

From the Rector

The fourth Sunday of Easter is known colloquially as “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Each year, we hear one of the three portions of John’s Gospel in which Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd. He tells us that his sheep know his voice, that he lays down his life for the sheep, and that he has other sheep that are not of this fold. There is one flock and one shepherd.

As an Anglican priest, the Good Shepherd discourse carries a great deal of personal meaning for me. These passages are commonly read at ordinations, with sermons reminding the clergy of our call to emulate the Good Shepherd, but to always remember that the whole flock belongs to Jesus, and not to us. The word “pastor” derives from the Latin *pascere*, meaning “to lead to pasture, set to grazing, or cause to eat”—essentially, to shepherd. Consequently, our brothers and sisters in the Roman Catholic tradition designate Good Shepherd Sunday as a day to pray for vocations to religious life, asking God to raise up clergy and other vowed religious persons for the service of the Church.

I find myself wondering, though, if we Anglicans might take up this practice, but broaden it a bit and make it more inclusive. Yes, we should pray that God will raise up labourers for the harvest—but aren’t we all labourers in the kingdom? Perhaps this Good Shepherd Sunday is a time for us to reflect on our own callings, whatever they may be. A call might be to job, or to a ministry, or to a way of living. We can have multiple callings at one time, or at different phases of our lives. For example, at present, I am a priest, a wife, and a mother. I am hopeful that at some point, I will have successfully raised my “little flock” and that I’ll have the good fortune to add being a grandparent to that list.

The callings we receive in our lives can be difficult to recognize, and even when we identify them, they can sometimes be difficult to follow due to our circumstances. But it’s important to remain open to God’s plans for us. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, calls our names, and leads us where we need to go. This week, let’s pray that we will know his voice, and that we’ll trust in his guidance as we follow him in right pathways for his name’s sake.

Love,
Mother Terry+

Dear Abbey,

I've noticed recently and particularly at our Easter Vigil the expression "Mary and the other Mary."

Who is this "other Mary" and why is she continually referred to as "the other" rather than by her name? Is there a reason for this or is it simply good old-fashioned rudeness!?

