



# NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing Dec 10, 2017  
**Second Sunday of Advent**



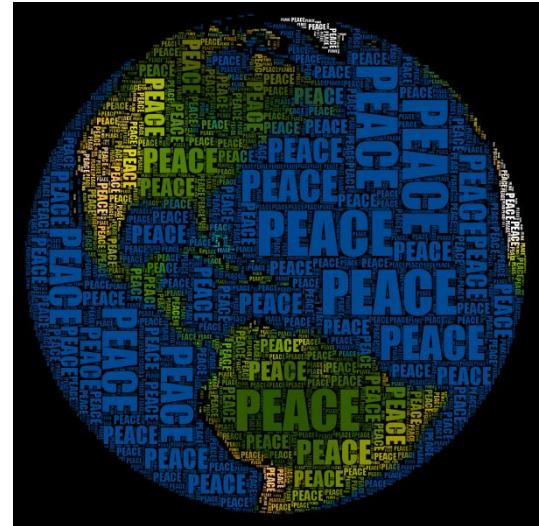
## From the Rector

This Sunday we will light the second candle on our Advent Wreath and consider the theme of Peace. It seems like a topic that we should be spending more time considering.

When we consider the word peace, world peace, the absence of war in the world is one of the first things that might come to mind. In the world today it is estimated that there only ten countries that are not involved with, involved in, or connected with war at the moment. It is one of the worst times in history for the presence of peace. Although we live in the peaceful country of Canada, we are still involved in war in many ways. Please pray for peace in the world and in your soul, please act to bring peace in our world and in your soul.

In Advent, as we light the second Advent Candle, the word Peace is also a spiritual word. It is speaking about our relationship to God and the peace of our soul. When Jesus returned to his followers after the resurrection, we are told that he came and stood among them and said: "Peace be with you." He was speaking to their fear but also to their soul. His presence in the world was to bring peace to people's hearts, souls, minds and bodies. His resurrection was a sign of God's eternal and everlasting love for all people and God's prayer that we would have peace in our soul. That prayer has not changed in 2,000 years. Please pray for peace in the world and in your soul, please act to bring peace in our world and in your soul.

Spend some time thinking about Peace over the next few days. Light a candle in your Advent wreath at home and consider the word peace. Let it weave its way into your heart and mind. Let it push you to consider how you need peace in your life at the moment. Consider the peace you seek for yourself, your neighbourhood, your family, your country, your soul and your spirit. Say the words several times as you watch the candle flame stir with the air movements in the room. As it dances so may your heart be



stirred. Please pray for peace in the world and in your soul, please act to bring peace in our world and in your soul.

In this time of Advent, a time of preparation for the coming of the Messiah, a time of growing in our understanding of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, make room for the voice of John the Baptizer urging you to prepare yourself. Heed his words and his actions as you look to the coming of the Christ-child once more into our dark and dangerous world to bring us light and hope.

*O God for whom we wait, bless to us this time of Advent as we make room for the birth of your Son. Awaken our hearts and souls to your call to deepen our love and faith in You. Invigorate our gratitude to you for blessing us with guidance, peace and new vision. Change us and mold us for a new life of service to You and this world. In the name of the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

## Daily Readings for Advent

Here is a list of daily readings to prepare for Christmas and our celebrations of the birth and the coming of Christ, pushing aside all those things that get attached to Christmas in our society of North America.

*Friday, Dec 8, 2017: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 11:19-26*

*Saturday, Dec 9, 2017: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Ezekiel 36:24-28; Mark 11:27-33*

*Sunday, Dec 10, 2017: Second Sunday of Advent*

*Monday, Dec 11, 2017: Psalm 27; Isaiah 26:7-15; Acts 2:37-42*

*Tuesday, Dec 12, 2017: Psalm 27; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 11:1-18*

*Wednesday, Dec 13, 2017: Psalm 27; Malachi 2:10-3:1; Luke 1:5-17*

*Thursday, Dec 14, 2017: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 2:1-5; Philippians 3:7-11*

*Friday, Dec 15, 2017: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:2-6; Philippians 3:12-16*

*Saturday, Dec 16, 2017: Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:13-19; Matthew 21:28-32*

*Sunday, Dec 17, 2017: Third Sunday of Advent*

*Monday, Dec 18, 2017: Psalm 125; 1 Kings 18:1-18; Ephesians 6:10-17*

*Tuesday, Dec 19, 2017: Psalm 125; 2 Kings 2:9-22; Acts 3:17-4:4*

*Wednesday, Dec 20, 2017: Psalm 125; Malachi 3:16-4:6; Mark 9:9-13*

*Thursday, Dec 21, 2017: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:1-11; Hebrews 1:1-4*

*Friday, Dec 22, 2017: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:12-19; Hebrews 1:5-14*

*Saturday, Dec 23, 2017: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Judges 13:2-24; John 7:40-52*

## **Confirmation**

If you or someone that you know is interested in being Confirmed in the Anglican Church of Canada, please speak to Father John or Mother Liz.

