

## From the Rector

### **The Good Samaritan: Giving as an Opportunity**

Someday I am going to ask my friend  
Paulus,  
the dancer, the potter,  
to make me a begging bowl  
which I believe  
my soul needs.

And if I come to you,  
to the door of your comfortable house  
with unwashed clothes and unclean  
fingernails,  
will you put something into it?

I would like to take this chance.  
I would like to give you this chance.



*From "To Begin With, the Sweet Grass", by Mary Oliver.  
Image: The Good Samaritan, 1890 by Vincent Van Gogh*

This week, we will hear the familiar story of the Good Samaritan. It just may be the most familiar story from the Gospels (aside from Jesus' birth and the Easter story). And what's not to like? We learn that neighbourliness extends beyond the people close to us, beyond the people we think are deserving, beyond the people whose needs present no threat to our own comfort and security. Jesus says a good neighbour is one who is willing to cross boundaries, even at his own peril, for the sake of healing and kindness.

Often, we focus on the conflicting duties of the characters, who may well believe they have a responsibility to the injured man, but who feel a more compelling

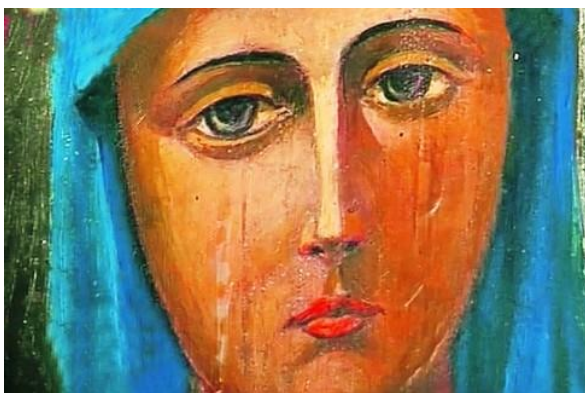
responsibility toward ritual cleanness. They would rather avoid touching a potentially dead body than see what's going on and help a potentially living, but injured, person.

It's important to think about our responsibilities to others, as Christians, but wouldn't it be better if we didn't view neighbourliness as an obligation, or a competing good among others, but as a joyful opportunity? In the poem above, I love how Oliver offers relationship and connection to the reader through a shared risk—a risk that is also an opportunity. She will take a chance that the reader will offer something in her begging bowl, but in doing so, she is offering the reader a chance, as well.

Our acts of kindness are an opportunity, for each of us, to grow closer to Jesus and closer to one another. This week let's focus on kindness and mercy, and let's do our best to see our service to others as not only a responsibility, but an opportunity to receive God's grace.

Blessings,  
Mother Terry+

### **Feasting with the Saints has been postponed!**



But don't worry! It will return in September. Instead go enjoy, learn about Saints and eat their food, and we'll all return in September ready to Feast, and cook and eat and drink and ponder these amazing people!

*Myrrh-flowing Icon of the Maniavskyi Monastery, Ukraine*

**Special Vestry July 10.** We will hold a very brief special vestry at the end of our in-person worship service on July 10, for the purpose of approving additional volunteers to administer the chalice. If you would like to administer the chalice and you have not yet been licensed by the bishop, please let us know so that we may include you in the resolution.

### **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 at the end of each month. Please also let us know if you want someone removed from the list. Email the office ([church@sjc.net](mailto:church@sjc.net)) anytime! Thank you.

### **Greeting volunteers needed at the 10am service**

We could use several more greeters. Please contact the office([church@sjc.net](mailto:church@sjc.net)) for more details if you are interested in greeting on Sunday mornings.

### **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. If you have old tools in your garage that you don't use any more, please let us know. **We are accepting donations of old garden tools.**

### **WNM items for Homeless Needed**

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

## Free Filing Cabinet Ready for Pickup



Free to a good home. Two drawer filing cabinet in fairly good condition, 36" wide, 18" deep, 28" high. Please email the Parish office ([church@sjns.net](mailto:church@sjns.net)) to make arrangements to come and pick this cabinet up. If we have received no word that anyone is interested within two weeks, the filing cabinet will be placed in an online listing to give away.

## 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 Cynthia in the office ([church@sjns.net](mailto:church@sjns.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](mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net)  
Assistant Priest    The Reverend Elizabeth Ruder-Celiz    [erceliz@vst.edu](mailto:erceliz@vst.edu)  
Vestry Clerk                      The Reverend Karin Fulcher

Music Director                      Michael Dirk    [organist@sjs.net](mailto: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 (Cynthia Jutras, acting)

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

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Offices are open by appointment only.  
Email and voicemail are checked regularly and often,  
so please reach out.

