



NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing April 23, 2017



Second Sunday of Easter

From the Rector

Alleluia Christ is Risen!

It was a week ago that we celebrated the first Easter morning and first shouts of Alleluia were heard. It was a week ago that we heard about Mary Magdalene making her way to the tomb and finding the stone not in place but rolled aside. The tomb was empty and the burial linens the only thing to be found. Eventually she did see the risen Christ and told the other followers of the incredible news.

While that is what we heard last Sunday, the gospel reading for this coming Sunday picks up from that same day. Not a week later but the same day, the followers of Jesus Christ have gathered in an upper room and Jesus is suddenly present among them. He offers words of comfort: "Peace be with you." These words continue to hold great importance in our Eucharistic liturgy. Jesus' words to his followers long ago are also his words to us today. While so many of us seek out and explore ways to find this inner peace, we discover that Jesus is praying this for us: that we may know God's peace in the greatest depth of our heart and soul.

Edwin Markham wrote this poem, *The Place of Peace*, that perhaps speaks to this:

At the heart of cyclone tearing the sky
And flinging the clouds and the towers by,
Is a place of central calm;
So here in the roar of mortal things,
I have a place where my spirit sings,
In the hollow of God's palm.

Where are the places that you know the peace of God? Where are the places that you feel held in the hollow of God's palm? Where do you discover the risen Christ coming to you and whispering those words: Peace be with you!

God of peace, as our lives get filled with countless pressures, expectations and fears, the words of Jesus keep calling us back to you and your love for us: Peace be with you. Fill us with that peace, let it wash over us, help us to invite it into our hearts, may it nourish our souls to awaken to your invitation to draw closer. For

in the resurrection of Jesus, we see that you will walk with us all our days and even beyond this world. Bless us with your peace now and always. In the name of Jesus Christ, the risen One, we pray. Amen.

Church Interior Working Group

Our Church Interior Working Group has been tasked with exploring some new ideas in regards to the interior of our beautiful church here at St. John's. We have a very large seating capacity which does not speak to the sense of community and connection that we cherish here at St. John's. We have looked at possible new locations for the Altar, the Font, and the Organ Pipes. We have looked at adding a Labyrinth, reducing the number of pews, changing the design of the chapel and the children's area. We have thought about the Granville Street entrance and a new sign out front.

We passed along those ideas to the Architect (and parishioner) Arno Matis and he has created a first look at some concept drawings that help us to see what the church interior could look like if we want to follow through with this thinking.

The Church Interior Group will meet again on **May 9 at 7:15 pm** to hear from Arno and his inspiration for creating these concept drawings. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Pre-Synod Archdeaconry Chapter Meeting

Diocesan Synod will be held on May 26 and 27 at the Italian Cultural Centre. One of the issues coming before Synod will be about Diocesan Finances. In particular, the formula for determining Parish Assessments has been revised and the new formula will be presented to Synod in hopes of approval.

On April 26 at 7:00pm we will have an Archdeaconry Chapter Meeting here at St. John's in our Trendell Lounge. Synod Delegates, Treasurers, and Wardens are encouraged to come to hear about what will be presented at Synod. We will also discuss how we as the parishes of the Archdeaconry of Vancouver might have stronger connections with each other.



Evening for Ascension

May 28 at 4pm
Reception to follow

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As they were watching,
Jesus was lifted up,
and a cloud took him
out of their sight.

Acts 1.9

Syrian Refugee Family Sponsorship – update

As of Easter Sunday, SJS parishioners have donated \$5780.00, meaning we have already reached about 50% of our goal! Please bring in your donation soon if you haven't already done so.

Neighbourhood Ministry Annual General Meeting

Wednesday May 24, 2017 in the Trendell Lounge 7pm-9pm
Light refreshments provided. All welcome.

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. Dogs welcome. 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.

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. Everyone welcome.

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.

Calling all Gardeners! Mondays at 10am

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



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.

English afternoon tea April 29 for Camp Artiban – just \$5!

Can you resist perfectly baked scones smothered in sweet strawberry jam and thick cream? A bake sale, door prizes, raffles and a book sale will only add to the fun. 1:30pm - 3:30pm.

St Augustine's Anglican Church, 8680 Hudson Street, 604-379-9074.



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St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

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

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

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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	Dr Robyn Woodward
People's Warden	Maggie Sanders
Treasurer	Donald Wood
Vestry Clerk	The Reverend 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.

On the cover is a copy of the painting *St. Thomas* by Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio; 1573-1610

