



3 April 2022 newsletter



Fifth Sunday of Lent



From the Rector

Last Saturday, we held the first of several focus group meetings to explore our vision for music at St. John's, Shaughnessy. A small group consisting of members of the parish and musicians from the wider community gathered for coffee and fellowship, followed by a very uplifting time of sharing our stories of how the music program in this congregation has made an impact on us, and our hopes and dreams for the future.

St. John's has a rich and proud history of musical excellence and variety, both within our worship and through concerts. As our community begins to emerge from an era of pandemic-related limitations to our musical activities, and particularly as we look toward the hiring of a new choir director, we think it's important to take time to consider what God is calling us to be and to do, musically, in this time and place.

Our facilitator for these discussions is Ian Alexander. Ian was the long-time chair of the music committee at Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria, and was formerly an on-air host and senior executive at CBC Classical. He has provided strategic consulting services to many Canadian musical organizations.

We are off to a very promising start, but our work is ongoing. We anticipate meeting at least two more times this spring. If you have questions about this process, please don't hesitate to reach out to Michael Dirk or to me, or to any of the other participants from our parish: Mother Liz, Mike Dezell, Karin Fulcher, Bruce Gregg, Maggie Sanders, and Jaime Yoon. Any of us would be happy to speak with you about this exciting project!

Love,
Mother Terry+

Notice of Special Vestry Meeting April 3rd

Our Special Vestry meeting this year is April 3rd at 12:00pm (noon) Vancouver time, via Zoom. Members will be asked to approve our financial statements. Copies will be sent out to members of SJS prior to the meeting. All members of St. John's Shaughnessy are invited to attend (those over 15 who attend St. John's and give financially and in other ways to the parish are able to vote). We kindly request that you **log on by 11:30** or 11:40am to allow time to address any technical issues before we begin. In order to have an orderly meeting, as stress free as possible, there are a few things you need to know. *Please read carefully:*

As we are required to record who attends the Vestry meeting you will need to pre-register for the meeting. Be aware that the link below is NOT the meeting link. Once you have used the link to register, you will be provided (on screen and by email) the link to access the meeting. Registration is now open, and we encourage you to both register and log-in early to ensure you do not miss anything.

Motions requiring a vote will be done via electronic polling. What this means is that you will need to cast your vote through your computer or mobile device. We are only able to record 1 vote per device. If you are in one household and would like to cast individual votes, each person wishing to cast a vote must be individually registered and logged in from a different device.

The "Zoom Room" will be open 30 minutes prior to the meeting. We encourage you to connect early. You will be placed in a waiting room until a few minutes before the meeting. To register and receive the meeting link, click [HERE](#) or copy and paste the link below into your browser address bar. **Please register today.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/joining/register/tZclcuGtrjMoGNFYTuTDxsfUFn66HoXKMcD>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If for any reason you do NOT receive an email with the link we suggest you check your "junk email"

folder. If it is not there, attempt to register again. If you don't receive the email after a second attempt, we suggest you email the church for help.

Only members of the parish are entitled to vote at Vestry: if you are unsure whether you are on the parish roll, please contact the office. Thank you for your willingness to do these extra steps. Your participation is a vital part of our community!

No Hospitality this Sunday

Because of the Special Vestry Meeting on Zoom, we will not have hospitality this Sunday.

Are you interested in volunteering with hospitality? The coffee and snacks are purchased by the church, and the vergers do all the set-up. We need a lot of volunteers until we hire a new vergers, so if you can help one Sunday in April, please let us know.

Reflections by the Rev. Canon Herb O'Driscoll

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 43: 16-21

I suspect that Isaiah would have been a first-class writer for our media world with its love of images. Not a syllable is wasted. Every word flashes a new image and conveys a new scene for us. We are watching the tidal crossing that will form the foundation myth of Israel forever. For them it will forever be "the Lord who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters."

At fearful cost a victory has been won. It is probably true that all victories in human experience have a cost far beyond what we know and see in the lives of many around us - friends, acquaintances, colleagues. A line I have never forgotten is "be kind, because everyone you meet is fighting a great battle." Beyond deeply personal ones, great social and political struggles are often won only at huge cost.

If we see the present suffering of Ukraine in terms of this scripture we know that a future of freedom will have come, whenever it does come, only at a terrible cost in suffering.

As we worship during these coming days, moving through our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection, we witness the terrible cost to Him of his struggle and victory over death itself.

THE PSALM 126

Someone is singing to us about the difference that the capacity to hope can bring into our lives. It allows us to be committed to the possibility that the future is always open to unexpected inroads and possibilities that can sweep us in positive and constructive directions. In the language of the Psalmist, we are called to be people that believe the Lord can do great things for us because the fact is that God has already done great things for us, if only our eyes and hearts are open to discern them.

