

From our Curate

One of the most beautiful songs of praise in the Bible is the Magnificat, the Song of Mary.

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant...” There we can find Mary’s total trust in God, gratitude, joy, humility, and hope, all of those we need in our faith journey. Probably, that is why the Church includes this song in the evening prayer.



Interestingly, this song was sung in response to Elizabeth’s greeting, not at the Annunciation of the Lord. After Mary was conceived by the Spirit, she went to see her aged cousin who was near to give a birth to John the Baptist. If we do a little bit of math, the Angel announced to Mary on March 25th, and the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth was May 31st, and the nativity of John the Baptist is June 24th. Since Mary stayed with her about three months, she must have been there to take care of her cousin Elizabeth.

But neither of the pregnancies was ordinary. Both were initiated by God’s providence, one was too old and infertile, the other was a virgin. Now we just read the passages as the third person with little emotional engagement, but we can easily imagine how they were at a loss experiencing something unexplainable and unknown.

In spite of what she herself was going through, Mary, instead of burying herself with worries or questions, went to help her cousin’s labour. Elizabeth also, instead of being occupied with her own emotional ups and down around her own pregnancy, paid attention to Mary and Jesus in her womb. They acknowledged God’s work in the other, and through their acknowledgement, finally the mystery of God that was sown in their own personal lives has come to be in full bloom to begin a new story. And Mary’s song was breathed into the world only then.

I think it is not that much different for our spiritual journey. Certainly, God speaks to us as individuals. Sometimes we feel inspired and enlightened with good thoughts, wishes, aspirations. However, these are not meant to be buried under doubt, or owned with pride. When we are humbly open ourselves to one another, we are encouraged and affirmed by others' witnessing God's presence in us, and further, we can also do the same for others. How are you helping people around you to let the seeds of goodness sprout? What do you see in the other person to be put into songs of praise?

Fr. James

Celebration Sunday – Festive Worship and BBQ June 11 at 10am

Join us as we celebrate the conclusion of a great program year! We'll recognize our volunteers and celebrate graduates and others with milestones or accomplishments. After church, we'll have a BBQ and games on the lawn.

Send in your celebrations! If you, your child, your grandchild, niece, or nephew have something to celebrate from the past year – a graduation, an award, a retirement, a marriage, or some other big event, please email the church office and share the news with us. We will print them in next week's service leaflet. Deadline for Submissions is Tuesday, June 6.

You can just email Ann in the office at:
church.office@sjs.net



The folks in the **Gardening Club** who make the grounds so pretty are looking for some **volunteers to water the plants and lawn** during the summer hot spells. It can be any day of the week as your schedule allows. If you can help out in this way please contact Sue Firus at 604 224-1993 or sfirus@shaw.ca

Once again the Vancouver Civic Theatres present Silent Movie Mondays. This coming Monday, June 5, the historic Mighty Wurlitzer organ in the Orpheum will be played by retired SJS organist Ed Norman to the 'The General'. Michael Dirk will play to three Chaplin shorts on July 10th.

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



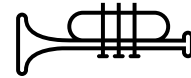
Socks, Thank You and Welcome!

A huge Thank You for your generous donations to the Westside Anglican Neighbourhood Ministry. We are well stocked in everything at the moment except socks.

Donations of socks are always welcome.

Also, we are pleased to **welcome Simon Chivers** to our Indoor Team as a backup coordinator.





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 just a couple of weeks, 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.



Alberta Rudolph delivered a hydrangea to Mary-Frances Ceccato on behalf of the St. John's Shaughnessy Pastoral Group. She also delivered a lily to Lydia Sirinler-MacGillavry.

EVENING PRAYER

with

The Neighbourhood Gospel Band

**Sunday, June 18, 2023 at 4:00pm
St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church
1490 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver**



Original watercolour by Marilyn Hames © 2023, adapted by permission.

Volunteers Needed for Vacation Bible Camp

SJS is hosting the diocesan Vacation Bible Camp this summer (see article below) and we need your help! We are looking for someone to coordinate craft supplies, and for several volunteers to be present throughout the week. If you can only volunteer for a day or two, that's ok, too! Please email Mother Terry with your availability. Many hands make light work. This is a great opportunity for our church to be a resource to the children and families in our community.



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.

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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