



19 December 2021 newsletter



Fourth Sunday of Advent



Come worship with us
from your livingroom
or in-person!

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

5pm Children's Service with Communion

Drive-through Reserved Sacrament 6pm to 7pm

10pm Christmas Eve Mass

12+ proof of vaccination required for both Dec 24th services

Dec 25th

10am Christmas Day Service with Carols

Message from Mother Terry

Dear friends in Christ,

Joe and I are overjoyed to have learned of the approval of our work permits from Immigration Canada! We plan to hit the road early Tuesday morning, and we would greatly appreciate your prayers for safe travels-- as well as for patience-- as we make the long journey up the west coast with five young children and two cats!



Although I am disappointed that we will not make it to Vancouver in time to spend Christmas with you in person, I am exceedingly grateful to Mother Liz for her ministry with you and for her willingness to see us all through the holidays. My family will worship with you online, whether from a hotel somewhere in the Pacific Northwest, or from our new home in Richmond with our not-yet-fully-vaccinated young ones. Wherever we are, we will be with you in spirit.

My first services at St. John's will be Sunday, January 2, and I am truly looking forward to a new beginning together in the new year. In the meantime, may God bless you in this holy season, brighten your hearts with the light of Christ's love, and fill you with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Faithfully,

Mother Terry+

Helpers needed to Decorate the Church for Christmas Dec 19th Please bring greens and holly from your gardens!

Right after church on Sunday, December 19th, a team of SJS volunteers will be decorating the church for Christmas. Please bring evergreens and holly if you have them! Contact the office if you would like to join us.

Reflections by the Rev. Canon Herb O'Driscoll

OVERALL THEME OF THE READINGS

The strong and beautiful song of these scriptures is - Birth.

FIRST READING

To a people feeling the frustration of being literally walled in by enemies comes the news that one is coming who will be able to move them beyond any walls. Much of the life of the church may feel walled in these days in our western culture. Much of its energy may seem to be directed to mere survival. But wherever there is a sense that our Lord is stunningly alive there can be a new sense of freedom and a new daring to explore possibilities.

CANTICLE

A woman considers the child she is about to bring to birth. Her imagination soars until the whole world and the whole of history become the arena of her child's influence. Mary expresses her personal faith. "my soul proclaims..." When we appropriate the faith as "ours" - a personal faith - we are then released to become a living cell in the body of the Church and a living servant in the community.

THE SECOND READING

The writer stands in front of the area in the Temple where sacrifice is offered. He realizes that things in his ancient tradition will never be the same since Jesus offered himself and embraced all of humanity as victim on the cross. Notice the writer has our Lord say "See, O God, I have come to do your will".

We realize that that is what each one of us at some moment must say of our own relationship. with God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

In the ecstatic encounter of two women, the coming birth is celebrated. Mary felt she simply had to take this journey to share her great news! As she journeys she calls every one of us to travel with her as we learn to share in some way the faith that is in us.



In the Longest Night, Longing for the Light 7:30pm Dec 21

This gentle service is for any who find the holiday season challenging; for those who carry pain and loss juxtaposed with celebration; for those who are unsettled by bright lights, loud music, and over-activity; for those who are exhausted by the festive and often hectic atmosphere; for those who find that busyness has overshadowed the meaning of the season or overwhelmed any simple joy it might bring. This is time and space for quiet and rest; for acknowledging loss; for sitting with sorrow; for attending to silence; for naming our longings; and for hoping in the peace, love, and true joy of the season.

All are warmly welcome. More information via Eventbrite link. RSVP requested to assist with planning. *Masks and proof of vaccination are required.*

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/in-the-longest-night-longing-for-the-light-tickets-222614996447>

St. Hildegard's Sanctuary at St. Faith's Anglican Church, 7284 Cypress

Midweek Meditation 8pm Wednesdays

This is a beautiful service of Compline (or Night Prayer) and a reflection. A great way to end a day. You can watch it at any time, just follow the link from our website www.sjs.net May God be with you.

Podcasts

If you like to listen to podcasts, why not include a podcast of Mid-Week Meditation or the Sunday Sermon? They are now available as a podcast under the heading of **The Anglican Angle from Shaughnessy**. You can get the podcast from: *Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Overcast*.

Christmas Flower Dedications

Dec 19th deadline

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. Please send in your special flower dedications (the exact wording for your dedication) ASAP, which can be memorials or thanksgivings, to the office by December 19th. This will allow us time to add all the flower dedications to the Christmas leaflet. **Email is best**, but you can also call it in, or write it on your donation envelope.



