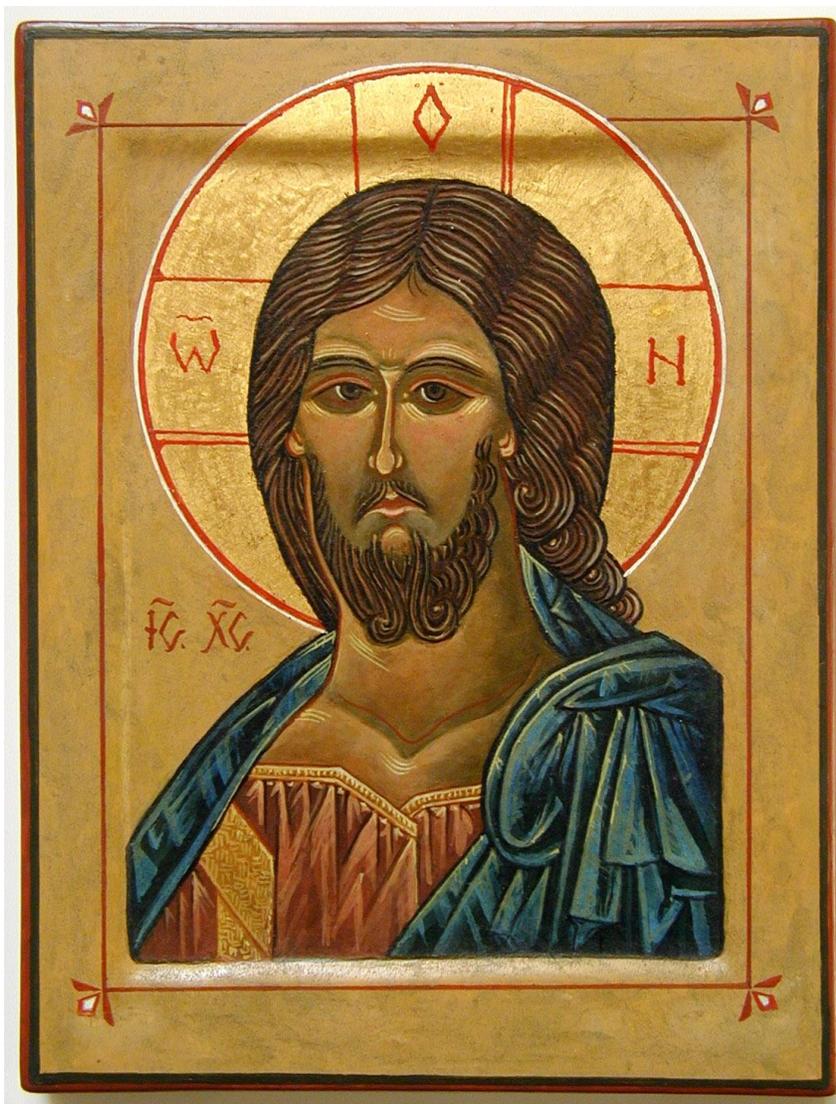




NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing March 26, 2017



Fourth Sunday of Lent

From the Rector

This Sunday we will be marking the Fourth Sunday of Lent. How is your Lenten Pilgrimage going? Have you given up something? Have you taken on something new? Are you taking more time for prayer and the reading of Scripture? Are you giving more generously of you time, talent and treasure? How are you marking these forty days of Lent?

The Epistle Reading for this Sunday is from the fifth chapter of the Letter to the Ephesians. In this passage we hear these words: "For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true." These are great words to consider as we prepare for Holy Week.

Light is often seen as a metaphor for God. In the book of Genesis, the very first words that God said were: "Let there be light." In this part of the Bible it was referring to the first light to shine in the darkness of the universe but it also, I think, refers to the first time in our lives that we recognize the light of God shining in our own darkness.

