



NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing Oct 8, 2017

Harvest Thanksgiving



From the Rector

Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift!

(from 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15)

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family! This weekend all across Canada people will be gathering in a variety of ways to celebrate Thanksgiving and all the beauty of this world and the gift of the harvest. It is a beautiful and faith-filled tradition.

As our world seems to be feeling darker with another mass shooting in the United States, the threat of war, the refugee crisis, poverty, homelessness, starvation, disease and many other concerns, it feels good to gather to simply offer our thanks to God for this beautiful world and the gift of life. As our lives get busier and busier, as the commitments and connections get overwhelming, as the tempo seems to constantly pick up, we need opportunities to stop and reflect upon the gracious gifts of God in our lives.

I hope that you do get a chance to be with family and friends and acknowledge the many things for which you are most grateful. Push aside all the worries and the appointment calendar and offer your thanks to the One who called you into being and who walks alongside with you.

Our garden this year produced a bumper crop of many different fruits and vegetables. The warm weather and special care and attention produced a wonderful harvest that has been found on our kitchen table for some time now. While many of us simply take for granted the beautiful process of seed to fruit, when we grow plants ourselves there is a wonderful self-satisfaction and God-satisfaction of how stirring it can be to harvest those vegetables and fruits that we have carefully tended since the Spring. It is the perfect sign of the entire circle of life: that all that we have and all that we are has been offered to us to be stewards and carers and protectors. If we understand this role we see that our role is not to dominate and destroy this world but be more gentle and compassionate within it. When we grow our own food perhaps this understanding seems a little more clear and a little more obvious.

I pray that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving! Celebrate the beauty of this world and that we need to care for it and cherish it a little more. Celebrate the gift of life and all that that entails. Celebrate all that you have

been given by God to care for and love and protect. Celebrate family and friends and the presence of love in your life that leads you to a deeper connection to the One who first breathed life into your lungs, your heart, your soul.

Celebrate every blessing!

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land, the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons; as we thank you for the harvest, may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(from the Church of England)

Fr Matthew Johnson guest preacher Oct 15th

Father Matthew Johnson is the street outreach priest serving street-involved adults in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. This is a joint project with the Diocese of New Westminster, its parishes, and St James Anglican Church. We are delighted that Father Matthew will be with us once again as guest preacher next Sunday. He is an inspiration and one who has encouraged so many others in their Christian pilgrimage. Please plan to come and hear his sermon!

Baby Shower for Julia Dirk!

During coffee hour on Sunday, October 22nd, everyone is invited to a baby shower for Julia. We hope you can join us!



St. John's Shaughnessy... we're worth it!

The theme for our Fall Financial Stewardship Campaign is meant to inspire us all to think about all the wonderful ministry and programs taking place at St. John's and to encourage all of us to make a financial pledge of support or to increase what we gave last year. **St. John's Shaguhnessy... we're worth it** is a reminder that God has richly blessed us in so many ways and we are now inviting you to participate in continuing to build up this growing and vibrant parish.

Please pick up your Stewardship Package today and take time to carefully consider how you will respond with your pledge card.

"If I acknowledge God as the creator, it occurs to me that all that I am and have is a gift." -- Martin E. Marty

Drop Your Socks Off

This is an amazing new program this year that links us with local churches and schools as we join together to collect socks for the homeless. We are linking with Shaughnessy Heights United, Redeemer Lutheran and at least two of the local schools as we also invite people of our neighbourhood to purchase socks to give to our homeless friends.



Socks can be dropped off at any of the three churches on a Sunday morning. But also at Shaughnessy Heights United Church Fair on October 21, at Redeemer Lutheran on Fridays October 20 and 27 and here at St. John's Shaughnessy at a special three-church lunch on October 29.

Please participate by:

- purchasing new socks and dropping them in the bin in the narthex
- delivering flyers to the homes in our neighbourhood encouraging people to purchase socks and drop them at the churches
- coming to the potluck lunch after Mass on October 29 (guest speaker Judy Graves) and bring something to share!

Knitting Club Returns Oct 16th at 9:30am

The knitters are back every Monday morning starting Oct 16th. New members always welcome. We have extra wool and extra needles. Beginners welcome. Come check it out!

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 ensemble, plus silent movie feature 1917 Charlie Chaplin's "The Cure." Admission by donation, reception in the Trendell Lounge to follow.

First half: John Mitchell

- Choral Prelude 'Ein Feste Burg' BWV 720 JS Bach as our fellow Lutherans be celebrating 500 years since the reformation
- Howell's Psalm prelude John played as a youth organ scholar for Fred the first Sunday the Hallman was heard June 1968
- SJS choir to sing Rupert Lang's Kontakion to represent its choral function, and Memorial dedication
- Brass/perc/organ Widor's op84 Salvum fac populum Tuum to represent its function with other instruments especially the VSO Brass concerts Ed Norman founded
- Boellman Toccata – One of Michael's organ students, to represent this organ inspiring and fostering the next generation of organists

*intermission

Second half: Michael Dirk

- few minutes to demonstrate the frustrations/mechanical deficiencies of the instrument
- 1917 Chaplin Film 'The Cure' - to illustrate this organ needs a cure to last another 100 years!
- Vierne Carillon d Westminster - to signify the passing of time and its future etc

Special Vestry Meeting November 19

On November 19 after the 10:00 AM Mass, we will have a special vestry meeting at which members will be asked to approve a new set of Parish by-laws. These by-laws were originally presented to members for review and discussion at the last annual vestry meeting. They have been revised to incorporate comments received from members and Church Committee. This revised version will be presented for approval at the November vestry meeting. A copy of the revised by-laws will be available for pick-up soon.

The vestry consists of all baptized persons who are 16 years or older who are regular worshippers within the Parish and whose names have been on the membership role of the Parish for at least 3 months. To be entitled to vote at the special vestry meeting, a member must have, within the 12 months preceding the date of the meeting, provided an identifiable commitment of time, talents or financial resources to the Parish or have been in receipt of the ministrations of the Parish because of illness or other incapacity. All members are encouraged to attend.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Fr John Stephens

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, 6+ 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**



ORGAN REVITALIZATION CAMPAIGN CONCERT

OCTOBER 28, 3PM

**ST JOHN'S SHAUGHNESSY
ANGLICAN CHURCH**

1490 NANTON AVENUE (@ GRANVILLE STREET)

Organists **Michael Dirk** and **John Mitchell** featured with SJS Choir and Brass Ensemble, plus Charlie Chaplin's 1917 film *The Cure* with theatre style improvised organ accompaniment.

**ADMISSION BY DONATION,
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW**

Nearing 50 years old, the **Hallman organ** has served as one of Vancouver's largest, most exciting and active instruments. Consequently the high demand and use has resulted in an alarming rate of mechanical decline in recent years, and needs our help to transform it to its full potential, and beyond!

St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

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

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

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

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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 photo: *Stanley Park Seawall* by Onur Kurtic (Flickr)

