

As some of you may know, my son, James, was diagnosed with autism in April. He will be three years old at the end of November, but he is very much on his own developmental timeline. He is particularly behind in communications skills. The last couple of weeks, though, we have seen amazing growth in his use of language.

Joe went to San Diego last week to visit his mother, and while I had him on FaceTime, James looked right at him and said, “Hi, Dada!” We were so thrilled! Afterward, he started saying lots of things: “Bubble bath,” “Dinosaurs at the zoo!” (Side note: Until last week I never knew the Vancouver Zoo had animatronic dinosaurs—we’ll be back again many times!) But no matter how hard I tried, I couldn’t get James to say, “Mama.”

But then, a few days ago, it finally happened! All in one evening, he said, “Mama,” and he also told me, “Night night,” and, “Love you!” There was a time when we thought James may never talk. Hearing him say he loves us has been a blessing I can’t completely describe.

As I’ve been thinking about the ways I’ve been blessed, by love and friendship and material comfort, I am mindful now, too, that the ability to express love and receive it is a huge blessing in our lives. We take language itself for granted, but what a gift, to be able to say, “I love you,” and to hear, “I love you, too.”

That’s one of the things that’s so amazing about the incarnation itself—the idea that the transcendent God, whom we know in our hearts loves us beyond measure, would become human, and that we could actually hear the voice of God saying those words, assuring us of God’s never-failing love for us. And although we didn’t get to walk the earth in the first century and hear it with our own ears, what a blessing that we have the witness of Scripture, through which we hear those words again and again. When we feel lonely, or lost, or when we doubt our self-worth or we just don’t feel very lovable, we can turn to Scripture for the assurance that God’s love for us is stronger than our own doubts and fears.

In this stewardship season, as we think about being “blessed to be a blessing,” I’m praying about how I can pass on the blessing to others of hearing and knowing that they are loved. Now that I’ve been blessed to hear James say, “I love you,” I’m realizing that while I say it a great deal within my own family, I’m not as likely to tell people outside my household that I love them.

So just to be completely honest with you, my church family, I love you. Some of you I know well, and some of you I haven’t gotten to know well yet. But I love you! I love this community we are creating together, with the help of the Holy Spirit, and I look forward to continuing to discover more about one another in the years ahead. You are a true blessing in my life, and I am so thankful for you! I pray that in the year to come, we will continue to be blessed by one another’s love and care, and that together we might find new ways to pass that love on to those outside our doors.

Mother Terry+

Do you have a question about church, liturgy, Anglicanism, etc.? Is there something you’ve always wanted to ask but thought you should already know? Send those questions to Mother Terry at terry.dirbas@sjs.net. All questions will remain anonymous.



**WESTSIDE ANGLICANS
NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY
HOMELESS ACTION MONTH
2022**

Jesus calls us to follow him, a following which takes us into the margins of society. In these thin places, where the world is raw and human needs are the highest, Jesus reminds us of the Kingdom of God.

This month we honour and celebrate our Indoor Team and everyone in this parish who reaches out to our homeless neighbours with love and friendship.

Each week a team drawn from each of the four-member parishes leaves with care packets full of non-perishable food items and toiletries, including clothing items. Each packet contains items that recipients have said are most helpful, ensuring that they are always put to good use. The Outdoor Teams continue to help connect people in need with other services—housing, medical and dental and emotional care, income

assistance and retrieving lost IDs to our Mobile Care Unit & The Angel Program.

We name and honour our dedicated and hard-working indoor team members who make sandwiches, provide hardboiled eggs and pack the monthly packages for distribution: Ken Pepin, team lead, Michael Dezell, Terry & Catherine Warren, Karin Fulcher, Alberta Rudolf, Louise Hadley, and Penni Stock.

Each package usually contains:

- Canned Tuna, salmon, sardines etc.
- juice boxes, pudding/fruit cups;
- toiletries (small size: lip balm, sunscreen, Vaseline, hand sanitizer, toothbrush & toothpaste)
- Power bars and soft granola bars (soft foods because many have bad teeth)
- Protein drinks: Boost/Ensure.

Please consider donating some of the items above during October as we seek to replenish our store cupboards for winter.

Along with the packages, bananas, oranges (soft fruits only), peanut butter sandwiches, and boiled eggs are provided, with special gifts/treats added at Christmas and Easter.

Joan Stewart

Co-chair Board of Management
Westside Anglicans Neighbourhood
Ministry &
Mobile Care Unit Team Lead

Choral Evensong

in Commemoration of All Faithful Departed

Sunday, October 30 at 3 pm

*Featuring the music of J.S. Bach, William Byrd,
and Sarah MacDonald*

Followed by the dedication of *Limina*
in the Garden of Remembrance,
and a reception with light
refreshments.
All are welcome



1490 Nanton Avenue (at Granville St)
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Livestream at www.stjohnsshoughnessy.org

Choral Evensong for All Faithful Departed – October 30, 3 p.m.