In the first words of the Gospel of John, we hear: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." Once more there is the image of light shining at the beginning of the world but also that light is a symbol of the presence of God in the darkness of this world.

Through Jesus Christ, through our Baptism, through receiving the bread and wine of the Eucharist, we know this light in our lives and our hearts. This light continues to shine in our world and in our souls.

Thomas Merton writes this: "At the center of our being is a point of nothingness which is untouched by sin and by illusion, a point of pure truth, a point or spark which belongs entirely to God, which is never at our disposal, from which God disposes of our lives, which is inaccessible to the fantasies of our own mind or the brutalities of our own will. This little point of nothingness and of absolute poverty is the pure glory of God in us. It is so to speak His name written in us, as our poverty, as our indigence, as our dependence, as our sonship. It is like a pure diamond, blazing with the

invisible light of heaven. It is in everybody, and if we could see it we would see these billions of points of light coming together in the face and blaze of a sun that would make all the darkness and cruelty of life vanish completely ... I have no program for this seeing. It is only given. But the gate of heaven is every- where."

Holy God, source of our light and end of our darkness, shine in our lives this day. Break through those things that weary us and burden us and let Your light shine. When we are blind to your presence, awaken our conscience to renewed sight and renewed vision founded on the voice and words of Jesus, your Son. In his name we pray. Amen.

Lent Series Monday Nights

Our Lent Series continues on Monday March 27: My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? Join us in the Trendell Lounge at 7pm.

Training Session for Readers, Intercessors and Lay Administrators

Are you interested in volunteering during the church service? Please join us for a training session after coffee hour on **Sunday, April 2nd**. Come and learn more about the positions that are available. Please speak to Fr John, Mtr Liz, the wardens, or call the office for more information.

Chrism mass -- Renewal of Vows, Blessing of Holy Oils

On Tuesday in Holy Week (April 11), 12:10pm at Christ Church Cathedral, all bishops, priests and deacons will renew their ordination vows. In addition to this all members of the laity are invited to attend and renew their baptismal vows. A light lunch will follow.

Following the Chrism luncheon, from 2:15 to 3:30pm the Rev'd Canon Dr Ed Bacon, sometime Rector of All Saints', Pasadena will give an address. All are invited to hear Ed speak.

Archdeaconry Chapter Meeting 7:00pm in the Trendell Lounge

On April 26 all of the Clergy, Parish Synod Delegates and any other interested parties will meet for a pre-synod Archdeaconry Chapter Meeting. We will meet with others from our Archdeaconry to discuss items

that will be presented at our Annual Synod Meeting (May 26 and 27). In particular there will be discussion regarding parish assessments and other financial matters and any other business that may be coming to Synod. Please mark your calendars.

Criminal Record Checks

If you have recently had a criminal record check for your volunteer work here at SJS, please submit your \$25 receipt and we will reimburse you. Or you may prefer to have it added to your 2017 donations and receive a tax receipt.

Church Committee Meeting on March 29

The first meeting of our newly elected Church Committee will take place on Wednesday March 29 at 7:00pm in the Trendell Lounge. You will be emailed the package for this meeting. Normally we meet on the third Wednesday of the month so please note this change!

Used clothing and footwear needed

We are helping some low income friends to update their wardrobes. If you have some clean, lightly used spring/summer clothing or footwear to donate, please drop them off to the church any time. We are particularly in need of men's footwear size 12, and men's size large shirts.

Walking Group at SJS

Do you think you need a little more fresh air and exercise? Join the SJS Walking Group! It is on Mondays (except holidays) starting at 12 noon. Please meet up by the east door of the church, and wear good supportive shoes. If you sign up in advance, we can let you know about cancellations and/or time changes. **We hope to walk on other days** as well. Let us know what works for you. Please **contact** the office for more information. Let's work on improving our fitness levels together!



Knitting Group at SJS

The knitting group continues to meet Monday mornings at 10am, and we're having a lot of fun together. Maybe you would like to join us? Please contact the office for more information.



