

## **Diaconal Reflections: Christ the King**

### Jeremiah 23:1-6

In the pastoral culture of ancient Israel, the imagery of the shepherd conveyed notions of authority and responsibility. Jeremiah spoke out against their abuse by the misguided kings of Israel and Judah. But the Lord would gather the people once again and bring them from exile to prosperity and peace. And the Lord will raise up new shepherds who will bring righteousness and justice. Whether these would be a new generation of faithful kings for the people of Israel or in our own time new generations of laity and clergy whose ministry of the baptized is the heart of the Church, it is the Lord God who empowers us all. As we prepare for Advent, let us prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ the good shepherd who inspires and guides our own ministries.

### Psalm 46

We trust in God in the face of calamity – even in the midst of war or natural disaster, the God of hosts is with us. But the Psalmist also reminds us to do our part - that river in Jerusalem after all was an underground conduit built by Hezekiah for water supply during the siege. And so while we should indeed be still and know God's presence with us, we are called to do more than wait passively for whatever life throws at us. And in our work for peace and healing in our world, our country, and our neighborhoods, we still affirm that God is in our midst.

### Colossians 1: 11-20

The coming of Jesus the Christ is cause for joyous celebration and sober reflection. As Thomas Merton reminds us, it is a cause for joy to be a member of the human race where God chose to become incarnate. But Paul reminds us that Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross was for our redemption, to reconcile us with God. And indeed we need to be reconciled. For if we think of sin as being set apart from God, this becomes all too common in light of the cares and chances of our everyday lives. But we take comfort in knowing that we have an advocate in Jesus Christ the righteous who is the atonement for us and the whole world when we fall apart from God. So let us prepare for Jesus' coming - with celebration and reflection.

### Luke 23: 33-43

Dying in agony, a criminal recognizes the holy innocence of Jesus. Dying in agony Jesus blesses the faithful confession of a criminal. Dying in agony, Jesus triumphs, his humanity and divinity being the inseparable foundation for his triumphant sacrifice.

Jesus' humanity speaks to his kinship with us and our human frailty, while Jesus' divinity affirms God's love for us despite our human faults. Christ the King, wearing not a crown of jewels but of thorns, not on a throne of gold but on a cross, invites us to his Kingdom. And all we need to do is ask—'remember me when you come into your kingdom.'

The Rev. Dr. Pitman B. Potter  
Retired Deacon  
November 14, 2022

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*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](mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net). All questions will remain anonymous.*

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### **Mother Liz has left the building!**

On November 6th Mother Liz led us in holy worship for her last service at St. John's Shaughnessy, and we bid her a fond farewell as she leaves us to go to be the vicar at St. Alban's, Richmond. We send Mother Liz off with our love and best wishes, and give grateful thanks for her service to our congregation. Elizabeth Ruder-Celiz first came to St. John's Shaughnessy as our interim priest in 2015 when Fr. Michael Fuller returned to England, and faithfully looked after us and nurtured our spirits until Fr. (now Bishop) John became our full-time priest in 2016. It wasn't very long before Mother Liz again returned

to SJS as an Associate Priest in a part-time capacity; she and Fr. John had worked together as Priest and Curate at St. Philip's Dunbar. When Fr. John was elected Bishop Mother Liz again led as Priest-in-Charge for almost a full year before Mother Terry arrived in December 2021.

We celebrated Mother Liz at Coffee Hour with a beautiful cake, and our very generous parishioners donated a Priest's Purse.

### **Pictures from Remembrance Day Service**



## A.C.W. Christmas Open House



Come and see how the bales to the North are made and have a tour of the warehouse.

Alberta Rudolf, Anglican Church Women Board Secretary, ODNW

### 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](mailto:church@sjs.net)) anytime! Thank you.

**Book Club Gathering (on Zoom)  
Tuesday, November 29 at 7 p.m.  
Zoom Link: [Book Club Zoom](#)**

This month's book selection is [The Book of Longings](#) by Sue Monk Kidd. It's a novel set in the first century with great reviews by parishioners and critics.

"An extraordinary novel . . . a triumph of insight and storytelling." —Associated Press

"A true masterpiece." —Glennon Doyle, author of *Untamed*

"An extraordinary story set in the first century about a woman who finds her voice and her destiny, from the celebrated number one *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Secret Life of Bees* and *The Invention of Wings*"

If you need assistance with getting the book, please contact the parish office. We'd be happy to help!

### Greeting volunteers needed at the 10am service

We could use several more greeters! Please contact the office ([church@sjs.net](mailto:church@sjs.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**

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.

**Other items that would be welcomed:** Winter clothing, raingear, boots, sleeping bags, socks, pudding cups, granola bars (soft with no fruit/nuts), & juice boxes.

### **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](mailto:church@sjs.net) or 604-731-4966). If

you would like to give to the church

using a credit card, please use the

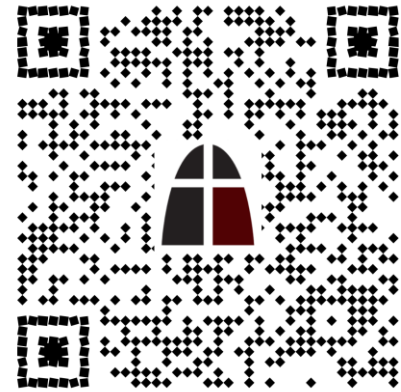
DONATE button on our website

(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](mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net)  
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, *Honorary Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, *Deacon*  
The Reverend Pitman Potter, *Deacon*  
Michael Dirk, *Music Director* [organist@sjs.net](mailto:organist@sjs.net)  
Jaime Yoon, *Interim Choir Director* [jaime.yoon@sjsparish.net](mailto:jaime.yoon@sjsparish.net)  
Cynthia Jutras, *Interim Parish Administrator* [church.office@sjs.net](mailto: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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