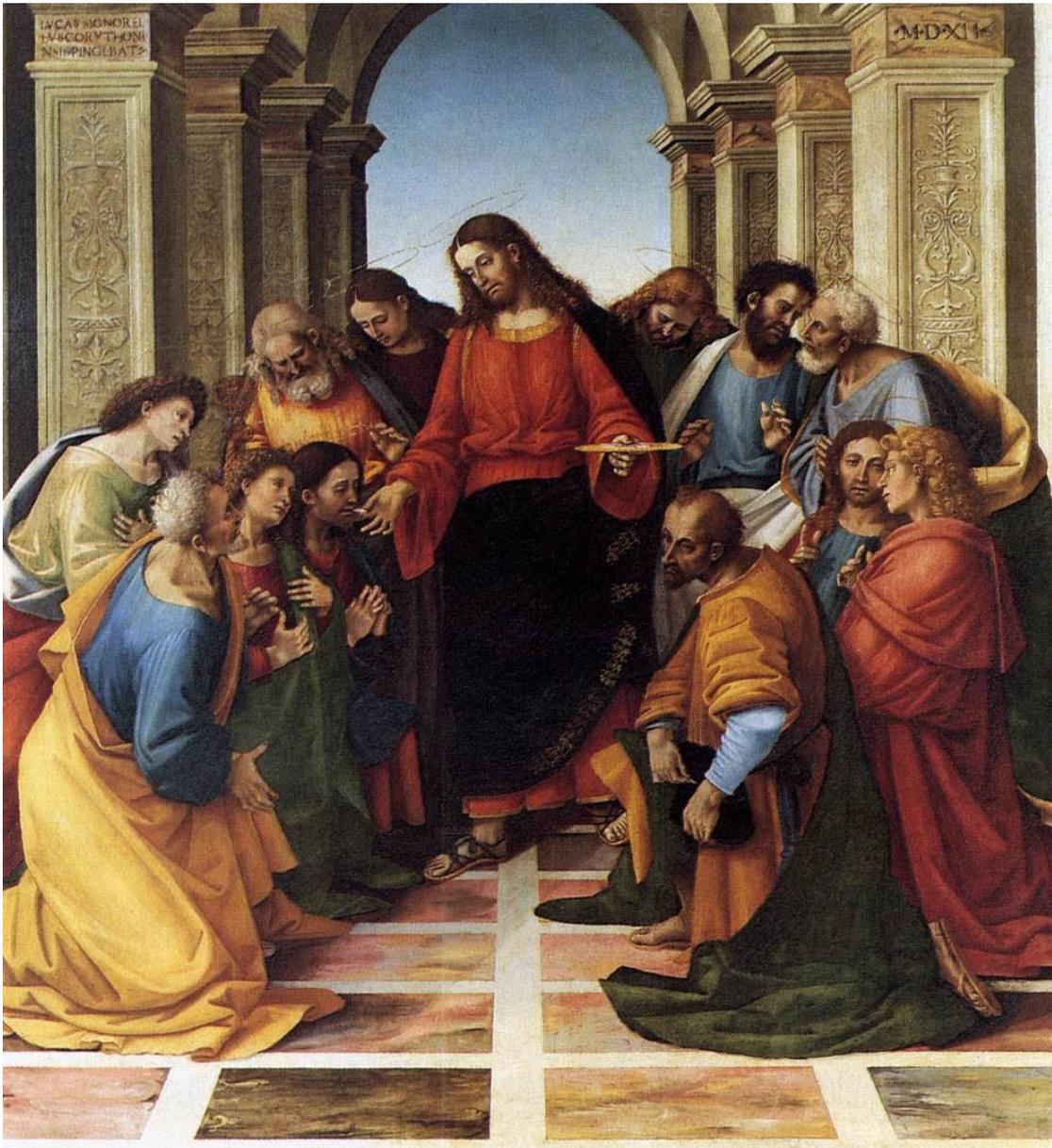




# NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing Aug 27, 2017

## Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



## From the Rector

*We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us:*

*Prophecy, in proportion to faith*

*Ministry, in ministering*

*The teacher, in teaching*

*The exhorter, in exhortation*

*The giver, in generosity*

*The leader, in diligence*

*The compassionate, in cheerfulness* (from Romans 12: 1-8)

The words that St. Paul wrote to the Church at Rome, as quoted above, have been with us since about 57 AD (approximately 1,950 years ago) and still they prove to be more of a challenge to us than guiding principle.