Do you enjoy playing Scrabble?

A small group of SJS parishioners is interested in getting together to play Scrabble. It has been suggested that meetings be in the Trendell Lounge after coffee hour on Sundays, or possibly during the week in the choir room. Please contact the office for more information, and let us know the days/times that work best for you. **Beginners welcome.**



Calling all Gardeners: Gardening Group starts April 3rd

Please join a small group of us who work on tidying up the gardens at St John's on Monday mornings at 10 am for an hour or two. Weeding, pruning, raking and transplanting. No experience necessary!!! Many hands make light work. Please contact the office for more information.



Neighbourhood Ministry and the Mobile Care Unit

The Neighbourhood Ministry is looking for new volunteers, especially for the Mobile Care Unit (MCU) that was recently launched. The MCU offers basic medical care and social service support for homeless and needy people on the Westside. Currently, the MCU visits three community meals weekly (Saturday mornings at Kits Community Centre; Tuesdays mid-day at St. Mary's Kerrisdale; and Thursday Evenings at St. Augustine Marpole), where about 200 people gather. In just the first two months of the trial launch, the team directly served over 60 people. The large uptake for MCU services points to the significant need in the community.

Volunteers assist our social work and medical professionals at each site by engaging with clients, building trust, and helping folks become more comfortable accessing medical and social work services. If this kind of service appeals to you, please come to a training session and learn more about the Neighbourhood Ministry and the Mobile Care Unit, about how these ministries connect with our faith, and about some of the specifics in assisting with government forms.

Training will be held Saturday April 1, 10am -2:30pm at St. Anselm's, across from the UBC golf course. An alternative session will be held over two evenings, Tuesday March 28th and Wednesday April 5th, 6:30-8:00 pm, also at St. Anselm's. ALL ARE WELCOME. RSVP to Deacon Pitman, pbpotter@live.ca

SJS Music Events with Michael Dirk

Further for your SJS Events considerations: **Easter Sunday April 16**, Michael has been invited to return and offer another 30min post-compline organ recital at St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle. He suggests for those interested to carpool from SJS in the early afternoon to Seattle - perhaps taking in the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival www.tulipfestival.com. Once checked into a downtown/university district hotel in Seattle (four-star around \$150CDN in downtown/university district) go for dinner up on Capital Hill. 9:30pm the famed Men's Compline Choir carry us through the service, www.complinechoir.org, followed by Michael's recital.

After a good night's rest, we have the Easter holiday Monday to enjoy

all Seattle has to offer - lunch up the Space Needle, and Pike Place Market etc. At 7pm the historic Paramount Theater hosts 'Silent Movie Monday' featuring Clark Wilson at the helm of their Mighty Wurlitzer Theater pipe organ, providing accompaniment to the 82min 1924 comedy 'Girl Shy'.

<http://www.stgpresents.org/tickets/alphabetical/eventdetail/3065/-/silent-movie-mondays-girl-shy-1924>

Unless wanting to stay another night, we'd be on the I-5 heading North at 8:30pm, through the border before 11pm, and back home in bed by midnight.

SJS goes to the VSO:

It's that time of the year - the Vancouver Bach Choir joins forces with the VSO to deliver their own take on the long tradition of the Last Night of the Proms with the comically brilliant Maestro Bramwell Tovey at the Helm! Rather than just a standalone event, the VSO has made it the finale to their 2017 Spring Festival celebrating British composers and their most popular works - so have a look, and let Michael know which concerts strike your fancy, and he'll secure a ticket of your price choice at 15% off for group rate. The sooner you let him know, the better the seat!