THE SECOND READING Philippians 3: 4b-14

This is a complex scripture in which Paul is trying to describe his own spiritual journey, something none of us find easy. We hear a wonderful realism in what he is saying. It gives all of us hope. He says, "If somehow I can attain the resurrection of the dead..." What does Paul mean? I think he's saying something like this ... "I have not obtained anything like the level of spirituality that Jesus did, but the important thing is that I PRESS ON. I don't give up!" Paul is saying that none of us, including himself, can possibly attain the spiritual power that Jesus possesses. But he insists that we all are given grace to stay faithful to Christ "because Jesus has made me his own." It's a beautiful statement and we need to receive it as a jewel of spirituality, probing the depths of meaning in it.

THE HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 12: 1-8

At some point in the meal Mary rises and approaches the guest of honour. Taking out a jar of extremely costly perfume she pours it on Jesus' feet. When we realize that Nard came from as far away as the Himalayas, we can imagine the cost. First there is a stunned silence. Then Judas says harshly "Why was this not sold and the money given to the poor?" Jesus' response is immediate and sharp, "Leave her alone! She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial."

For Jesus this home of his dearest friends meant everything, especially as a place of refuge from stress. In her gesture Mary had pierced that sense of refuge. As with all of us, His humanity must have rebelled against the possibility of death, and he would have known well that this priceless perfume was associated with death. Personally, I think Jesus was also well aware of Mary's deep feelings for him, and made Him only more conscious of the depth and joy of human love he was sacrificing by choosing the way of the Cross. Add to this the hint that his stern reply to Judas' cutting remark suggests that Jesus was already aware of a threat from within the circle of his own disciples, and we begin to grasp how indescribably painful this evening had become for Him.

All of this points to the tremendous cost to Jesus of his remaining faithful to his vision of the Kingdom of God.

Psalms in the Wilderness Lenten Studies: 7pm April 5th on Zoom

Join us for our last Lenten Study: **Favourite Psalms!** Mother Terry, Mother Elizabeth, Deacon Pitman, Deacon Karin, and Michael Dirk will all be with us as we learn more about our favourite psalms! Tuesday night on [Zoom](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86230787192?pwd=N2twdXBYM05qV3RDNmVtSnJTYlJPQT09).
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86230787192?pwd=N2twdXBYM05qV3RDNmVtSnJTYlJPQT09>

Easter Sunday Flower Dedications

Every Easter St John's is adorned with beautiful flowers, especially lilies, and fine music. We are collecting flower dedications - a wonderful way to celebrate the resurrection and remember loved ones. For every ten dollars (tax deductible) we can display one six inch pot of lilies. Please send in your special flower dedications, which can be made in honour or in memory of a loved one to the office by **Wednesday, April 6**. Like all flower dedications, the Easter flower dedications will be printed in the Sunday leaflet. Special Easter envelopes have been placed in the church for this purpose. You may also put your cheque in the mail, and **email the church office your flower dedication**.

SJS Prayer List

If you request that someone's name be added to the prayer list, please keep in touch with us. At the end of each month, all names will be removed, so you will need to add the names again on the first of each month. Email the office anytime! Thank you.