Paul was writing to the Church at Rome, encouraging them to see presence of Christ in each other and to recognize that each person in their community brings different gifts for the benefit of the entire community. They are beautiful words meant to encourage and guide community life. But they mostly go ignored.

James Finley writes this: "Our deepest freedom rests not in our freedom to do what we want to do but rather in our freedom to become who God wills us to be. This person, this ultimate self God wills us to be, is not a predetermined, static mold to which we must conform. Rather, it is an infinite possibility of growth. It is our true self; that is, a secret self hidden in and one with the divine freedom. In obeying God, in turning to do God's will, God wills us to be free. God created us for freedom; that is to say, God created us for God's self."

We seem to have lost the connection that St. Paul was praying for the Church and Rome and the Church of 2017 that we recognize the gifts of God in all people and see that each person brings a fuller and richer life to our community. Our fear of outsiders and those who might differ from us has caused great problems in the world over the last number of years. Like Paul, pray for a new recognition of God moving in and through other people as well as ourselves.

*Holy God, Creator and Maker of all things and all people, touch our hearts and minds anew to encounter your Holy Spirit in all those people we meet. Be our source of wisdom and compassion. Turn out thoughts to your hope and vision for our lives and our world. Remind us that each person has gifts that differ according to the grace given them. In your holy name we pray. Amen.*

## **Drop Your Socks Off!**

St. John's Shaughnessy is joining with Shaughnessy Heights United Church (SHUC) and Redeemer Lutheran Church (three of the churches in the Shaughnessy area) to collect socks (new socks only and adults sizes) for people who are homeless or in need of socks and support.

We will be seeking the help of Little Flower Academy School, York House School, and Shaughnessy Elementary School to join us in collecting socks for the homeless. We will also be dropping off flyers to as many homes in Shaughnessy as our volunteers are able, again inviting the neighbourhood of Shaughnessy to get involved.



The socks will be collected at each of the three churches involved and distributed to those who need them through: the Westside Anglican Neighbourhood Ministry, First United Church and Surrey Urban Mission.

We will need the help of lots of people in the parish! Here are the dates of some of the events coming up in our campaign of *Drop Your Socks Off! For the Love of Socks and one Another!*

- **September 26 4:30 to 6:30pm** (with dinner afterwards): Youth and Children will gather at SHUC to learn more about the sock drive and the various outreach groups that will be distributing them.
- **October 15:** Each of the churches involved will seek out volunteers from their church to hand-deliver flyers to neighbourhood homes asking people to purchase socks to help support this program.

- **October 20 and 27:** Drop Your Socks Off in the bin at Redeemer Lutheran Church 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **October 21:** Drop Your Socks Off in the bin at SHUC Fall Fair 10:00am to 2:00pm
- **October 29:** Drop Your Socks Off in the bin at St. John's Shaughnessy at a Neighbours Lunch and Learn at 12:15pm (after church for all three churches). Judy Graves (retired City of Vancouver homelessness advocate) will be the guest speaker

Here at St. John's we will need volunteers to help distribute flyers to homes in the Shaughnessy area on or near October 15. We will also need volunteers to help organize and prepare the lunch on October 29. We will need everyone who is able, to purchase new socks to contribute to **Drop Your Socks Off!** so that we will have a huge pile of socks to distribute to those in need. This is a great and exciting project and we hope everyone at SJS will get involved!

### **Wednesday Morning Bible Study**

Please join us for Bible Study on Wednesday mornings after the 9:30 am mass. It will start at approximately 10:10am and will be about an hour. It will run from September 13 to November 29. Join us!

### **Greeting and Hospitality Volunteers Needed for Sundays**

Are you interested in a new volunteer position at St John's? Training and written instructions are provided. We will pair you up with someone who has done it many times, and you will never volunteer alone. Please contact the office if you are able to help out **once every couple of months** or more often if you prefer. It's a great way to get to know everyone!

### **Join us Wednesdays at 2:00 for Scrabble**

Scrabble started last month, and the group is growing. This is for people who take Scrabble quite seriously so bring your Scrabble dictionary! Please contact the office if you would like to join them.

## ***All Saints* Feature Film**

Dear friends,

PWRDF is proud to be supporting the release of a new Hollywood film called *All Saints*, released by Sony Pictures and starring John Corbett (*My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *Northern Exposure*).

