



# NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing Oct 1, 2017

## Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



## From the Rector

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus...*

(from Philippians 2: 1-13)

The short quotation from Paul's letter to the Philippians, found above, is really quite stirring and incredibly beautiful. It seems to go against so much that our world and society teaches and instead urges us towards humility and the mind of Christ.

St. Augustine is credited with saying at some point: "Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility."

Humility and being humble seems to fly in the face of all that our society urges us to crave. If you pay attention only to a certain angle of our world, we are encouraged to be loud, extraverted, confident, selfish, looking out only for ourselves. In some parts of society it is very important what car we drive, where our home is located and how expensive our shoes might be. In certain parts of our country it seems to matter very much whether we are strong and in control and able to direct others. There may be some value in all of these attributes but our Christian faith is leading down a different path. The pilgrimage of following Jesus Christ brings us to a place not of lording over others but recognizing the presence of Christ within them. We are called to constantly bring to mind the phrase we heard in our gospel last week: "The first will be last and the last first."

St. Paul was writing a love letter to this church in Philippi. A love letter encouraging them to deepen their faith and their love of Jesus Christ. This, according to this letter to the Philippians, did not mean simply affirming faith in Jesus Christ but rather meant growing towards our imitation of him. It meant not only loving God and loving our neighbours but also not looking at our own interests but the interests of others. These are beautiful and challenging words calling us toward a depth of compassion not always seen and known in our world.

Thomas Merton once said: "Humility, that low, sweet root, from which all heavenly virtues shoot." May that be true for you. May humility and the recognition of Christ's calling within that, grow within you.

*Teach me the humility, O God, to see other people anew. May I grow in gratitude for your love and grace and may that be seen in how I treat those around me, that I may look out for the interests others. Help me to build a foundation in my life not based on wealth or power but meekness and compassion. For I aim to be transformed by you and for you. In the name of the humble and gracious One, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## Father John's New Role

Our Rector, Father John, has been asked to offer help and support at St. Mary's, Kerrisdale as they aim for some stability and cohesion in a time of transition. St. Mary's is currently in the canonical process of searching for a new Rector. They had an Interim Priest-in-Charge but unfortunately that person had some health concerns and had to step down.

Father John has been named the Priest-in-Charge until the new Rector arrives at St. Mary's (the timeline for that is unclear at this point) but this does mean a lot of change for St. John's Shaughnessy. Father John is not their new Rector, he is not even their new Interim Priest. He is working much more as a consultant and support with a few committees of the parish and with some key people in the parish. This will, of course, take some of his time but the hope is that this will be fairly minimal. He will not be involved in the day-to-day running of the parish but much more ensuring that the Canonical Process is running well and smoothly.

Please keep all involved at St. Mary's, Kerrisdale in your thoughts and prayers in this time of transition.

## Pastoral Care Team meeting this Sunday Oct 1

All members of the SJS Pastoral Care Team please meet in the Trendell Lounge after coffee hour.

## 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](http://www.vokra.ca) Loved at Last Dog Rescue will also be joining us.

## Thanksgiving Decorations

We need lots of Thanksgiving Decorations! We need fresh fruit and vegetables as well as canned goods (to be donated to St Augustine's *Sharing the Harvest* community lunch) to decorate our church for Harvest Thanksgiving. We also need flowers and small plants. Please help by bringing in several items from your garden, the grocery store or the produce store. Much thanks! Contact the office or talk to Maggie Sanders if you would like to help decorate the church at 10am Saturday, Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. Non-perishables may be dropped off anytime.

## Neighbourhood Ministry hosts Thanksgiving lunch at Dunbar Apartments: please join us Monday October 9

Neighbourhood Ministry volunteers will host their traditional Thanksgiving lunch at Dunbar Apartments. This annual event is a favourite for residents, staff at Dunbar and our volunteers. You are warmly welcome to join us, volunteer to help, or drop a food offering by.