Signed,
Confused on Foster Street

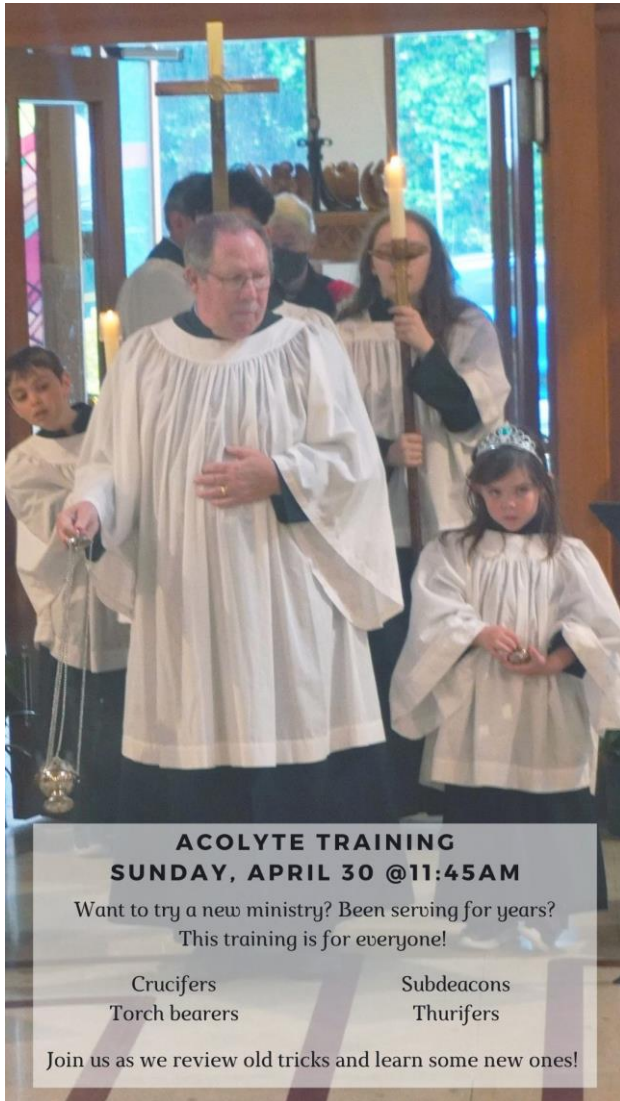
Dear Confused,

Mary was a common name in Jesus' time, just as it is now. And, as you note, there were a lot of women following Jesus and several of them had the name Mary. Scholars commonly identify six different women named Mary in the New Testament: Mary, the mother of Jesus; Mary Magdalene; Mary of Bethany, the sister of Martha and Lazarus; Mary, the mother of James and Joseph; Mary, the mother of John Mark; and Mary of Rome (referred to in the 16th chapter of Paul's letter to the church in Rome). That said, there are other references to a woman named Mary—namely Mary, the wife of Clopas and "the other Mary." There is debate among scholars as to the identity of these women. Some have even suggested the Mary the wife of Clopas and Mary the mother of James and Joseph are the same as Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The reference to "the other Mary" occurs only in the Gospel of Matthew at the crucifixion of Jesus (Matthew 27:61 and Matthew 28:1). In both cases, she is accompanying Mary Magdalene. But who is this other Mary? Is it the mother of Jesus? The wife of Clopas? The mother of James? We don't really know. What we can surmise is that the early readers of the Gospel probably understood who this other Mary was. More importantly though, there were at least two women named Mary at Jesus tomb, one of whom was undoubtedly Mary Magdalene (not to be confused with any other Mary).

While there is much to discuss about the patriarchal views of the Bible as a series of texts being a story about men, written by men, I don't believe there is any specific reason to name her "the other" Mary and I don't believe it was intended to be rude. That said, I sure would like to know who it was. Alas, we don't always get the answers we want from the texts we are given.

Abbey



Acolyte Training **Sunday, April 30 at 11:45am**

Whether you've been serving for what seems like forever, or you're just starting out, please join us for a refresher / training session this Sunday after church. We will begin at 11:45, which should give everyone time to go get a cup of coffee and say hello to old friends and greet newcomers.

We will begin with the things that apply to everyone—processions into and out of the church, and Gospel processions for when we have torches. At the end, we'll work with subdeacons on how to help the deacon with the setting of the table at the Eucharist.

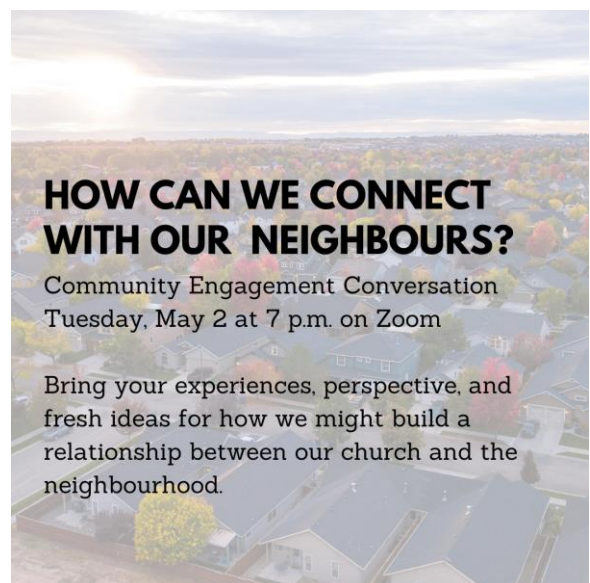
We are making a few tweaks to the way we have been doing things, so please do join us if you are able. If you can't come, please let me know and I'll find a time to go through it with you individually.

Many thanks for your faithful service!
 Mother Terry+

Community Engagement Chat **Tuesday, May 2 at 7 p.m.**

Zoom Link: [Community Engagement](#)

What is community engagement? It's a term that covers a variety of activities of the church that share a goal of building relationships with our neighbours. It encompasses things like planning an afternoon tea or a bulb exchange; opening our labyrinth for community use; or hosting classes or support groups that might be of interest to the general public. These are just a few examples. While some ideas may incorporate acts of service to those in need, the main focus of this conversation is on meeting people and building relationships. Everyone is welcome for this brainstorming conversation!





The St John's WANM indoor team is looking for another team member. Specifically, this person will be added to the roster of people that coordinate with the outdoor team. This means very occasionally attending at the parish on a Saturday morning for an hour or so and handing our packets and lunches to the outdoor team.

WNM items for Homeless Needed

Thank you so much for your kind donations!

We are **low on protein** (small cans of tuna or chicken), and as always, **socks**. We are quite well stocked at the moment for other items.



Looking for something this summer for kids? Always wished there was a place to invite families over the summer to grow deeper in faith, play in community, and grow together in love? Aspire Bible Camp is coming this summer, and we want you! This collaborative offering of a

vacation bible camp, spearheaded by Lauren Odile Pinkney, Children, Youth and Family Minister at Christ Church Cathedral and Diocesan Missioner for Youth and the Reverend. Alex Wilson Vicar of St. Anselm's, seeks to offer an accessible vacation bible camp experience for parishes of any size.

