to begin at home. How do our practices and our buildings pollute the atmosphere and further destroy God's Creation? What must we implement to reduce the environmental footprint of our church buildings, homes, and ourselves? Implementing sustainable practices within our church—such as recycling, reducing waste, and promoting energy efficiency—demonstrates our commitment to environmental stewardship. Additionally, we can engage in community initiatives aimed at conservation and sustainability, reflecting our call to be stewards of the Earth.

Through Canon Josiah Noel's ministry, we have a Diocesan Creation Care team that can help us discover ways to highlight the urgency of caring for Creation as individuals and as God's Church. The Creation Care Team is here for you. Please contact Canon Jotie for more information and check out our Diocesan website for more resources on Creation Care.

I am also excited about the new and merging partnerships in the Diocese. Our fourth ship is Engaging Partnerships, with the following **Goal #6: Recognizing God in and through others, partnering together across and outside our faith communities to support and engage in shared work, witness, and ministry, and helping bring dignity to every human being.**

As we set sail, we must recognize the importance of partnerships. Every one of our parishes and almost every congregation is already engaged in partnerships that help bring dignity to every human being. Through our partnerships, the Church is involved in essential services such as food banks, furniture and clothing stores, support for mental health and addictions, affordable housing, childcare, senior care, and so forth. The old question that is sometimes asked, "If your church closed up tomorrow, would anyone notice?" is quickly answered with a resounding "Yes!" as many would not receive the support we help provide.

Canon Gail Coley MacDonald, the Canon for Church and Community Engagement and Partnerships, has compiled a list of current partnerships in our parishes, which will soon be available as a resource on our Diocesan website. I encourage you to look at how much our Church makes a real difference in people's lives here in Newfoundland and Labrador and beyond and be inspired to see how your church can get involved.

As a founding partner of Home Again, our Furniture Bank, our Diocese has helped thousands of people receive gently used furniture. Through your donations of furniture, over 3500 homes have been helped. Children now have a warm bed to sleep on because God showed us a need, and we helped.

I am also pleased that we have new Diocesan partnerships such as Sowing Seeds—Growing Community, a farming initiative in the Goulds that has just harvested its first harvest of fresh vegetables. The vegetables go to local Food Banks to help provide nutritious meals for people. I commend Rev. Fred Marshall for taking on this initiative and - as you will see later today in a video - how God brought the Church and the community together to help feed the hungry.

Our Diocesan partnership with the Compass Rose Society - of which a delegation from our Diocese just attended their Annual Meeting in London, England - is a global partnership in which we support the Jerusalem Princess Basma Hospital in the Holy Land, which treats children with severe disabilities. Through wars and times of unrest, its doors have stayed open to vulnerable children and their families, offering a lifeline of support, education, and rehabilitation. As you can imagine, with the ongoing war in the Middle East, the demand to keep this vital hospital open is crucial, and we support it as a diocese.

Also, our exploration of a partnership with the Diocese of Guatemala looks very promising with the election and upcoming Consecration of their new Bishop, the Rev. Ramon Ovalle. I met with Bishop-elect Ramon while in the UK, and we both committed to furthering a relationship and partnership in the Gospel between our two dioceses. I ask your prayers for Bishop Ramon and his family as he begins his episcopal ministry this month. Many of our people go to Guatemala every year to help build houses and schools and provide essential healthcare. All of us - through the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) - have helped Guatemala through a farming initiative that supports local women in San Pedro Carcha, Guatemala, to grow organic vegetables that not only feed their families but also provides income from the sale of excess produce.

The most important thing before we engage in partnerships is listening to God. Sometimes, we think we know what others need and do not take the time to listen to God's voice speaking through them.

One partnership that requires us to listen deeply is with our Indigenous siblings. I am grateful to Canon Tom Mugford for providing us with opportunities to listen and learn from the experience of the Indigenous Peoples of this land. If you have not experienced his educational event, Mapping the Ground We Stand On, I encourage you to contact him to offer it in your parish. As a Church, we are called to walk the path of reconciliation, which enables Indigenous and Settler people to grow relationships based on mutual respect. This path of reconciliation is part of our commitment to listen, learn, and walk with one another. As part of our Cathedral's 325th Anniversary, the National Indigenous Archbishop Christopher Harper came here and shared ways to listen, learn, and walk together in the way of truth and reconciliation. I have asked Archbishop Harper to visit St. Timothy's Church in Rigolet next year to spend time in prayer, worship, and conversation with the Rev. Sarah Baikie, the Priest-in-Charge, and the congregation.

