

Diaconal Reflections: First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Let us go to the house of God, that we may learn his ways. We come to church for many reasons. Isaiah's invitation to learn the ways of God is perhaps the most powerful and challenging. For as we seek strength to live out God's truth in our lives, we are also challenged to discern what that truth might be. One place to start is peace - not just among nations but among ourselves. God may judge, we need not. In this time of conflict and challenge in our world, perhaps within our Church communities we can re-dedicate ourselves to the ideals of love and service to which God calls us. More compassion, less judgment, so that we may walk in the light of the Lord.

Psalm 122

In promising to do good for Jerusalem because it is the place of the temple of God, the psalmist reveals what civic society has sought from time immemorial – to steward the places and communities where faith abounds. That hope for stewardship remains with us today, despite the not-so-benign neglect of faith or its even more troublesome manipulation by the dynamics of politics and power. Christians are called to witness to civic society on how a faith community can be unified, sacred, inclusive and evangelical and so be true to the ideals of one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. Let us embrace this call in our everyday lives, not just in our own parish but outside as well.

Romans 13:11-14

The desires of the flesh – for so long in our history the fount of debate and disagreement, and not a little sanctimonious repression. But when Paul calls us to conduct ourselves becomingly, the challenge becomes one of priorities. If we really are awake to the reality of salvation in Christ, then we can truly cast off the petty human priorities that lead to jealousy and quarreling (not to mention debauchery and the rest). If we truly put on Christ, then as Martin Luther King famously proclaimed we're not worried, because we've seen the Promised Land. Seems to put our daily trials and tribulations in perspective.

Matthew 24:36-44

We may well ask the watchman to tell us of the night. But let's not just rely on the watchman. For we ourselves are called to watch, to be vigilant for the coming of the Lord. Jesus tells his followers that ours is not a wait-and-see faith. Neither are we invited to be passive and patient about the coming of the Kingdom of God. Instead we

are called to love and service, to bring about the Kingdom in the here and now, ever enlivened by the reality that God is with us. We're not just waiting for a miracle, we are called to get ready to be the miracle. For 'Lo, the Prince of Peace, the Son of God is come!' Advent is upon us.

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

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.

**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!

A.C.W. Christmas Open House



THE DIOCESAN BOARD OF THE
ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN IN THE
DIOCESE OF NEW WESTMINSTER
INVITE YOU TO OUR

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 6, 2022
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

A.C.W. PLACE
7012 Merritt Avenue, Burnaby
604-876-3720



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 chorister winter activities

Sun Nov27 2:30pm Orpheum: A Choral Feast (Jaime, Danny, Paula, Carolin)
<https://vancouverchamberchoir.com/event/a-choral-feast/>

Sat Dec 3 2pm & 7:30pm St Andrew's-Wesley: Vancouver Youth Choir (Jaime, Danny, Paula, Carolin) <https://vancouveryouthchoir.com/performances/all-is-bright-2022/>

Sat Dec 3 7:30pm UBC Chan: Brahms Requiem (Carolin, Michael)
<https://chancentre.com/events/ubc-choirs-orchestra-dec3/>

Sun Dec 4 4pm Orpheum: Vancouver Bach Choir (Jaime, Michael)
<https://vancouverbachchoir.com/events/christmas-with-the-bach-choir-2/>

Thurs Dec 7 7pm Point Grey Secondary: Gr8-12 Music Program Winter Concert (Annabelle)
<http://pointgreymusic.com/>

Fri Dec 9 7pm Highlands United: Seycove Secondary (Danny)
<http://seycovemusic.weebly.com/>

Sat Dec 10 7:30pm Shepherd of the Valley Langley: Musica Intima *Winter Patterns* (Danny)
<https://www.musicaintima.org/winter-patterns>

Sat Dec 10 7:30pm Orpheum: Handel's Messiah with Bach choir (Jaime, Michael)
<https://vancouverbachchoir.com/events/handel-messiah/>

Sun Dec 11 2pm West Van United Church: Handel's Messiah Pacific Spirit Choir (David)
<https://pacificspiritchoir.com/>

Sun Dec 11 3pm ACTS Theatre Maple Ridge: Vancouver Bach Choir (Jaime, Michael)
<https://theactmapleridge.org/bach-choir>

Thur Dec 15 1:30pm Shaughnessy Elementary Gym: K-7 Winter Concert (Michael, Annabelle)
<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/shaughnessy/>

Sat Dec 17 7:30pm Christ Church Cathedral: Musica Intima *Winter Patterns* (Jaime, Danny)

Sun Dec 18 3pm WestVan United: Musica Intima *Winter Patterns* (Jaime, Danny)
<https://www.musicaintima.org/winter-patterns>

Dec 22 8pm St James Community Square: Musica Intima *Ding Dong* (Jaime, Danny)
<https://www.musicaintima.org/ding>

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@sjns.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.**

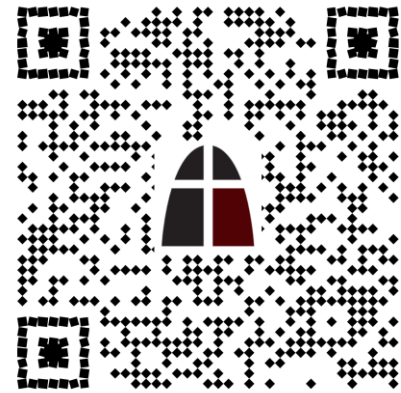
WNM items for Homeless Needed

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@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.

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 Dr. 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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