



NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing Sept 24, 2017



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

From the Rector

*Jesus said: "So the last will be first and the first will be last."
(from Matthew 20: 1-16)*

In the gospel reading assigned to this Sunday, Jesus tells a parable about what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. It is a story about a landowner who hires a number of different workers throughout the day. His punch-line or conclusion is quoted above. It is a story with many interpretations but one is that God's grace is bigger and greater and grander than many of us humble followers might allow. God seems to welcome all, according to the parable, even those who put in very little time working in the vineyard. God simply wants us to part of working in the vineyard, the place of encounter with God and the Holy Spirit. The rules that we might make about God are often irrelevant to God who simply wants to love us and know us as we are. These words from Jesus open up to us a new understanding of how God continues to move amongst us.

On this Sunday, September 24th, as we gather for worship, we will be aware that others will be participating in the *Walk for Reconciliation* in downtown Vancouver. It is part of the response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report as we aim to reconcile with First Nations' Peoples of our country. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

The TRC's Report calls upon the churches of our nation to learn more about the agreement and engage with it fully as we live out our faith. Reconciliation is very much central to our Christian faith as it brings to the forefront our relationship with God and with our neighbours. Ignoring it is not an option for us followers of Jesus Christ. It is all about understanding even more what it really means to put the last first and the first last.

Within the Anglican Church of Canada this is taking many forms but from the national church website, we see that it is of great importance: "The Anglican Church of Canada is committed to a new relationship with the Indigenous (or Aboriginal) Peoples of Canada. This new relationship is based on a partnership which focuses on the cultural, spiritual, social, and economic independence of Indigenous communities. To give expression to this new relationship The Anglican Church of Canada will work primarily

with the Indigenous Peoples for a truly Anglican Indigenous Church in Canada. It is an important step in the overall quest for self-governance.”

Our relationship with Indigenous People is changing but we continue to have much work to do. As churches change, as school curricula are changed, as people grow in educating themselves about the traditions, language and teachings of First Nations’ People so too do we start to recognize how God is working in and through this new relationship. God is calling us to something new and we are blessed by this journey. *“So the last will be first and the first will be last.”*

Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the Centre of this Sacred Circle through all of which all creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. (from *An Action in Solidarity with the Indigenous Peoples of Canada*)

Christian Formation on Wednesday Mornings

We were asked to start a daytime Bible Study and that has begun! We meet on Wednesday morning after the 9:30am Mass. We discuss the three readings for the upcoming Sunday. So far it is going very well. This will run until the end of November and will take a break for December and if there is still interest we will meet again in January and early February (until Lent begins). We will re-evaluate from there. Join us!

During the month of November (probably on Tuesday nights) there will be a Christian Formation Series on Liturgy in the Anglican Church. People have asked to learn more about our liturgy and “why we do what we do.”

Memorial Service for Edward Legg, Friday September 22

SJS parishioner Ed Legg’s memorial is Sept 22 at 2pm. A reception in the Trendell Lounge will follow.



Reconciliation March September 24 morning

Rev. Kim at St. Anselm's is leading a group of participants for the upcoming Reconciliation March, and you are invited to join. We will meet on the steps of the Cathedral (690 Burrard Street) at 8:45, leaving for the march at 9:10. You can find Rev. Kim by his parish banner on the steps, and you're invited to bring your parish banner, too. For more info:

Hkim@stanselms.ca

Guest Preacher this Sunday

On September 24 we will have a guest preacher at our 10:00am Mass at St. John's. The Rev'd Canon David Fletcher is an Anglican priest from the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island who will be facilitating an Education For Ministry (EfM) mentor formation event. Originally from Ontario, David was posted to Nova Scotia when he joined the Navy in 1973, and liked it so much he stayed. After a BA in Music, he graduated MDiv from the Atlantic School of Theology, with post-graduate studies in Congregational Development at Northwestern (Seabury Western), and Enneagram studies at Stanford. He has served the Parish of Lantz (about half an hour from Halifax) for 26 years, is married to Kathy Petite, and has an adult daughter who supports her own music habit as a barista at Starbucks. David has been an EfM trainer and mentor for over 20 years.

PWRDF Ride for Refuge Sept 30: Please support Doug Symons!

Your financial support to our St John's cyclist, Doug Symons, would be appreciated. The money collected goes through PWRDF to a "Cooperative of Credit of Women" in Pemba, Mozambique. Please contact the office, or talk to Doug during coffee hour (or call him at 604 277 2674) for more information. You can also click here to donate online:

<https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/FundraisingPage.aspx?registrationID=3923408&langPref=en-CA&Referrer=direct%2fnone>

Stewardship

Our Financial Stewardship Campaign will begin on October 8. We are hoping that all parishioners will consider their response to God's gifts to their lives by giving of their treasure, time and talents. There will be four Wine and Cheese evenings as part of this campaign. We hope everyone will fill in a pledge card as we strengthen the financial viability of our parish and our response to God's world.