May the Creator call us to a loving relationship with one another.

May Jesus (Creator-sets free) be with us as we seek to heal old wounds and find joy again in this relationship.

May the Great Spirit replace our hearts of stone with hearts of flesh.

Give us the gifts of honesty and openness, and fill us with your healing power and grace. Amen. (Anglican Healing Fund Prayer. Revised)

Charting the Course for Christ's Church

Setting sail also means embracing new horizons. Change is constant, and while the winds of culture and society may shift, our mission remains steadfast. We are entrusted with the Gospel - the Good News- and it is incumbent upon us to share it boldly and creatively. Charting a Course for Christ's Church is necessary to keep us focused on where God is leading us.

As I travel around the Diocese, I meet faithful Anglicans who serve on Vestries and Parish Councils who have made the painful decision to reduce the level of stipendiary ministry from full-time to half-time to quarter-time. This reflects more significant issues in our communities, which face higher bills, inflation, high cost of living, and an aging population.

We currently have four vacant parishes in the Diocese awaiting the appointment of clergy, and a number are being led by retired clergy. At the same time, we do not have

enough clergy available to fill such positions. This reality is not just in our Diocese but across the whole Church in Canada and beyond.

While this may seem like a mark of decline in the Church today, I beg to differ. In 1949, just a few months after we joined Confederation with Canada, we held a Diocesan Synod under the leadership of Bishop Abraham. We were just one Diocese at that time, emerging from the Second World War and the economic challenges as a new Province. In Bishop Abraham's Charge in 1949, he stated that "so small are our (clergy) reserves that I have had to leave various (parishes) vacant for long periods, asking neighbouring clergy to do what they can in providing services and pastoral care." The Bishop continued, "The prospect is not good: there will be seven vacant parishes this summer, bringing the total to eleven vacancies...To be really solvent in clergy-power, we need at once ten more priests and another six or so to allow for regular, and as I hope, continuous leave of absence for training purposes." (The Year Book of the Diocese of Newfoundland 1949)

Sound familiar? As the old expression goes, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

New Licenced Lay Ministry Course

I hope we can address this situation by equipping more laypeople to lead worship and pastoral care where no clergy is present. I am pleased to announce that, through a partnership with Queen's College, we will offer an online Licensed Lay Ministers' Training Program next year for any current Licensed Lay Minister or someone considering becoming one. I am grateful to the Rev. Dr. Joanne Mercer and the Rev. Robert Cooke at Queen's College for creating this Training Program to equip current and future Licenced Lay Ministers for more active ministry in our Diocese.

The Anglican Church in Newfoundland and Labrador was built on the faith and ministry of our Lay Readers. I hope we can restore this vital ministry to the life of our Diocese.

Advanced Ordination Stream

Also, I hope to grow and encourage more people to offer themselves for Ordained ministry through an Advanced Ordination Stream for mature Anglicans. This will be an advanced program for those age 55 and older who are nearing retirement or looking to explore ordination. This model is quite common in parts of the Anglican Communion with an intentional focus on raising local lay leaders who have been faithful in serving their home church or parish to answer the call to be a deacon or priest. I will be consulting with Queen's College to determine how this Advanced Ordination Stream program will be offered in the near future. If anyone is discerning a call to be a deacon

or priest who is 55 years of age or older, please speak with your clergy or reach out to me at Church House.

The model we are accustomed to of having a full-time stipendiary priest serving a single parish with a full contingent of people in lay leadership is becoming more challenging. This has meant more open and honest conversations about parishes coming together to share clergy, and based on current partnerships, this is a positive step. But we have too many buildings and divert too much money into trying to keep them open - over a million and a half dollars a year on maintaining all church properties. That is a truth we cannot deny. As I have been saying for many years now, if our mission is to keep a church building open at the expense of being God's Love in our communities, serving the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the sick, the lonely, the bereaved, then we have failed. To quote Archbishop Michael Curry again, "If it's not about love, then it's not about God."

Our Constitution and Governance

I believe our Diocesan Constitution needs a thorough review. I plan to ask the Diocesan Legislative Committee to evaluate our governance and explore ways to better support our congregations and parishes in their ministries rather than hinder them.