Virtual Coffee Hour after the 10am Sunday Service

Join us for a virtual coffee hour using [Zoom](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88970734514?pwd=Z0hoS1g0SlU5a21XRjhYRHUyN1VtZz09). You can pop in any time between 11am and 12:30pm on Sundays.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88970734514?pwd=Z0hoS1g0SlU5a21XRjhYRHUyN1VtZz09>

Items needed for Mother Terry and family to borrow

Mother Terry and her family arrive soon, but their furniture will be weeks behind them. We are collecting items for them to borrow until their moving truck arrives: twin size bedding, pillows, towels, baby gates, Swiffer mop, floor lamps, games/puzzles, **Christmas wrapping paper, a Christmas tree, and toddler board books**. Please label all items you want returned, and contact the office for details.

SJS Prayer List: Please keep in touch if you add names

If you request that someone's name be added to the prayer list, please keep in touch with us monthly. At the end of each month, all names will be removed, so you will need to add the names again. We followed this protocol before the pandemic and are going back to that. Thank you.

Church Photographers Needed

Do you love photography? Do you have a camera that takes great photos in low light settings? Please contact the office if you would like to take photos during and/or after services at SJS.



SJS Hospitality is back!! Volunteers Wanted

We are looking for people to volunteer during coffee hour. Regan has provided guidelines to increase covid safety:

- Each week we require 2 **fully-vaccinated** volunteers following the service to restock items and **clean up** after coffee hour. These volunteers will not be required to do anything ahead of the service – only following the service during the coffee hour. Regan will set up before the service to make things much easier for hospitality volunteers.
- Since Covid, the selection of individually wrapped snack items has increased substantially. Parishioners are encouraged to purchase and donate individually wrapped items that could be made available at coffee hour. These could include single serve cookies, cheese, crackers, chocolates, and other sweets. Please submit your receipts to the office for tax purposes, or simply put them in your donation envelope during the service.

Fully-vaccinated (if they qualify, 12+) people are welcome to join us. Masks are required (unless actively eating or drinking) and please keep two metres apart. Please do not bring food from home at this time.

Please ask the coffee hour volunteers if they need help with clean up. We need two volunteers to help with clean-up every Sunday, and fifteen minutes of your time helps a lot.



NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY NEWS

CHRISTMAS 2021 LUNCHEON AT DUNBAR APARTMENTS

Saturday, December 18, 2021

12:30pm to 2pm

Dunbar Apartments, 3595 West 17th Avenue

We are pleased to announce this WANM event, the first one to be held at Dunbar Apartments since December 2019.

The residents are excited for the return of this fun and festive celebration, and so are we!

Onsite volunteer opportunities are available, including cooking & serving food.

Contact Joan Stewart at ministrymcu@gmail.com if you are interested in learning more or would like to donate a food item for the luncheon.

Online Worship

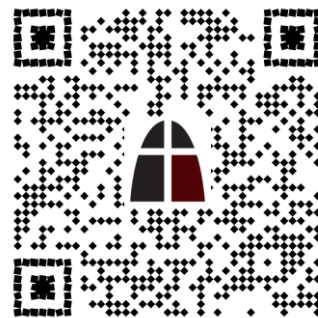
To access our worship online you can go to our website at www.sjs.net and click on the link there. Or you can access it through: a Facebook Live feed, a Youtube live feed and a Twitch live feed. To access one of the live feeds, select one of the following links:

- [St John's Shaughnessy on Youtube](#) or <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJzbg4009j4WMkaRBvTE-zQ>
- [St John's Shaughnessy on Twitch](#) or m.twitch.tv/sjsnanton
- facebook.com and search for "St John Shaughnessy"

Once the service ends, it will be available on each of the streaming platforms to view later using the same links.

Financial Support - Stewardship

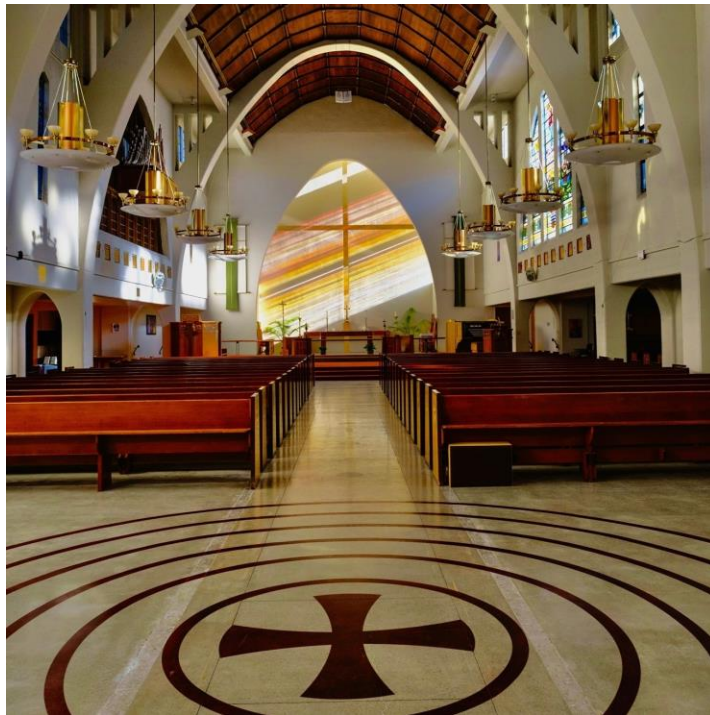
If you would like to make a financial contribution to help support the worship and ministry of St. John's Shaughnessy, please do! You can use this QR code (point your phone's camera at it) and it will take you to the donation page of our website. If you have recently made a contribution online or by cheque, thank you so very much! If you currently give by Pre-Authorized Donation, thank you! Our church has been affected by COVID-19 in many ways but financial giving is certainly one.



