

Summer is finally here! Having lived through my first full Vancouver winter, I have never looked forward to summer more than I have in the last several months. The long hours of daylight, the (mostly) pleasant temperatures, and the opportunity to spend more time with my children are blessings I appreciate now more than I did last year.

People keep asking me if we're going anywhere this summer. While I had hoped to figure out a good place to escape for a while, it turns out finding accommodations for a family of seven is rather challenging.

Instead, this year we'll be doing a

"staycation" the first two weeks of August. We are planning to do different activities together as a family every day, many of which we haven't had a chance to do yet since moving here: Science World, the Aquarium, and more. If you have suggestions, please send them my way! Whatever we end up doing, I find myself now counting down the days until vacation just as I was counting down the days until the summer season began. I look forward to having a chance to rest, and to come back refreshed and ready for a new program year.

What about you? Are you taking time to renew yourself this summer? Whether or not you are able to travel, this season is a great opportunity to change your routine and to find some new energy for ministry in the year to come. One way of doing that is simply by leaning into the opportunity to rest. Just like we need sabbath every week, it is also perfectly natural to need a more extended down time every now and then. But in addition to resting, I want to invite you to consider summer as a time to discover a new spiritual practice. We often encourage this during Lent, but those suggestions often stem from an emphasis on penitence, discipline, or preparation for Easter.

What about now? In this time of relaxation, we just might discover that daily prayer or meditation actually enhances our ability to rest, recover, and find renewed energy. Perhaps this is just the time to take on something new.



If your spirituality is expressed more easily in a group setting, you may be excited to learn **we will begin a weekday service in mid-August** (after I return from holiday). This will be a Holy Eucharist with opportunity for healing prayers and anointing, and it will take place on **Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** Anyone who wishes to chat over tea or coffee afterward will be welcome to stay for a while. If those who are coming would like, that time could evolve into a bible study or book study of some sort. Please mark your calendars for our first service on **Thursday, August 17 at 10 a.m.**

The Book of Alternative Services includes a beautiful prayer, “For the Good Use of Leisure.”

O God, in the course of this busy life give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As our lives take many different directions in the month or two ahead, may we remain connected to one another in friendship and prayer. And may your summer, whatever shape it takes, bring you closer to yourself, closer to creation, and closer to the God who loves us all beyond our wildest imagination.

Blessings,

Mother Terry+

P.S. In my sermon on Sunday, I promised to share this prayer, written by Archbishop of Canterbury William Temple. It’s a great one to stick on the bathroom mirror, by the coffee pot, or wherever you’ll see it each day.

A Prayer of Self-Dedication

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Vancouver Civic Theatres Silent Movie Mondays presents Charlie Chaplin Shorts with musical accompaniment by our own **Michael Dirk** on the historic WurLitzer organ at the Orpheum Theatre. Following the show, Keith Blackmore of Vancouver Film School will host a lively discussion about the movies and the role of silent films in the evolution of film history with Bob Woolsey - the Head of Film Production at the Vancouver Film School.
Monday, July 10 at 7:30pm.

Tickets at Ticket Master.



Starting Monday, July 17



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.

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
Ann Houghton, Interim Parish Administrator	church.office@sjs.net

Trustees

The Rev. Terry Shields Dirbas, Rector	terry.dirbas@sjs.net
Ken Pepin, Rector's Warden	ken.pepin@sjs.net
Joan Stewart, People's Warden	joan.stewart@sjs.net
Mike Dezell	mike.dezell@sjs.net
Catherine Holmen	catherine.holmen@sjs.net



1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver, BC, V6H 2E2
(604) 731-4966
www.sjs.net