By reviewing our Constitution, we can make necessary policy updates in response to the changing landscape, bringing hope and clarity to our congregations and parishes. Our governance should equip and empower our congregations and leaders to engage in meaningful outreach and service, creating a more vibrant expression of our faith.

I am inspired by the new Anglican Indigenous Sacred Circle governance document called "*The Covenant and Our Way of Life*," which was prayerfully and carefully discerned and is a living document from which we can learn much. (Link: <https://www.anglican.ca/im/sacredcircle/>)

Ministry to Children and Young People (CYP)

One of the joys of being a Bishop is being in a parish for Confirmation. It is a blessing to be part of that special day in these young people's lives. While I know Confirmation class sizes are not where they were a decade ago, I am still very much encouraged by the number of those who decide to step forward, reaffirm their baptismal covenant, and confirm their faith in Jesus - it is in the hundreds every year. Also, ministry to younger children is still vital in our Diocese. Sunday School, Godly Play, the CLB, Youth Groups, and other examples continue to provide essential Christian formation and education for children and young people, which is necessary as it lays a solid spiritual foundation for their lives. Engaging young individuals in faith-based activities fosters community and encourages personal growth and good decision-making when facing life's challenges.

By nurturing faith through education, worship, and service, our churches empower the younger generation to embrace their discipleship and help encourage future leaders who can contribute positively to society and the Church. Last year, I attended the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Conference, or CLAY, in Waterloo with a group of youth and leaders from our Diocese. It is incredible to see the joy and excitement that all these young people bring to the Church, and a deep level of spiritual questioning about real-life issues is inspiring. There will be another CLAY gathering next year, and I hope more youth in our Diocese will consider attending. The Diocese will assist with some of the costs of going to CLAY 2025.

I am also seeking help revitalizing a Diocesan Youth Conference similar to those we have held in the past. I will need your gifts and input to make this a reality.

To engage more fully as a Church in ministry to children and young people, I will call together a Diocesan gathering of those with gifts and a passion for ministering to CYP in 2025. I hope to include a broad spectrum of Sunday School and Confirmation teachers, parish youth ministers, educators, counsellors, and young people in praying, listening, and sharing ideas for connecting and effectively ministering to the needs of children and youth in today's world. When I was young, my involvement in my local church on Bell Island set me on the path to being a disciple of Jesus. Through the Anglican Church, God changed my life, and I believe God still wants us to have a positive impact today on the faith and lives of young people.

Episcopal Acts

Attached to this Charge are the Episcopal Acts since the Synod of 2022. In it are the names of those who are or were part of our Diocesan Family and those who have passed this life and are in eternal rest. We take a moment of silence to remember our departed loved ones:

"Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. Amen."

I want to extend my deepest appreciation to the team at Church House, who support me in my ministry and run the daily operations of the Diocese. I thank them for their partnership in the Gospel, and I want to acknowledge them:

Ms. Elizabeth Crisby - who will mark 40 years as a Diocesan employee next year and who is usually the first voice you hear when you call the office. We look forward to celebrating with Elizabeth this milestone in her career and our Diocese. Thank you, Elizabeth, for everything!

Mr. Fred Dinham is our Diocesan Finance Officer, who goes above and beyond to manage the diocese's financial affairs and advise and assist parish treasurers. Thank you, Fred!

Although not a diocesan employee, the Rev. Fred Marshall works at Church House managing the shared ministries of the three Dioceses of Newfoundland and Labrador. Thank you, Fred!

(You see, at Church House, two Freds are better than one!)

The Ven. Charlene Taylor, who does more for this Diocese behind the scenes than you will ever know and who manages to keep me focused on what I need to be and do as the Bishop. Thank you, Archdeacon!

Mr. Darrin Gosse, our caretaker and custodian, retired yesterday from the Diocese after 34 years of service. Darrin did more than clean the floors, mow the lawns, and shovel the snow; he brought joy and laughter to the Office that we will miss. Happy Retirement, Darrin!

I also recognize the important work and ministry of Mr. Gerry Beresford, our Diocesan Property Consultant, and our Vice-Chancellor, Ms. Hilary Wicks-Morrow.