Confirmation is about confirming the promises that were made on your behalf when you were baptized as a child. There will be a preparation period of about six weeks of classes to explore the Bible, Theology, Liturgy, Church Governance, Mature Faith and a number of other things. If you are already Confirmed but are interested in Reaffirming your faith, please also contact the Clergy. Please consider it!

## **Wednesday Morning Bible Study Starts Up Again!**

Our Wednesday Morning Bible Study took a break over Advent and Christmas. It will resume on January 17 and run until February 7 (Lent begins on February 14 and there will be a Lenten Series at that point) We gather at 10:10am on Wednesday mornings to discuss the Bible readings for the coming Sunday. Please join us!

## **Advent Creed   By Allan Boesak**

It is not true that creation and the human family  
are doomed to destruction and loss—

This is true: For God so loved the world  
that He gave his only begotten Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish  
but have everlasting life;

It is not true that we must accept  
inhumanity and discrimination,  
hunger and poverty, death and destruction—  
This is true:

I have come that they may have life,  
and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred  
should have the last word,  
and that war and destruction rule forever—  
This is true: Unto us a child is born,  
unto us a Son is given,  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
his name shall be called  
wonderful councilor, mighty God,  
the Everlasting, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply  
victims of the powers of evil  
who seek to rule the world—  
This is true: To me is given authority  
in heaven and on earth,  
and lo I am with you,  
even until the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait  
for those who are specially gifted,  
who are the prophets of the Church  
before we can be peacemakers—  
This is true: I will pour out my spirit on all flesh  
and your sons and daughters shall prophesy,  
your young men shall see visions  
and your old men shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes  
for liberation of humankind,  
of justice,  
of human dignity  
of peace  
are not meant for this earth  
and for this history—  
This is true:  
The hour comes, and it is now,

that the true worshipers shall worship God  
in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope,  
even hope against hope.

Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.

Let us affirm with humility, with joy,  
with faith, with courage:

Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

*From Walking on Thorns,  
by Allan Boesak, Eerdmans, 2004.*

## SJS Christmas Artisan Fair and Silent Auction this Sunday 11am

Exquisite knitwear, stunning gift baskets (containing wine, chocolates, books and bath products), crafts, framed photos, great gifts, photo cards, ceramics and much more. Parishioners pay a flat fee for the table rental, and also donate an item for the silent auction. 100% of the proceeds from table rental and silent auction will be donated to the Neighbourhood Ministry. Artists keep their proceeds, or donate to a charity of their choice.



## Christmas Flower Dedications

Every Christmas St John's is adorned with beautiful flowers, especially poinsettias, and fine music. We are collecting flower dedications - a wonderful way to celebrate the birth of Jesus and remember loved ones. For every \$15 we can display one medium sized poinsettia, and for \$25 a larger one (tax deductible). Please send in your special flower dedications, which can be memorials or thanksgivings, to the office by **Wednesday, December 13**, to allow us time to pre-order them. Like all flower dedications, the Christmas flower dedications will be printed in the Christmas leaflet.



## Decorating volunteers needed Dec 17<sup>th</sup> AND Dec 24<sup>th</sup>

We need more volunteers to help us decorate the church right after coffee hour on December 17<sup>th</sup> AND 24<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the office to sign up. Sandwiches will be available for the work party on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

## ACW Fellowship Group at SJS

The St. John Shaughnessy Anglican Church Women's Fellowship meetings will resume in January. All women are invited to the last Wednesday of the month meetings. The National ACW prayer is as follows:

"Almighty God, we pray for your blessing and grace on our work and witness as Anglican Church Women in Canada. We give you thanks and praise for giving us wisdom, knowledge and understanding so that we may serve you in spirit and in truth. 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. In our ministry may we always respond to the needs of others with your love. We pray in the name of the One who redeemed and loves us, your Son, Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

May this Christmas Season be filled with Joy and Peace.

*Alberta Rudolf, Fellowship Group Chair*

## **Neighbourhood Ministry seeks winter clothing**

Our Street Outreach volunteers are seeking the following to distribute to our homeless neighbours - Rain Gear - pants, coats, boots, heavy gloves, toques, tarps. Please leave in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

## **Neighbourhood Ministry Christmas Events - Please join us!**

Volunteers are warmly welcome to join us **on Saturday December 16th** for our 10th Annual Christmas Street Outreach to our homeless neighbours, followed by a lunch and carolling at 17th and Dunbar. These are wonderful events that bring together our four churches and friends from the community. Here are the details:

**Street Outreach:** Volunteers meet up at St. Anselm's church at 9:00 a.m. We will prepare gift and lunch bags, enjoy coffee and muffins, and divide up into teams. Even if you are unable to go out on the street, please do join us for this time of fellowship.

