

Over the summer, my daughter Chatham learned to read. She went from recognizing a few words in May, to reading chapter books in August. I wish I could take credit for it, but she basically taught herself. She loves books so much that once she got a small taste of independent reading, she threw herself into it. Now she checks out two books from the school library every day, and returns them in the morning for two more. It's an absolute delight to see her enthusiasm and her joy when she encounters a good story, and to hear her giggle when she reads a good joke.

Recently I was unpacking a box of books, and I found a copy of a children's bible that George and Jeannie had read when they were younger. Without giving it much thought, I handed it to Chatham and said, "Here, you might like this." I wish I had a picture of the look on her face! She got so excited that she had a Bible that she could read herself. Now she loves to read the stories and tell me about them, and to ask me questions. I had no idea she would appreciate it that much.

On Monday, we observe Reformation Day—a day to honour the saints of the Reformation era who helped shape the Church we have inherited. Most of us, today, take for granted that we can read the Bible any time we want to. Not only do we probably have hard copies of the Bible in our homes somewhere, but we can read Scripture on the internet or in an app on our phones.

Perhaps it is simply a result of supply and demand, but it seems that the easier it becomes for us to get our hands on the Word of God, the less frequently we avail ourselves of that opportunity. Yet our forebears in the faith held a strong conviction that the people of God deserved to have access to the words of Holy Scripture in their own language. Many of them were willing to lay down their lives for the sake of bringing that vision to reality, so that each of us might have a direct encounter with the divine in those sacred texts.

It's easy to take the Bible for granted in our own time, especially when most of us do not read it literally and when we recognize that there are plenty of portions of it that are problematic from the standpoint of contemporary Christian ethics. Yet Scripture is still the place we go to find the sacred story of our faith. We still affirm that it contains all things necessary to salvation. And when I saw Chatham's reaction of pure excitement that she now has the ability to read the Bible herself, I was reminded that there are parts of the world where printed resources are scarce, and Christians would likewise rejoice to have a Bible of their own.

When was the last time you sat down and read the Bible? When was the last time you did so from an actual book you could hold in your hands? Whether it's been a day, a month, or years, I encourage us all, as we approach Reformation Day, to take some time to sit down with a Bible, find a passage that means something to us, and read and meditate on it. When we do, let us recall the gift our forebears gave us, by insisting on translating Scripture into contemporary languages. As we give thanks for their efforts, let us pray for all those Christians who long for a Bible of their own, and let us pray that we might not take this privilege for granted.

Mother Terry+

Dear Abbey,

What's the difference between All Saints Day and All Souls Day? Which one are we doing at the evensong for "All Faithful Departed"?

Sincerely,
A Sinner and a Saint

Dear Saintly Sinner (or Sinful Saint?),

This is a very common question, especially because, although All Saints and All Souls are two separate observances, many churches combine them into one. There is a lot of historical information I could share, but I will try to be brief.

The feast of All Saints is observed on November 1 each year, but most churches transfer it to the Sunday following. This is a day when we commemorate all the saints, known and unknown, who together comprise the whole communion of saints.

Christians have honoured their saints and martyrs since the second century. Over time, what once were local commemorations of local saints evolved to become more universal. By the end of the fourth century, an annual observance of a feast for all saints had been established, though the November 1 date probably emerged in the eighth century.

While the New Testament describes all believers as saints, the term came to be associated with people who were exceptional models of faith and righteousness, whose legacy continued to be remembered by future generations of Christians. By the tenth century, Christians began setting aside another day, beyond All Saints' Day, to remember the vast body of believers unknown to the wider Church. It also served as a

time to honour loved ones who had died, especially those who had died in the past year.

In medieval times, All Souls' Day was a time to pray for souls believed to still be in purgatory. Consequently, its observance was abolished with the Reformation. However, the Anglo-Catholic movement and the lived experience of Christians during the World Wars brought about a renewed desire among many Anglicans to pray for the dead. We do so now, not because we doubt that the departed are in a state of joy and peace, but because we care for them and that care goes on even after they have died. Likewise, we believe our growth into the likeness of Christ also goes on even after this earthly life is ended.

Though its official date is November 2, we will observe the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed (also known as All Souls Day) at our evensong this Sunday.

Blessings,
Abbey

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

We are very low on proteins for the packets: Boost and Ensure, and especially tuna cans. If anyone has a line of dental care items (small tubes of toothpaste, toothbrushes - perhaps our family dentists would be interested in donating to the cause?) that would be helpful.

One of the regulars is looking for women's size 8 waterproof shoes or boots (not rain boots). If one of us has such a pair around the house it would be welcomed.

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

 **St John's**
SHAUGHNESSY

1490 Nanton Avenue (at Granville St)
Vancouver BC V6H 2E2
604.731.4966 / www.sjs.net

Livestream at www.stjohnsshaughnessy.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 invite your friends and bring your umbrellas!

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 Necrology – Submit

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

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.**

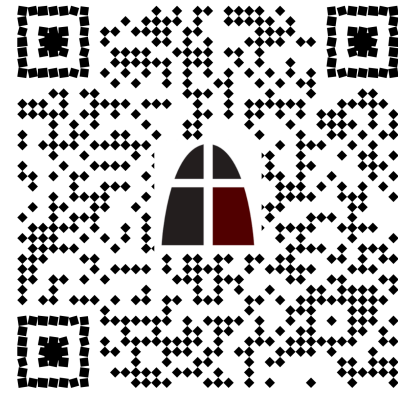
WNM items for Homeless Needed

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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