**Date:** Monday, October 9

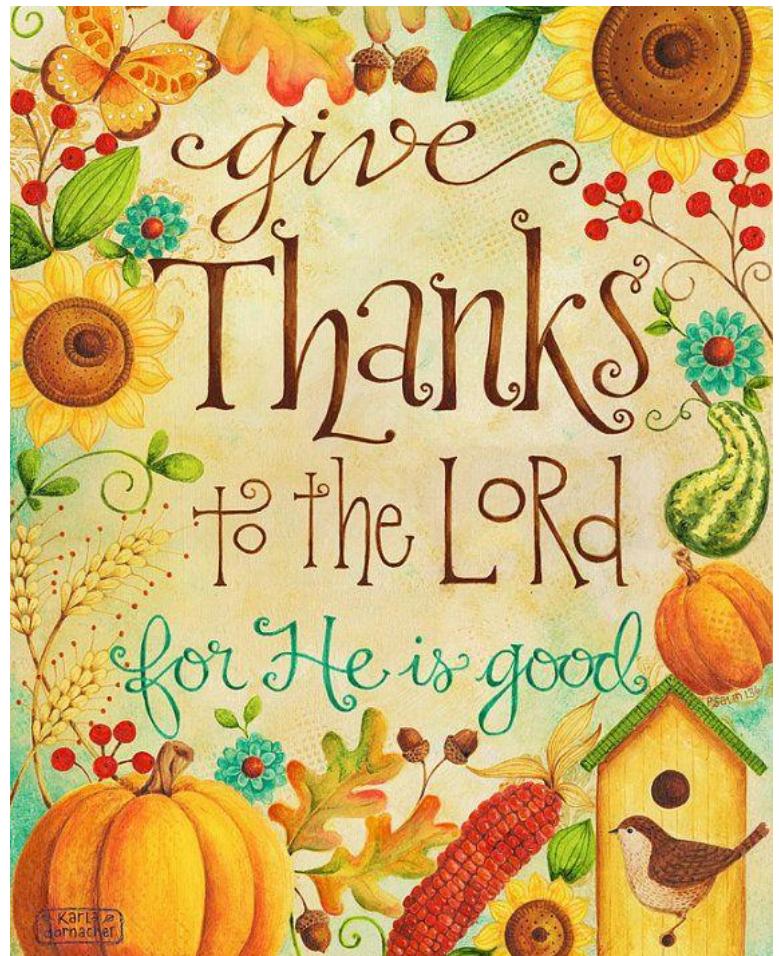
**Place:** 3595 W. 17th Ave

**Time:** Lunch served at 1pm.  
Volunteers, please arrive after 12:00 to help set up. If you are bringing a dish but not staying, please try to have it to Dunbar by 12:30pm, warmed if needed.

**Food Ideas:** Turkey, Ham, scalloped or mashed potatoes, vegetable dishes, green salad, desserts.

Please call or email Vicki Potter if you can help, or if you plan to contribute food. Thanks so much!

Vicki: 604-730-7846,  
[vbpotter@hotmail.com](mailto:vbpotter@hotmail.com)



## **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."

## **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)*

## **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.



## Story from the Neighbourhood Ministry

We headed to Jericho so we would not miss the gang. T, B and J (who is deaf and mute) were all happy with the sandwiches, bananas, hard boiled eggs and packets. Across the street were J and C and they also were happy to take what we had.

T is still not drinking and has bought himself a PS 4 and so is happily playing video games. B was thrilled as he is feeling so much better and says he is healthier. J is so excited with the news that after tests she is cancer free. K was introduced to them all and joined it chatting with them.

At MacDonald's at Balsam and 4<sup>th</sup>, Ken and I met M who was eating a piece of lemon meringue which someone had given him. He has come recently from Ontario and had his back pack with his ID stolen. I told him about the Kits Shower Programme and that there were people there who could help him with the right people to contact. He was very appreciative, and took all the food and packet that we offered him.

Pauline and I went back to check on R and to make sure his coats were still there, which they were. This time we decided to wake him and he woke easily and smiled as soon as he saw Pauline. We had a really nice chat with him and when we left he said to us, "Thank you very much, God Bless you and you have made my day!" He will be warm tonight.

A big thank you to Ken who was able to join us. He said that he really learned a lot and thoroughly enjoyed the new experience. It was a joy to have him with us. Also a big thank you to Pauline who was able to come out so that I did not have to go on my own. It is so much nicer to have someone to share the this wonderful experience with, and it is nice to have a man with us as most of the homeless that we have are male. It was a lovely morning and we all felt that we had had good conversations and we were able to impart lots of information.

*Ellie Pilling*



## Special Vestry Meeting November 19

On November 19 after the 10:00 Mass we will have a special vestry meeting to discuss a new set Parish By-Laws. Our intention, of course, is to approve the new set that has been created but that will be up to a vote of our Vestry.

The Vestry is for all voting members of the parish (those who have attended for at least three months, are 15 year or older, are regular worshippers and financial contributors to the parish) and all members are encouraged to attend.

A copy of the potential new set of by-laws will be circulated soon.

## 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!*

- **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!

## **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.



## **Do you have a used iPhone 6, 6s, or 7 that you want to sell?**

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



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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





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

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

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Rector	The Venerable John Stephens <a href="mailto:john.stephens@sjc.net">john.stephens@sjc.net</a>
Curate	The Reverend Liz Hamel <a href="mailto:liz.hamel@sjc.net">liz.hamel@sjc.net</a>
Deacon	The Reverend Dr. Pitman Potter <a href="mailto:pbpotter@live.ca">pbpotter@live.ca</a>
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 <a href="mailto:organist@sjc.net">organist@sjc.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. Cover: *Moses Striking the Rock and Bringing Forth the Water*

by Marc Chagall 1887-1985