Effective immediately, Hilary is no longer our Vice-Chancellor, but I am pleased to announce is now our Diocesan Chancellor. Thank you, Hilary, for accepting my appointment! Bless you, for your sage advice and counsel, which serve the Diocese in countless positive ways.

Our Clergy and People

I would be remiss if I did not thank our clergy who minister in this Diocese. I love you and hold you each in my heart. Thank you for your faithfulness and dedication. Although we may be small in number compared to other Dioceses, the gifts that our clergy bring - their leadership, compassion, and loving service - are indeed a blessing to me as the Bishop and our whole Diocesan Family.

Thank you to our laypeople for your commitment to your congregations and community service. Your discipleship is a true testament to the love of Jesus in your hearts. Thank you for your continued financial support and faithfulness to God's mission and for the countless ways you embody God's love in action.

Charting a Course Together as a Community

As I stand here in our Cathedral, I feel immense gratitude to God, knowing that our Anglican Church Community has been present in one form or another since 1699. Our Cathedral proudly celebrates 325 years of continuous worship, ministry, and mission in our Province. From this sacred place, God has sent many Anglicans out on a journey of faithfulness and discipleship over three centuries. Our history as a Sailing Church, navigating this beautiful land's rugged and vast coastline, is an essential part of our story here in our Diocese.

Every successful voyage requires collaboration and teamwork. The Church is the body of Christ, and we work together across congregations, dioceses, and generations. We are called to share our resources, experiences, and our faith. Each of you brings unique gifts and perspectives vital to our journey ahead.

Let us remember that we are not journeying alone; we are part of a larger story - God's story of redemption, grace, and love that has been unfolding since the beginning of Creation. As we Set Sail and Chart the Course for Christ's Church,

May we feel the winds of God today,
and today, our sails we lift,
though heavy oft with drenching spray
and torn with many a rift;
Great pilot of our onward way,
you will not let us drift;
We feel the winds of God today,
today, our sails we lift.
Amen.

In Christ's Love,
The Rt. Rev. Samuel V. Rose
Diocesan Bishop

Episcopal Acts
November 7, 2022 – October 30, 2024

Deaths

- Mr. Noel Donovan – November 22, 2022, husband of the Rev. Karen Donovan
- Mr. Phil Holwell - November 29, 2022, husband of the Ven. Jennifer Gosse
- Mrs. Peggy Reid – December 11, 2022, wife of former Diocesan Chancellor Ernest Reid
- Mrs. Ruby Harbin – December 13, 2022, mother-in-law of the Rev. Betty Harbin
- Mr. Ralph Courage – December 13, 2022. brother-in-law of the Rev. Jessie Broaders.
- Mrs. Audrey Verge - December 14, 2022. sister-in-law of the Rev. Christine Lynch.
- Mr. Peter Stevenson – December 15, 2022, former Award of Merit Recipient
- The Rev. Gordon White – December 16, 2022
- Mrs. Mary Houlston – December 16, 2022, mother-in-law of the Rev. Alex Faseruk
- The Rev. Gerry Taylor – December 22, 2022
- Mrs. Ruth Thomas – December 22, 2022, mother of the Rev. Derek Thomas and mother-in-law of the Rev. Nellie Thomas
- Mr. Garland Baikie – December 31, 2022, husband of the Rev. Sarah Baikie
- Mrs. Judy Drover - January 2023, sister of the Rev. Derrick Bishop
- Mr. Baxter Wareham – January 13, 2023 – Brother of the Rev. Alfred Wareham and brother-in-law of the Rev. Rowena Wareham
- The Rev. Nathan Cutler – January 21, 2023
- Mrs. Beverly Ares – January 24, 2023, former employee of the Ministry to the Deaf
- Mr. Jim Johnston – January 29, 2023, member of Lavrock Board of Management
- Mr. Melvin Piercey – March 1, 2023, husband of the Rev. Gladys Harvey.
- Mrs. Rubie Reynolds – March 16, 2023, sister-in-law of the Rev. Linda Budden.
- Mr. Kenneth Tulk – April 21, 2023, brother of the Rev. Canon Lynn Courage
- Mrs. Alice Dalton – April 23, 2023, grandmother of the Rt. Rev. Samuel Rose.
- Mr. James Fudge – April 24, 2023, brother of the Rev. Dr. Hugh Fudge.
- Mr. Roy Coffin - April 26, 2023 - grandfather of the Rev. Amber Tremblett
- Mr. Terrance White – May 1, 2023 – father of Mr. Derek White, Executive Director, CLB
- Mr. Edward Selwyn Crocker – May 15, 2023 – father of Mrs. Gail Brittain
- The Rev. Dr. Hugh Fudge – July 9, 2023
- Mrs. Joyce Anthony – July 16, 2023, mother of the Rev. Dr. Rudolph Anthony
- The Rev. Trudy Gosse – August 14, 2022