The film is based on a true story and follows Michael Spurlock (Corbett), a corporate salesman-turned Episcopalian priest whose first charge is All Saints, a quaint country church in Tennessee with only a dozen members. His assignment is to close the doors of the struggling church for good and sell its prime real estate. But when the church begins welcoming Karen (kuh-REN) refugees from Burma—former farmers looking for a fresh start in America—Michael feels called to an improbable *new* mission. Working alongside the Karen people, the congregation attempts to turn their fertile land into a working farm to pay the church's bills and feed its newest people. **View the trailer here:** <http://www.allsaintsmovie.com/>

PWRDF has been supporting Karen refugees living in camps along the Thai-Burmese border for 17 years through DARE, an addiction recovery program. (<http://pwrdf.org/2017/pioneering-addiction-program-changing-burmese-refugees-lives/>) They also support refugees and displaced people around the world and in Canada through our network of Sponsorship Agreement Holders (SAHs).

*All Saints* opens August 25 in Langley, Coquitlam, and Abbotsford. Contact Doug Symons at 604 277 2674 for further information or to form a group outing.

## **Memorial Garden Service September 24**

Our Annual Memorial Garden Service of Evensong will be held on September 24 at 3:00pm. Please put this on your calendar now and plan to attend. Please let people know about this, especially those with a connection to St John's Shaughnessy and the Memorial Garden. This is an important ministry for us.

## Blessing of the Animals Oct 1

On Sunday October 1 at 3:00pm we will have our annual blessing of the animals service in honour of St Francis. Please bring your dogs, cats, hamsters, tarantulas, snakes... but make sure they are safe and on a leash or in a cage/carrier.

VOKRA (Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue Association) has been invited again, and will receive our generous donations. [www.vokra.ca](http://www.vokra.ca) Please invite your friends and neighbours.



## Do you have a used iPhone 6 that you want to sell?

Please contact Janet in the office with all the details, thank you.

## Church Donation Envelopes for 2018

We will soon be ordering custom donation envelopes for 2018. Please contact the office asap if you would like some. We encourage envelope users to switch over to the pre-authorized debit (PAD) program, but we're still happy to provide envelopes to people who request them.

## Garden Tools, Rocks & Driftwood wanted

Do you have any gardening supplies in your garage that you don't use any more, and would like to donate to the church? Please bring them to church on Sunday, or contact the office to arrange pick up. Gloves, shovels, brooms, forks, carts, pruners, etc. can all be put to good use by our growing team of volunteers. And we welcome more volunteers!

We are also looking for attractive **rocks**, interesting pieces of **driftwood**, and **old bricks for pathways (that tie in with the church)** for the garden. If you find anything that catches your eye while on your travels this summer, and you are able to bring it to us, please do. If they come with a story all the better!!!

Please also contact us if you are **dividing your perennials this fall**, and have extras that need a new home.



Photo by Julie Riggs

# Autumn Bible Study Series

Join the SJS clergy for an interactive  
Christian Formation Series.

Classes will be located in the church  
from approximately 10:10am to 11:15am.

**Wednesday mornings from  
September 13 to November 29  
right after the 9:30am service**





# Memorial Garden Service

**Sunday Sept 24 at 3 o'clock**

Join us for a special service of Choral Evensong as we remember loved ones whose ashes have been placed in our Memorial Garden. A reception in the Trendell Lounge will follow. All welcome.



1490 Nanton Avenue (at Granville St)  
Vancouver BC V6H 2E2  
604.731.4966 / [www.sjs.net](http://www.sjs.net)



*St Francis by Sadao Watanabi*

# Blessing of the Animals

Sunday Oct 1 at 3 o'clock

Join us for a short 45 minute service as we honour St Francis and bless our beloved pets. Please keep dogs on leashes, and other pets in carriers.

*All proceeds to Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue*



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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)

email: [church@sjs.net](mailto:church@sjs.net) web: [www.sjs.net](http://www.sjs.net)

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:00am to 3:00pm

Rector	The Venerable John Stephens <a href="mailto:john.stephens@sjs.net">john.stephens@sjs.net</a>
Curate	The Reverend Liz Hamel <a href="mailto:liz.hamel@sjs.net">liz.hamel@sjs.net</a>
Deacon	The Reverend Dr. Pitman Potter <a href="mailto:pbpotter@live.ca">pbpotter@live.ca</a>
Rector's Warden	Dr Robyn Woodward
People's Warden	Maggie Sanders
Treasurer	Donald Wood
Vestry Clerk	The Reverend Karin Fulcher
Music Director	Michael Dirk <a href="mailto:organist@sjs.net">organist@sjs.net</a>
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.

Cover: *Luca Signorelli, Communion of the Apostles, Diocesan Museum, Cortona, 1512*

