



NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing February 18, 2018



First Sunday in Lent

From the Rector

This coming Sunday, the first in the Season of Lent, we will hear the gospel story of Jesus being driven out into the wilderness shortly after his Baptism. It is the story on which the Church has built the season of Lent, as we will take forty days to consider our own times of temptation and our own places of wilderness.



Temptation is a funny word that we use at this time of year, especially in Christian circles. The word temptation comes from the Latin word *temptare* meaning 'to handle, to test, to try.' But the word temptation seems mostly linked to religious connotations and those things that might be placed in our path to steer us off our pilgrimage. But it is more than that, for it starts to push us toward our morals, ethics and values and testing our resolve around them. How do we hold firm to what we believe is most sacred or vital to our lives?

For we cannot get through a day without being bombarded with temptations about how we should be better or stronger or more capable. But how do we push those doubts aside and simply pause to hear God's invitation to us? I think the word temptation, if we meditate upon it for a little while, starts to bring us to the question of "What is most important?" or "What is God asking of me?" or "What am I called to do and be?" These are the questions that I think that Jesus faced in the wilderness many years ago but they are questions we face almost every day.

This Lent take some time to meet Jesus in the wilderness and ponder that word temptation for a little while. Look beyond the definition of it relating to a test or being tried and instead consider how we are called to respond to God's love in this world. Where are we being invited to respond to the gifts that God has given us and share our response to them in our living, our prayers, our actions and our priorities?

Make this a holy Lent by considering where your pilgrimage is leading you.

O God of wilderness and wildness, bless the journey to which you have called me. Sustain me on Your way. Bless my path. Give me strength. Enliven my faith. So that this season of Lent is not merely giving up something insignificant but challenging my life to be significant. In the name of Jesus, my guide through this wilderness I pray. Amen.

Father John will be away this Sunday at St. Mary's, Kerrisdale as it is their Annual Vestry Meeting following their 10:00am Mass.

A day of prayer and fasting for peace – Friday February 23

With the encouragement of leaders throughout the Anglican Communion, at the invitation of Pope Francis to all people of good will, we are invited to observe a day of prayer and fasting for peace, in particular for the peoples of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of South Sudan.

“Our heavenly Father always listens to His children who cry to Him in pain and in anguish; ‘He heals the broken hearted and binds their wounds’ (Psalm 147, 3). I address a heartfelt appeal that we too hear this cry and, each person in his or her own conscience, before God, let us ask ourselves, ‘what can I do for peace?’.

“Certainly we can pray; but not only this: each person can say a concrete ‘no’ to violence, as far as it depends on him or her.” *Pope Francis*

We will open St John's church from 9 am to 5 pm. As you are able, whether in the church or elsewhere, for the day or for an hour, please join with brothers and sisters in all parts of the world, to pray for peace, for the binding up of wounds and restoration of wholeness, and to reflect on your own calling to be a messenger of peace.

If you are able to “keep watch” in the church for an hour or for the day, there is a rota in the Narthex, or let Paul Bunnell know (604-762-6200 or pbunnell@telus.net).

We will conclude the day at 4:45 with a simple service of Evening Prayer.

Confirmation/Reaffirmation Class

We have four people who will make up our Confirmation/Reaffirmation Class: Pauline, Isabel, Maggie and Dawn. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Pancakes last Sunday – Thank you!

Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered time, griddles, batter, butter and syrup so that the Sunday school could share a pancake meal with the rest of the congregation during coffee hour. The children were excited to be "hosting" and to be servers. They found such joy in your hospitality!

Blessings, Kathryn Ransdell, Sunday school coordinator

Annual Vestry Meeting Feb 25

Our Annual Vestry Meeting will take place after the 10:00 Mass on Sunday February 25. All parishioners are encouraged to come! A parishioner of St. John's Shaughnessy is someone who has been on our parish roll for at least three months. **If you would like to bring food to share for the AVM lunch, and/or help with set up or clean up, please contact the office asap.**

Nominations for Church Committee 2018

If you would like to nominate a parishioner to be a member of Church Committee for 2018 (they will be elected at our Annual Vestry Meeting) then please speak to Louise Hadley. A nominating form is found in the Narthex, and the person you are nominating must be in agreement!