- Colonel David Arthur Edwards - August 18, 2023, father of Elizabeth Barnes, former Honourary Treasurer
- The Rev. Canon Gerald Colbourne – September 4, 2023
- The Rev. Evelyn Piercey – September 27, 2023
- Mrs. Brenda Anderson - September 29, 2023, Sister-in-law to the Rev. Canon Gail MacDonald
- Mrs. Karen Jones – October 4, 2023, Mother of the Ven. Nancy March.
- Mrs. Juanita Witham -October 11, 2023, Aunt of the Rev. Canon Gail MacDonald
- Mrs. Candace MacFarlane - October 15, 2023, sister of Wendy Pilling, sister-in-law to the Rev. David Pilling.
- Mr. Bernard Morrissey - October 15, 2023, brother-in-law of Norman and the Rev. Linda Budden.
- Mr. Harvey Taylor- October 22, 2023, Brother of the Rev. Barbara Boone.
- The Rt. Rev. Martin Mate – November 28, 2023
- Tammy Strong - December 14, 2023, daughter of the Rev. Gladys Harvey,
- The Rev. Michael Horlick – December 16, 2023
- Mr. Charles (Charlie) Hunt - January 3, 2024, Brother-in-law of the Rev. Barbara Boone
- Ms. Elaine Dalton – February 24, 2024, mother of the Rt. Rev. Samuel Rose.
- The Rev. Dr. Morley Hodder – March 6, 2024
- Mrs. June Whitten – March 10, 2024, aunt of the Rev. Karen Donovan and the wife of Bishop Leonard Whitten.
- Ms. Wanda Mugford – March 13, 2024, sister of Canon Tom Mugford.
- Eva Grace Dampier (nee Greening) - March 14, 2024, mother of the Rev. Ed Bonnell
- Mr. Charlie Butler -April 13, 2024. Brother of the Rev. Sam Butler
- Mrs. Florence Murphy - April 20, 2024. Mother-in-law to the Rev. Fred Marshall
- Mr. Jerry Mercer, brother of the Rev. Joanne Mercer.
- Canon Elizabeth Barnes – June 1, 2024, Former Administrative Assistant to the Bishop and Honourary Treasurer
- Mrs. Phyllis Fiander – June 14, 2024, wife of the Rev. Lochleigh Fiander.
- Canon Gerald (Gerry) Brown, July 5, 2024, former Honourary Treasurer
- The Rev. Berdina Ford – July 12, 2024
- Dr. Myrle Vokey, August 17, 2024, former Award of Merit recipient
- Diane Gushue – August 18, 2024, daughter of the Rev. Canon Wilson and Lillian Tibbo
- The Rev. Eric Squires – August 28, 2024
- Mrs. Joan Slaney – September 1, 2024, mother of Annette Parsons and mother-in-law of the Rev. Wayne Parsons.
- The Rev. Mary Rose Meadus – September 6, 2024

- Mrs. Rita Rowe – September 13, 2024, mother-in-law, the Rev. Robert Earle.
- Mrs. Cynthia Fowler, September 19, 2024, mother of Archdeacon Christopher Fowler
- Ms. Sharon Lockyer, sister of the Rev. Randy Lockyer, September 23, 2024