Partnering with **the Reverend Terry Dirbas at St. John's Shaughnessy** and the Reverend Laurel Dykstra of Salal and Cedar, Aspire Bible Camp runs from July 17-21, and is made possible by grant funding from the diocesan Anglican Initiatives Fund and the Parish Ministry Development department Together we will hire youth to help deliver the program, working alongside mentors, as they develop their own leadership while engaging with kids of all backgrounds. We can't wait for what is going to be a summer of real fun together!

Have a passion for ministry with kids, training in *Godly Play* or *Messy Church*, or know of a youth/young adult who might want to work with us? [Contact Lauren by email to find out more.](#)

Parishes are invited to participate in the drop off and pick up, as well as hosting snack times. This will give them the ability to engage with the parents and celebrate the joys of kids learning together about Jesus.

Registration opens now, and the \$75 fee gives kids a limited edition Aspire Bible Camp T-shirt and snacks everyday. We ask that participants bring their own lunches.



A pic of our choir section leads (Danny, Carolin, Paula, Jaime) in Istanbul with the Vancouver Youth Choir waiting for a concert to begin.

The Vancouver Youth Choir in Istanbul representing Canada for an international symposium.

Photo CBC



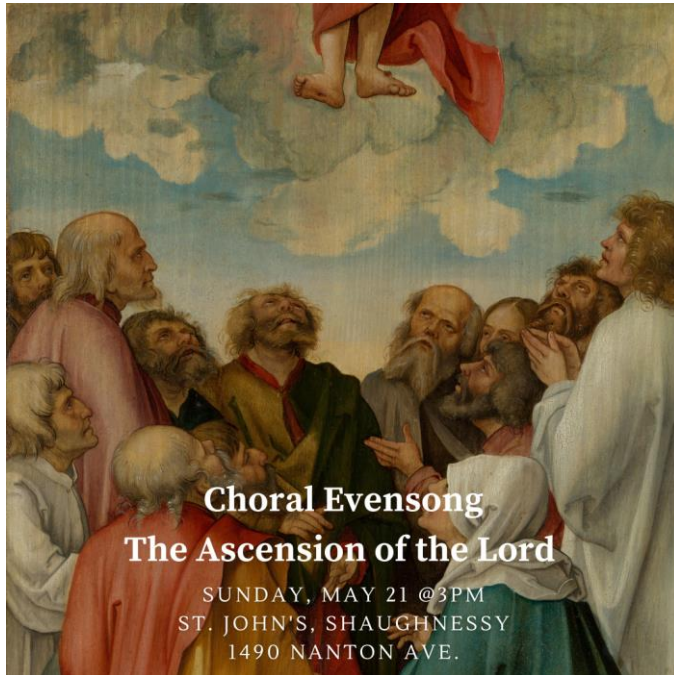
Music Notes

Vancouver Civic Theatres present
Silent Movie Mondays:

Our organist Michael Dirk will make his full-feature debut at the Orpheum Monday May 1st 7:30pm improvising a sound track on the historic Mighty WurliTzer organ to the 100 year old feature **'Safety Last'** starring **Harold Lloyd**. Retired SJS organist Ed Norman will offer 'The General' June 5th, and Michael returns for three Chaplin shorts July 10th.



<https://vancouvercivictheatres.com/events/vct-silent-movie-mondays-safety-last-may-1-2023/>



Choral Evensong The Ascension of the Lord

SUNDAY, MAY 21 @3PM
ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY
1490 NANTON AVE.

Choral Evensong for The Ascension of the Lord Sunday, May 21 at 3 p.m.

Join us for a beautiful choral evensong on May 21, as we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord.

This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends to church, particularly those who are music lovers. Please help us spread the word!

As usual, we will have seasonal libations afterward. If you would like to assist with this reception, please contact the parish office.



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CHOIR presents

EASTER EVENSONG

Sunday April 30 - 3:30pm

A celebration of the 400th anniversary of the music of

William Byrd 1539-1623

including his *tour de force* Evening Canticles of "The Great Service"
and his Easter motet - Haec Dies

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.

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 Ann in the office (church.office@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.

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 James Hwang, Curate jhwang@sjs.net
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, Honorary Assisting Priest
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, Honorary Deacon
The Reverend Pitman Potter, Honorary Deacon
Michael Dirk, Music Director organist@sjs.net
Jaime Yoon, Interim Choir Director jaime.yoon@sjsparish.net
Ann Houghton, Interim Parish Administrator church.office@sjs.net
Patrick Mahon, Verger

Trustees

The Rev. Terry Shields Dirbas, Rector
Ken Pepin, Rector's Warden
Joan Stewart, People's Warden
Mike Dezell
Catherine Holmen



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