To get the best seats, Michael Dirk is taking group rate orders for the **2017 VSO Spring Festival**. It is themed "British Fantasy", focusing on great British composers and their most popular works.

www.vancouverSymphony.ca

April 22 8pm- Songs and Serenades

April 24 8pm- The Planets (Holst) & Viola Concerto (Elgar)

April 29 8pm- Henry (Walton)

April 30 7pm- Enigma variations (Elgar)

May 1 8pm- Last night of the Proms (with Bach Choir)

Group rate tickets \$22-60 (15% off). Please email Michael at organist@sjs.net or speak to him during coffee hour on Sundays.

<http://www.vancouverSymphony.ca/festivals/16VSF/>



The Seven Last Words of Jesus Christ from the Cross

Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing. *Luke 23.34*

Truly, I tell to you, today you will be with me in Paradise. *Luke 23.43*

Woman, here is your son. Son, here is your mother. *John 19.26-27*

My God, My God, why have you forsaken me? *Matthew 27.46*

I am thirsty. *John 19.28*

It is finished. *John 19.30*

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit. *Luke 23.46*

For the five Monday Evenings in Lent we will gather to meditate upon and discuss the first five of the seven sayings of Jesus from the Cross. The sixth and seventh will be the themes for the liturgies on the Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week.

7pm in the Trendell Lounge

Mar 6, 13, 20, 27, Apr 3

Holy Week



Sunday April 9 Palm Sunday

- 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:00am Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist

Monday/Tuesday April 10/11

- 7:00pm Said Holy Eucharist with address (30 minutes)

Wednesday April 12

- 9:30am Said Holy Eucharist with address (30 minutes)

Thursday April 13 Maundy Thursday

- 6:00pm Homemade soup and sandwiches - all welcome
7:30pm Last Supper Eucharist with foot washing. A meditative watch will be kept until 10:30pm.

Friday April 14 Good Friday

- 10:00am Families Stations of the Cross (35 minutes)
12:00noon Solemn Liturgy of the Day with Sung Passion

Saturday April 15 Holy Saturday

- 8:30pm Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday April 16 Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Day

- 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:00am Celebration Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt

PROVINCIAL ELECTION ACCOUNTABILITY ASSEMBLY

We will use the combined power of up to 100 community, labour, faith, and educational organizations to ask the leaders of BC's provincial parties to commit to commonly agreed proposals that will make our province a better place for all of us.

April 4, 2017, 6 – 8 PM

Come early! We will have food trucks on the street next to the Italian Cultural Center from 4:30 until 5:45.

Registration begins at 5:15, the program runs from 6 to 8.

Italian Cultural Centre

3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver

Slocan at Grandview, near the Renfrew Skytrain Station.

Parking available. just off Grandview Highway

Join us for this exciting night of non-partisan grassroots democracy!

To RSVP and get your ticket for the Assembly, contact the MVA representative for your organization or MVA at the addresses below.

metvanalliance.org · facebook.com/metvanalliance · [@metvanalliance](https://twitter.com/metvanalliance)

info@metvanalliance.org · (604) 441 8136 · 1019 Broughton St., Vancouver V6G 2A7



St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver, B.C. V6H 2E2

Telephone (604) 731-4966 (ex 11 for office)

email: church@sjs.net web: www.sjs.net

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 4:00pm

Rector	The Venerable John Stephens john.stephens@sjs.net
Curate	The Reverend Liz Hamel liz.hamel@sjs.net
Deacon	The Reverend Dr Pitman Potter pbpotter@live.ca
Rector's Warden	Robyn Woodward
People's Warden	Maggie Sanders
Treasurer	Donald Wood
Vestry Clerk	Karin Fulcher
Music Director	Michael Dirk
Assistant Choirmaster	Ann Chen
Children's Ministry	Spencer Britten
Parish Administrator	Janet Hamilton
PWRDF Rep	Doug Symons
Sacristan and MC	Paul Bunnell
Verger/caretaker	Amy Thorogood

Sunday services

8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)

10:00am Sung Eucharist

Wednesday service

9:30am Holy Communion

Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings and Confessions are by appointment with the Rector. Please contact us if you would like to have our weekly newsletter emailed to you.