Appointments

- The Rev. Barbara Boone, Deacon-in-Charge, Parish of the Good Shepherd, October 15, 2022
- The Rev. Debbie Pantin, Diocesan representative to the Primates World Relief and Development Fund.
- The Rev. Wayne Parsons, Priest-in-Charge – December 1, 2022 – Shared ministry St. Lawrence, Portugal Cove/Bell Island/Pouch Cove.
- The Very Rev. William Bellamy (retired) has been appointed Interim Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of the Ascension, Mount Pearl, effective January 6, 2023.
- The Rev. Barbara Boone has been appointed Interim Deacon-in-Charge of the Parish of the Good Shepherd, Mount Pearl, effective October 15, 2022.
- The Ven. Charlene Taylor has been appointed Interim Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, St. John's, effective December 4, 2022.
- The Ven. Amanda Taylor has been appointed Interim Territorial Mission Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry of Avalon, effective December 5, 2022.
- The Rev. Roberta Woodman as the Interim Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of the Holy Cross effective January 1, 2023, until March 4, 2023 (contractual).
- The Very Rev. Jason Haggstrom, currently Dean of Athabasca and Rector of St. James Cathedral, Peace River, Alberta, as Priest-in-Charge (Rector) of the Parish of the Holy Cross, effective March 5, 2023.
- The Rev. Mary Meadus as the Deacon-in-Charge of the Parish of Carbonear effective January 1, 2023 (contractual).
- The Rev. Mary Meadus as Priest-in-Charge January 25, 2023, contractual appointment extended to May 31, 2023.
- The Rev. Canon Gail MacDonald is appointed the Canon for Church and Community Engagement and Partnerships, effective February 15, 2023.
- The Rev. Canon Josiah Noel is appointed as the Canon for Creation Care and Stewardship, effective February 15, 2023.
- The Venerable Edward Keeping is appointed Diocesan Representative on the Board of Anglican Homes Incorporated, effective February 15, 2023.
- The Very Rev. Roger Whalen will act as the Commissary from February 17 - February 28, 2023.

- The Venerable Greg Mercer as Interim Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of St. Augustine, effective May 1, 2023, until July 31, 2023. Extended to September 30, 2023.
- The Venerable Edward Keeping assisting the Ven. Greg Mercer at the Parish of St. Augustine, effective May 1, 2023, until July 31, 2023. Extended to September 30, 2023.
- The Rev. Scott Winsor as Associate Priest half-time for the Parish of the Ascension and Priest-in-Charge half-time for the Parish of the Good Shepherd effective June 16, 2023
- The Venerable Nancy March as Priest-in-Charge (Rector) for the Parish of the Ascension, Mount Pearl, effective August 1, 2023.
- The Reverend Shirley Noseworthy as Priest-in-Charge to the Parish of Upper Island Cove effective September 15, 2023.
- The Venerable Eli Evans as Priest-in-Charge (Rector) to the Parish of St. Mary the Virgin, St. John's, effective October 1, 2023.
- The Rev. Verna Chislett as Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of the Epiphany and St. Mary's Heart Content effective November 15, 2023.
- The Rev. Scott Winsor, Priest-in-Charge (part-time, contractual) Parish of the Good Shepherd, Mount Pearl, effective December 1, 2023
- The Rev. Isaac Hutchings, Priest-in-Charge (part-time, contractual) Parish of the Living Water, Arnold's Cove and area, effective January 1, 2024.
- The Rev. Linda Budden, Priest-in-Charge (full-time, contractual) Parish of the Resurrection, South River, effective January 1, 2024.
- The Rev. Irene Sutton, Hospital Chaplaincy On-Call Support, effective January 4, 2024.
- The Rev. Eli Evans, new Chairperson for the Diocesan Board of Trustees for the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children, effective January 1, 2024.
- The Rev. Linda Cumby, Priest-in-Charge (part-time) to the Parish of Harbour Grace, effective March 1, 2024.
- The Ven. David Pilling, Diocesan Coordinating Hospital Chaplain effective July 1, 2024, and Archdeacon (non-Chapter) Institutional Chaplaincy and Diocesan Pastoral Care.
- The Rev. Canon Amber Tremblett - Priest-in-Charge (Rector) to the Parish of the Resurrection, effective September 1, 2024.
- The Rev. Randy Lockyer, Spiritual Director of DAMA.
- The Rev. Aubrey Young CLB Battalion Chaplain for Trinity Conception.
- The Rev. Shirley Noseworthy, Assistant CLB Battalion Chaplain for Trinity Conception.
- The Rev. Wayne Parsons Hospital Chaplain, effective August 15, 2024.