Please let Vicki know if you can volunteer to drive, or to bring a contribution for the lunch bags (sandwiches, hard-boiled eggs, mandarins).  
vbpotter@hotmail.com      604-730-7846

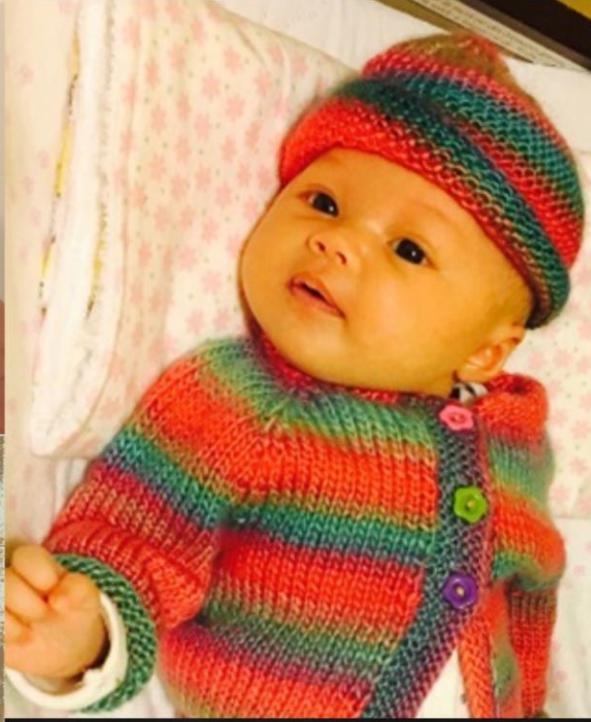
### **Dunbar Pre-Christmas Luncheon & Carolling at Dunbar December 16**

Saturday December 16<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-2:30pm, Dunbar Apartments (3595 West 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue)

Take a pause from the hustle and bustle of Christmas activities and join us at Dunbar Apartments for lunch and carolling with our friends. This is a wonderful event that the residents of Dunbar have grown to anticipate with excitement.

Set up time begins at 11am. If you can provide refreshments for the event, please choose from the following list: Eggnog; Eggs; Milk; Bacon; Onions; Potatoes; Elbow Macaroni; Ham; Cranberry sauce; Cheese; Bananas; Pancake Mix; Pancake Syrup; Salad; Vegetable Platter; Casseroles; Fruit/Mandarin Oranges; Juices; Desserts/Christmas Cookies.

Please let me know if you can assist with setup or cleanup, provide some treats or are able to join in singing Christmas carols. Please contact Joan Stewart: [jstewart@westernriver.com](mailto:jstewart@westernriver.com)



# Christmas Artisan Fair

*and silent auction*

**11am - 1pm Sunday Dec 10th**

Exquisite knitwear, framed photos, ceramics, greeting cards, and more.  
Artists, please contact the office to rent your table!



*The Nativity* by Noel Coypel

# Christmas Carol Service

With the choirs from York House School and  
St John's Shaughnessy

Tuesday, 12 December 7pm



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

A beautiful candlelit service  
followed by a reception in  
the Trendell Lounge



*Experience the true meaning of Christmas!*

# Live Nativity Play

Saturday Dec 16th 1pm - 3pm, rain or shine

Presented by Salal & Cedar [www.salalandcedar.com](http://www.salalandcedar.com)



A beautiful outdoor presentation of the Christmas Story through carols and drama. Meet a gentle donkey and other animals while enjoying music from the St John's Choir. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome. Suitable for all ages.

Performance is at 2pm. To perform or volunteer with the play, please email [salalandcedar@vancouver.anglican.ca](mailto:salalandcedar@vancouver.anglican.ca)



I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord.  
*Luke 2.10-11*

# Christmas Services

Dec 24th

5:00pm Children's Service with Communion

10:00pm Christmas Eve Mass

Dec 25th

10:00am Sung Eucharist

## **Education for Ministry (EfM) Information Session**

Education for Ministry is a 4 year education program for the theological education of lay Christians. Over the 4 year course of the program you cover: Hebrew scriptures, Christian testament, Church history, and Modern theological developments.

EfM is an “applied” course – we examine the impact of our theological understanding as it applies to our lives, and in our community. The commitment is one year at a time, for 3 hours of seminar and about 3 hours of preparation each week. The cost is \$350 (this is subsidized by the diocese). A new year is starting in January, meeting Wednesday evenings at Christ Church cathedral.

Ken Pepin will set up a table at coffee time on Sunday, Dec 10<sup>th</sup>, with the course materials and reference books, and to answer any questions that you may have. For more information visit: <http://www.efmcanada.ca/>

### **The Longest Night: A Blue Christmas Service Dec 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm**



St. Faith's Anglican Church 7284 Cypress St.  
(at W 57th Ave.)

*Within our darkest night,  
you kindle the fire that never dies away*

This special service of hope is for those who find it difficult to be merry in the season.

It will provide an opportunity to acknowledge pain and sadness and express the grief, fears and loneliness that are a normal part of living. In worship we will ask for God's healing to face a future sustained by hope and grace.

After the service there will be a quiet space to light a candle, a chapel with a minister offering prayers for healing and “comfort items” for you to take away.



## **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.sjc.net](http://www.sjc.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
Property Trustee	Peter Kidd
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

Cover: John Stuart's drawing coloured by SJS parishioner Erin Redfern