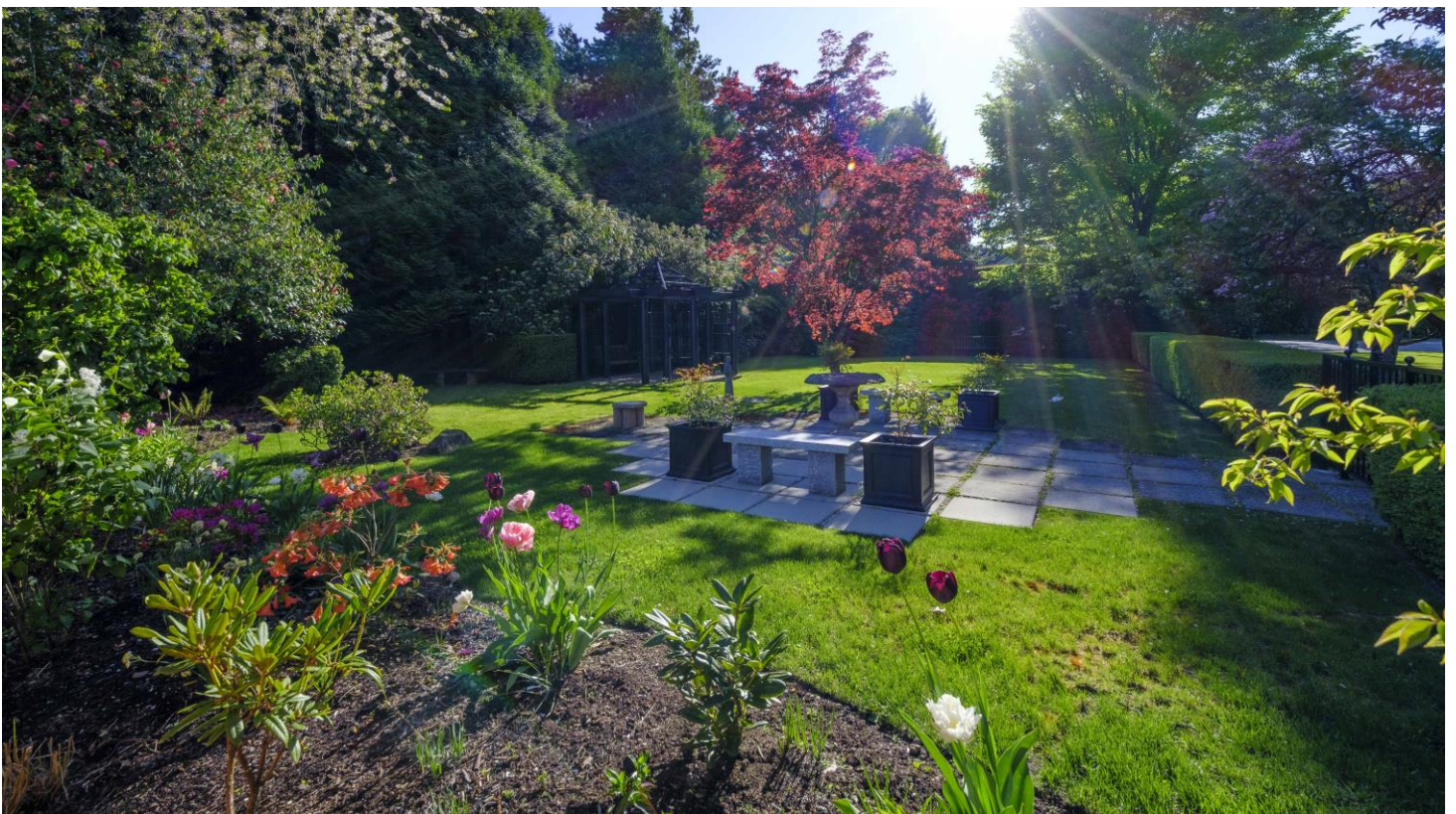
WNM items for Homeless Needed

Winter clothing, raingear, boots, sleeping bags, socks, pudding cups, granola bars (soft with no fruit/nuts), & juice boxes.

SJS Garden Club Needs New Volunteers

It is time for the Garden Club to renew their efforts at St Johns. We hope we have some new volunteers who could join us from time to time. Or every week! Weather permitting, we meet on Monday mornings but the day/time can be adjusted to accommodate other schedules. We do watering, light pruning (no saws or ladders), weeding, dividing, planting, etc. We enjoy wonderful chit chats in the safety of the outdoors. You can bring your own gloves and tools if you want to, or you can borrow ours.

Photo by Derek Simpkins





Join us online or in person

Sunday

8:00am

10:00am

April 10 Palm Sunday

Holy Communion (BCP)

Palm Procession and Sung Eucharist

Thursday

6:00pm

7:00pm

April 14 Maundy Thursday

Homemade soup and sandwiches - all welcome

Last Supper Eucharist with foot washing

A meditative watch will be kept until 9:00pm

Friday

10:00am

12:00noon

April 15 Good Friday

Families Stations of the Cross

Solemn Liturgy of the Day with Sung Passion

Saturday

8:00pm

April 16 Holy Saturday

Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday

8:00am

10:00am

April 17 Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Day

Holy Communion (BCP)

Celebration Eucharist and Easter Egg Hunt

Please contact the office for more information



St John's
SHAUGHNESSY

1490 Nanton Avenue (at Granville St)
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604.731.4966 / www.sjs.net

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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*.

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 and 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 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.

Sunday in-person services 8am and 10am

Sunday online service

10am Holy Eucharist live-stream

Wednesday online service

8pm Midweek Meditation

Rector The Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas terry.dirbas@sjs.net

Assistant Priest The Reverend Elizabeth Ruder-Celiz erceliz@vst.edu

Vestry Clerk The Reverend Karin Fulcher

Music Director Michael Dirk organist@sjs.net

Rector's Warden Judith Downes

People's Warden Maggie Sanders

Treasurer Donald Wood

Property Trustee Michael Dezell

Pastoral Care Team Coordinator Helen Kline

Altar Guild Susan Firus

Parish Administrator Janet Hamilton

Social Distancing
Please keep
one bishop-length apart.



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 Rector)

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. We want to hear from you!

Cover: *Saint Mary Magdalen anointing the feet of Christ*

Maestro de Perea, circa 1500

