

Newsletter Pentecost May 28, 2023

"There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it." -Psalm 104:27

Do you love to see marine life up close and in person? Whether on a whale watching tour, at an aquarium, or snorkeling or scuba diving, the mysterious ocean and the beauty and variety of the life within it fascinate us.

Ancient people were no different, but their sense of wonder was also bound up with significant fear. "Leviathan" was a mythical sea serpent that represented, to them, chaos and evil. When Job came to God in anger after suffering tragedy, God challenged Job to overcome Leviathan, as God had done (Job 41). Yet



in Psalm 104, we see Leviathan not as a force of evil, but as part of God's good plan. No matter how terrifying it may seem to us, we see that God has created it "for the sport of it"—that it might play in the sea.

This weekend we observe Pentecost, the occasion of the coming of the Holy Spirit to live and move within the church community. That same Spirit rests within each one of us, and within our homes and families. And even though we think of the Spirit with seriousness tongues of fire, rushing wind, prophecy—in the Psalm also we see a manifestation of the Spirit as playful!

With the days getting longer, my children are already enjoying a lot more play time outside with their friends. Yet as parents, Joe and I often feel the lack of leisure time for ourselves. Pentecost, and the playful movement of the Spirit, remind us that we need to take more time for play in our lives, even if only by approaching our regular work with more levity. Playfulness lightens our burdens, and reminds us that life is meant to be enjoyed.

I encourage you, as the weather continues to improve and we have the chance to enjoy the great outdoors, to take time to feel the sun and to enjoy being in God's amazing creation. Let's marvel at the playfulness of God's creatures, including ourselves. And let's do our best to see the Holy Spirit in all of it, and to give thanks.

Love, Mother Terry+ For **Pentecost Sunday**, the liturgical colour changes to **red** as we move from the season of Easter to the Season of Pentecost. You are invited to **wear red** this Sunday. Wear red as a way of anticipating the coming of the Holy Spirit to transform us, change us, disturb us, awaken us to the fire, wind and new language of God in the world of today.

The ancient hymn, often sung at ordinations seems to seek the right words for inviting the coming of the Holy Spirit:

Come Holy Spirit, our souls inspire And lighten with celestial fire; Thou the anointing Spirit art, Who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart. Thy blessed unction from above Is comfort, life, and fire of love; Enable with perpetual light The dullness of our blinded sight.

APPRECIATION SUNDAY

June 11 is our Appreciation Sunday. Please tell us if you know of any graduates or anyone who is celebrating a milestone of any kind this year.

You can just email Ann in the office at: <u>church.office@sjs.net</u>





SJS had a strong presence at the 123rd Synod held May 12 & 3. Seen here are clergy along with **delegates Annie Li and Charlotte Molyneux**, as well as **Vick Potter** who spoke to the affordable housing report, and **Jennifer Dezell** who is one of the legal officers of the diocese. Missing from this photo is **delegate Sara Weger**— Sara, we're sorry we missed you! Many thanks to all who participated in this important gathering, and to all who prayed for us.



Our SJS Organist **Michael Dirk** with **Brita Owen** and **Peter Kidd** wearing their ODNW medals.

They were attending the reception in the Trendell Lounge for **The Right Reverend John Stephens** after the church service on March 14th.



Our evensong and reception on Sunday, May 21 was followed by an organ recital! Isaac Howie, semi-finalist in the RCCO National Organ Competition, gave us a free organ recital for our enjoyment.

The ACW, Diocese of New Westminster's



56th Annual General Meeting

will be held May 27, 2023 at St. Thomas Anglican Church, 2444 E 41st Ave., Vancouver. Registration is at 9:30am.

Morning Eucharist celebrant will be the Right Reverend Bishop John Stephens. Guest speaker after the catered lunch will be Dr. Scott Brubacher, Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation of Canada. Cost- \$20-includes coffee and muffins at registration as well as lunch. Contact Alberta Rudolf by email if you are interested in attending. <u>email-alberta.rudolf@gmail.com</u>





NEWS FLASH" Great News

At long last the Kandeel Family's application to come to Canada has been approved!

ARRIVING JUNE 26, 2023!



They will touch down in Vancouver on June 26, 2023! That's right – in 32 days' time, so the Refugee Committee has swung into "High Gear".

While we will start to look for rental accommodations immediately, we know that we will need to secure temporary accommodations for at least a week – possible a few weeks. If anyone in the parish has a basement flat, extra rooms and were willing to host the family for this time (Bassel the father does speak some English), please contact Jennifer Clarke (604-505-9385) or Robyn Woodward (604-719-7454). We are also in need of a set of bunk beds with mattresses or two twins.

We are looking for more Volunteers, especially those who have time to drive Bassel and Hadeel to a few appointments, help move, unpack, and set up their new home once we find them rental accommodations. Call Jennifer or Robyn to let us know.



Looking for something this summer for kids? Always wished there was a place to in 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? <u>Contact</u> <u>Lauren by email to find out more</u>.

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.

Sox and Protein items for Homeless Needed

Thank you so much for your kind donations!

Small cans of tuna, chicken or sardines are needed as well as **socks**.

We are quite well stocked, at the moment, for other items.



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 (<u>church.office@sjs.net</u> 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, Rectorterry.dirbas@sjs.netThe Reverend James Hwang, Curatejhwang@sjs.netThe Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, Honorary Assisting PriestThe Reverend Karin Fulcher, Honorary DeaconThe Reverend Varin Fulcher, Honorary DeaconThe Reverend Pitman Potter, Honorary DeaconMichael Dirk, Music Directororganist@sjs.netJaime Yoon, Interim Choir Directorjaime.yoon@sjsparish.netAnn Houghton, Interim Parish Administratorchurch.office@sjs.net

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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