If you would like to give via monthly Pre-Authorized Donations (easy to change and easy to cancel), please contact Janet in the office (church@sjs.net or 604-731-4966). If you would like to give to the church via one-time (or several times) donations using a credit card, please use the DONATE button on our website (Canada Helps on top of page one, and Paypal on the bottom of page one). Cheques may be mailed or dropped through the church mail slot.



If you are already donating using the PAD program, or if you want to start, please contact us anytime to confirm your donations for 2022. Thank you for your generous support!



Advent Reflection: Fever Dreams

The penitential season of Advent invites Christians to prayer and reflection as we prepare ourselves for the incarnation of God in Christ. Saint John's Shaughnessy welcomes you to join in a series of [Zoom](#) reflection sessions offered at 7pm on Wednesdays in Advent –December 8 and 22. Each session will focus on a selected passage from Deacon Pitman Potter's *Fever Dreams* collection of sacred spiritual texts, followed by night prayer.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88079829374?pwd=K29Va2M2Z3pZY0FUcUhoenVIRG9ndz09>

Participants do not need copies of *Fever Dreams* - selections for each session will be circulated in advance. Those who wish to acquire a copy of *Fever Dreams* for a \$20 donation to the Neighbourhood Ministry may do so by contacting the Neighbourhood Ministry website:

<https://neighbourhoodministry.com> or ministrymcu@gmail.com

These [Zoom](#) sessions will provide opportunities for reflection and discussion on the challenges we face during this trying time. Please join us! For those who may wish to pursue individual reflection,

[Fever Dreams materials for Week 3](#) (week of Dec 15) are available at:

<https://www.stjohnsshaughnessy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2021-Session-3-FD-Excerpt.pdf>



Christmas Shopping List

When shopping for Christmas supplies, please keep our friends on the street in mind, as well. Following is a list of items from which to choose. Please consider expiration dates on items and remember that our friends are mobile, so large, family-sized tins of food, while very generous, are very heavy to carry all day. We are collecting all through December & January. Thank you for your generosity.

- Boost or Ensure Nutrition Drinks (3 month shelf life)
- Self opening Tinned Meat & Fish
- Juice Boxes (3 month shelf life)
- New warm socks & men's medium underwear Nut/
- raisin-free Soft granola bars (3 month shelf life)
- Sleeping Bags (or \$50 donation for one)
- Winter Coats/Toques/ Gloves
- Boots (size 10,11,12)
- Rain Gear
- Fruit/pudding cups
- New personal sized hygiene products
- Hand sanitizer
- Christmas Treats (no nuts or caramel)
- Candy Bars (no nuts or caramel)

"Mutual Transformation"

Sunday in-person services 8am and 10am (no 8am on Dec 26)

Sunday online service

10am [Holy Eucharist live-stream](#)

Wednesday online service

8pm [Midweek Meditation](#)

Rector	The Reverend Terry Dirbas
Assistant Priest	The Reverend Elizabeth Ruder-Celiz erceliz@vst.edu
Pastoral Care Team Coordinator	Helen Kline
Rector's Warden	Judith Downes
People's Warden	Maggie Sanders
Treasurer	Donald Wood
Property Trustee	Michael Dezell
Vestry Clerk	The Reverend Karin Fulcher
Music Director	Michael Dirk organist@sjs.net
Choir Director	vacant
Children's Ministry	vacant
Parish Administrator	Janet Hamilton
PWRDF Rep	Doug Symons
Verger/caretaker	Regan Gorman 604 441 5399

Please email the office if you would like to have newsletters sent to you.
Newsletters, leaflets and online videos are posted on the website.

St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church

Diocese of New Westminster

Anglican Church of Canada

1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver, BC, V6H 2E2

604 731 4966 (ex 1 office, 2 Priest-in-Charge)

church@sjs.net

www.sjs.net



Offices are closed, but staff are working from home.

Email and voicemail are checked regularly and often, so please reach out.

Cover: Artwork by John Stuart,

www.stushieart.com