On October 30, we will hold a special evensong in observance of the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed, commonly known as All Souls' Day. This will serve as our annual Memorial Garden Evensong, and we are hopeful that the Limina sculpture will be installed in time to be dedicated at this service as well. The choir is preparing some beautiful music, and we will have a festive

reception afterward. Please mark your calendars and invite your friends!

Hospitality Volunteers Needed!

Do you enjoy having coffee and refreshments after church? We do, too! It's a great time to get to know one another and welcome new members to the parish. But **we cannot have coffee hour without volunteers!** Please consider signing up to help. It is not difficult, and it is vital to our ministry.

Trick-or-Treating at Church Sunday, October 30 after the 10 a.m. service

All ages are invited to wear a costume to church on October 30, and after the service we'll have trick-or-treating for our young ones. Candy donations would be greatly appreciated, as would volunteers to give out candy at stations around the church. To volunteer, please contact the parish office.

Parish Book Club – First Meeting Tuesday, October 25 at 7 p.m.

This month, we will be discussing [The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World](#), by Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama.

We would love you to join us in person in the Trendell Lounge, but if you'd prefer to Zoom you can do that as well. We have great equipment to allow the in-person group to engage with those on Zoom on a large screen, with an excellent camera, so you shouldn't feel left out! Here is the Zoom link: [Book Club Zoom Link](#)

Parish Necrology – Submit Names by October 23

At our evensong on October 30, we will observe the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed. While this is a service to remember all those who have gone before us, there is also a long tradition of reading the parish necrology, or a list of those who have died since the last All Souls' Day.

If you have a family member or close friend who has died in the past year, please submit their names to Mother Terry by October 23. Please also reach out to their loved ones to let them know about the worship service, and that they will be named in our prayers that evening. Often their relatives will choose to attend, and it can serve as a wonderful way to offer support to those who are still grieving.

Royal Canadian College of Organists Halloween Organ

Spooktacular at SJS – OCT 28 7:30pm

The Royal Canadian College of Organists Halloween Organ Spooktacular (RCCO) which Michael Dirk serves on executive as Vice-President and Education Officer will be hosting their Halloween Organ Spooktacular Concert at SJS on Friday Oct 28, 7:30pm.

This also coincides with the 54th Anniversary of SJS's Hallman pipe organ's dedication- and the 5th anniversary of the launch of the organ revitalization campaign. Please join us then.

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@sjs.net) anytime! Thank you.

Greeting volunteers needed at the 10am service

We could use several more greeters! Please contact the office (church@sjs.net) for more details if you are interested in greeting on Sunday mornings.

AVE MARIA

The Gallery Singers present a feast of Renaissance music by Josquin des Prez, Orlando di Lasso and G.P. da Palestrina, featuring "Sicut Cervus", "Jubilate Deo" and Josquin's stunning "Ave Maria.

October 30th, 2022, 3:00 pm
at Holy Trinity Anglican Church,
1440 West 12th Avenue (at
Hemlock), Vancouver

We require audience members to be masked to keep the concert as accessible as possible for all. Singers will also be masked
Adults - \$20.00, Students with valid ID - \$10.00, Children 0 - 12 yrs - Free

Tickets available at the door or in advance at EventBrite

www.gallerysingers.ca

email: thegallerysingers@gmail.com

like us on Facebook

[facebook.com/VanGallerySing](https://www.facebook.com/VanGallerySing)

follow us on Twitter @VanGallerySing
or Instagram @the_gallerysingers

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.

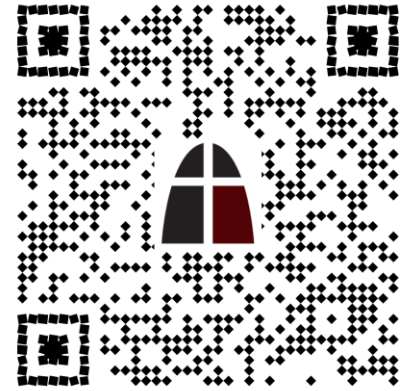
WNM items for Homeless Needed

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

We are always grateful for the generosity of everyone. We are well stocked in most of the supplies that we send out. What we are short of is protein items (eg tuna tins), and meal replacements (Ensure or Boost). And always, socks. Thanks so much.

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@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.

ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Please contact the parish office if you would like to be added to our mailing list, so that we may let you know about upcoming events.

Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Terry Shields Dirbas, Rector terry.dirbas@sjs.net
The Reverend Elizabeth Ruder-Celiz, Assisting Priest erceliz@vst.edu
The Reverend Marilyn Hames, Honorary Assisting Priest
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, Deacon
The Reverend Pitman Potter, Deacon
Michael Dirk, Music Director organist@sjs.net
Jaime Yoon, Interim Choir Director jaime.yoon@sjsparish.net
Cynthia Jutras, Interim Parish Administrator church.office@sjs.net

Trustees

Judith Downes, Rector's Warden
Maggie Sanders, People's Warden
Mike Dezell, Property Trustee
Donald Wood, Treasurer



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