Neighbourhood Ministry: Team 2's report for Feb 10th

Edwin and I met Lynwen at St John's Shaughnessy and were laden down with packages, fruit, sandwiches, eggs and outerwear. Edwin did all the lifting to the car as I have a bad back these days. Thanks to Lynwen and all those at St. John's who prepared the food and assembled the packages.

We headed over to pick up Hyok and Paris. We drove over to No Frills and found D, M (S), T, D, B, W and R. M and W were new to me but I think Paris has met M before. They were looking forward to hearing about the new modular housing although M had his concerns that having so many fellows with addictions might cause problems. I told him that the Dunbar Housing and MPA housing at Fir and 7th were a big success and we had high hopes that this housing would also work well. Paris was heading

over to view the modular housing after the walk with Charlotte and Kathryn Potter and she was going to take pictures. The guys took everything, and we were generous as we had lots! D asked for underwear but unfortunately, except for socks, we don't usually carry those items. I suggested he ask at Showers next weekend. He had forgotten to request a pair when he was there that morning. I am not sure if it is something we want to consider including...

We went up to 4th Avenue and parked. We found P, our megaphone fellow, T outside Whole Foods and we left a package for M... we don't think he was under all the bedding and umbrellas but we know that is his place.

We headed down to 4th and Maple and found C and R sitting on a bench enjoying the sunshine. They were happy to take quite a bit although they are great about turning down things they really don't need... they only take what they can use.

We travelled to Granville and only found S and G but they happy to see us. S was quite persistent about getting some money... he particularly targeted Paris but we explained we don't carry cash - only enough for parking! He appears to be excited about the new housing.

We found S outside the London Drugs. As usual he was not very wordy, but happy to take the few items we selected for him.

After dropping Paris and Edwin off, Hyok and I went up to the United Church and dropped off a package and goodies for B... he was there but sleeping.

After finding J at Shoppers on Dunbar and giving him lots of items, we dropped off the last few of packages, few sandwiches and eggs at Dunbar House.

We enjoyed a wonderful outing and found all fellows in good spirits.

Jane

Name Tags

Would you like to have your very own SJS name tag? Please contact the office and one will be made up for you.

Holy Week



Sunday March 25 Palm Sunday

- 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:00am Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist

Monday/Tuesday March 26/27

- 7:00pm Said Holy Eucharist

Wednesday March 28

- 9:30am Said Holy Eucharist

Thursday March 29 Maundy Thursday

- 6:00pm Homemade soup and sandwiches - all welcome
7:00pm Last Supper Eucharist with foot washing. A meditative watch will be kept until 9:00pm.

Friday March 30 Good Friday

- 10:00am Families Stations of the Cross
12:00noon Solemn Liturgy of the Day with Sung Passion

Saturday March 31 Holy Saturday

- 8:00pm Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday April 1 Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Day

- 8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:00am Celebration Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt



Meeting Jesus
in the Gospel of John

Lenten Study

Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John

is a five-week journey into deeper intimacy with God through praying with the words of John the Evangelist.

Join the SJS clergy for this fascinating interactive Christian Formation Series! Classes will be located in the Trendell Lounge Wednesdays at 7pm.

Upcoming SJS Events

Feb 19	Knitting Group	10am (call office for details)
21	Scrabble Group	2pm (call office for details)
	Lenton Study	7pm

Upcoming Community Events

Feb 17	Bach Choir at the Orpheum: please email Stephen Pickett at family@microtopia.net for more info	8pm
18	Knitting Supply Sale Fundraiser at Van Dusen	10am-4pm
18	Vancouver Viols: Alio Modo at St James' viols.stjames.bc.ca	2pm

Volunteers Wanted for Greeting and Hospitality



There are many positions you may volunteer with, including **greeting** and **hospitality**. Please contact the office for more information.



Bishop Melissa at the SJS 9:15am Ash Wednesday Service

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
Property Trustee	Peter Kidd
Vestry Clerk	The Reverend Karin Fulcher
Music Director	Michael Dirk organist@sjs.net
Choir Director	Ann Chen
Children's Ministry	The Reverend Kathryn Ransdell
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 image by John Stuart www.stushieart.com
Additional illustrations by SJS parishioner Erin Redfern.