Everything we have is God's gift to us. What we do with it, how we use it, and how we share it with others, is our thankful response. These, then, are our gifts to God. (Anita Wheatcroft)

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!

Support the Neighbourhood Ministry!

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to SJS to help meet our \$10 000 commitment to fund the activities of the Neighbourhood Ministry. Special offering envelopes are available in the pew boxes and cheques can be made out to St. John's Shaughnessy, with 'Neighbourhood Ministry' in the subject line.

There are many ways to support and participate in this outreach ministry and one of the most important is prayer. Please add the Neighbourhood Ministry to your personal prayers using the following prayer or one of your own making:

Holy One, we thank you for the opportunity to serve you by serving the needy in the world. We ask for your blessing on the

Westside Neighbourhood Ministry, its volunteers and supporters, and the needy whom we serve. And may the Lord of peace enable us to do God's will in all kinds of goodness, working in us what is pleasing to God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Join us Wednesdays at 2:00 for Scrabble

Scrabble started over the summer, 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.



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. Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue Association has been invited again, and will receive our generous donations. www.vokra.ca Loved at Last Dog Rescue will also be joining us. Please invite your friends and neighbours. *Photo by Michael Dirk.*



SJS ACW Group Meeting September 27

SJS's ACW Fellowship group is resuming monthly meetings September 27, 2017, 11AM, Denny's Restaurant 1296 W. Broadway. All women are welcome. The members are part of the many ACW groups in the Diocese of New Westminster. The group liaises with the ACW diocesan board which is the only board in Canada that is a society and therefore governed by the Societies' Act of B.C. The ACW prayer states "Called to be your church, may our study, learning, worship and service be always to your glory and the building of your kingdom in our communities and throughout the world". ACW Place, in Burnaby is the board's meeting place and the warehouse where items are received which are sent in bales to the north as well as to local groups including baby layettes, socks to the Mission to Seafarers, refugees, etc.

Contact person: Alberta Rudolf: alberta.rudolf@gmail.com

Thanksgiving Sunday October 8

October 8 is Thanksgiving Sunday. We will gladly receive donations of food items to help decorate the church. This is always a very beautiful service at a beautiful time of year! Please join us and invite your friends. Contact the office if you would like to volunteer to decorate the church on Saturday, Oct 7th.

On October 9th from 10am-noon, St Augustine's and St. Faith's will be hosting *Sharing the Harvest* offering bread, fresh produce and non-perishable food items for people in the community. Coffee, tea and a hot meal will be provided. All food items collected on Thanksgiving Sunday will be donated to this event. If you would like to volunteer at *Sharing the Harvest* (at St Augustine's, 8680 Hudson Street at West 71st), please contact The Rev'd Christine Wilson at 604-266-8011 ext. 1.

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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 24th at 3pm

The music will be wonderful as we join in the tradition of Evensong, and a reception will follow. Please join us and invite anyone else you know with ashes of loved ones in the Garden.



Dear Friends,

We are holding a very special service of Choral Evensong as we remember and honour all those whose ashes now rest in our Memorial Garden. We will offer prayer and thanksgiving to God for their lives and pray God's continued blessing on them and us. Our Memorial Garden is lovingly and carefully maintained by a team of dedicated volunteers, but we will need some help. Some trees and shrubs on the south and east borders are very overgrown. In the near future we will make some landscaping changes to enhance the beauty of the Memorial Garden. There will be new trees, shrubs, benches and possibly statuary. If you would like to make a donation towards this important and beautifying project it would be most welcome. Thank you.

Blessings from St John's Shaughnessy



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

 **St John's**
SHAUGHNESSY

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

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Save the Date! Organ Concert at SJS! Saturday Oct 28, 3pm

On the 49th anniversary of our memorial organ's dedication, a celebratory concert to launch the revitalization campaign project will be held to celebrate all its service to SJS, and the Vancouver music scene. Featuring organists John Mitchell (who was youth organ scholar when the organ was installed) and our own Michael Dirk, with SJS choir, and brass, plus silent movie feature 1917 Charlie Chaplin's "The Cure." Admission by donation, reception in the Trendell Lounge to follow.



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

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

Thank you for donating to WISH! (DTES women's shelter)

Please keep the used clothing for these young women coming in! Warmer clothes (especially used socks, fleece & waterproof items), boots and bedding are needed now that the weather is getting chilly, especially for the women who sleep outside. You'll feel great cleaning out those old clothes you haven't worn for years, and someone in need will be warm and dry. And don't throw out those old runners. Put them through the washer then bring them to church! Thanks everyone!

Janet

St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

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

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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
Pastoral Care Team Coordinator	Helen Kline
Rector's Warden	Dr Robyn Woodward
People's Warden	Maggie Sanders
Treasurer	Donald Wood
Vestry Clerk	The Reverend Karin Fulcher
Music Director	Michael Dirk organist@sjs.net
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. Cover: artist unknown