- The Rev. Maxine Drover has been appointed Interim Deacon-in-Charge to the Parish of Carbonear.
- The Rev. Roberta Woodman - Appointed as Interim Priest-in-Charge to the Parish of the Holy Trinity.
- The Rev. Gail Dick - Vicar Pastoral (half-time) at our Cathedral, effective September 1, 2024.
- The Reverend Eli Cross as Priest-in-Charge for the Pastoral Area of the Parish of St. Lawrence, Portugal Cove, the Parish of St. Cyprian and St. Mary, Bell Island, and the Parish of All Saints, Pouch Cove, effective October 1, 2024.
- The Reverend Nellie Thomas as Priest-in-Charge (half-time) for the Parish of Lake Melville, effective September 1, 2024.

Ordained Deacon

- The Rev. Karen Mitchell – February 11, 2024
- The Rev. Gail Dick- June 11, 2024
- The Rev. Maxine Drover-June 11, 2024
- The Rev. William Haynes – June 11, 2024

Ordained Priests

- The Rev. Verna Chislett – January 6, 2023
- The Rev. Robert Earle – January 18, 2023
- The Rev. Mary Meadus – January 25, 2023
- The Rev. Jennifer Rumbolt – September 13, 2023
- The Rev. Rowena Wareham – September 29, 2023
- The Rev. Rowena Payne – February 25, 2024
- The Rev. Tracy Lynn Sullivan – June 11, 2024
- The Rev. Aubrey Young – September 15, 2024

Consecrations

- Cemetery Extension - Kenmount Road – September 30, 2023
- St. John the Baptist Cemetery, Whitbourne – June 29, 2024
- St. John the Evangelist Chapel, St. Peter's Church, Upper Island Cove, June 16, 2024

Dedication of Columbarium

- St. John the Evangelist Columbarium – September 19, 2023
- Kenmount Road Columbarium – September 30, 2023
- St. Lawrence, Portugal Cove Columbarium – June 1, 2024
- Forest Road Columbarium – July 24, 2024

Disestablishment

- Parish of St. Michael and All Angels August 31, 2023

Resignations

- Mr. Peter Chalker, Diocesan Archivist, June 27, 2023
- The Rev. Scott Winsor, Ascension, Good Shepherd November 30, 2023
- The Rev. Canon John Courage, Chairperson for the Diocesan Board of Trustees for the Anglican Charitable Foundation for Children, December 31, 2023
- The Rev. Isaac Hutchings, Parish of Living Water, June 30, 2024
- The Rev. Khaliah Kinkead-Dawkins, Cathedral August 31, 2024
- The Rev. Iliffe Sheppard, Holy Spirit, October 31, 2024

Retirements

- The Rev. Irene Sutton, November 30, 2022
- The Rev. Lynn Courage, December 31, 2022
- Canon Kevin Smith, June 30, 2023
- The Rev. Donald Martin, August 31, 2023
- The Ven. Gerald Westcott, December 31, 2023
- The Rev. John Nicolle, January 31, 2024
- The Ven. Edward Keeping, June 30, 2024
- The Rev. Paul Thoms, August 31, 2024

Inductions

- The Rev. Josiah Noel - Parish of St. John the Evangelist, CBS – December 4, 2022
- The Ven. Amanda Taylor - Parish of St. Mark the Evangelist, St. John's – February 15, 2023
- The Rev. Debbie Pantin - Parish of the Holy Trinity – March 5, 2023
- The Rev. Christine Lynch – Parish of Bay Roberts/Coley's Point – April 30, 2023
- The Rev. Samuel Butler – Parish of All Saints – November 5, 2023
- The Rev. Jason Haggstrom – Parish of the Holy Cross – January 25, 2024
- The Rev. Shirley Noseworthy – Parish of Upper Island Cove – September 22, 2024
- The Rev. Eli Evans – Parish of St. Mary the Virgin – September 22, 2024

Installations

- The Rev. Canon Gail MacDonald installed as the Canon for Church and Community Engagement and Partnerships – May 14, 2023
- The Rev. Canon Josiah Noel installed as the Canon for Creation Care and Stewardship – Installation of New Archdeacon and Canons – May 24, 2023

Entered the Diocese

- The Rev. Jason Haggstrom – March 5, 2023
- The Rev. Shirley Noseworthy – September 15, 2023
- The Rev. Isaac Hutchings – January 1, 2024
- The Rev. Eli Cross – October 1, 2024

Left the Diocese

- The Rev. Dr. Rudolph Anthony – April 30, 2023
- The Rev. Robert McLean – August 31, 2023