

Today is Holy Cross Day, a major feast in our Christian calendar. In the fourth century, the Emperor Constantine—the first to profess the Christian faith—sent his mother, Helena, to Israel on a mission to locate holy places significant to the faithful. When she uncovered what she believed to have been the sites of the crucifixion and burial of Christ (sites modern archaeologists believe may well be correct), she had the Church of the Holy Sepulchre built over them. The official dedication of the church took place on September 14, 335. On this feast day, we commemorate its dedication, as well as the discovery there of what tradition holds is a relic of the True Cross.

The dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre took place as a two-day festival, with the consecration occurring on September 13. On the second day, the True Cross was taken outside so that the clergy and people could pray before it, and everyone was invited to come forward and venerate it.

What does it mean to venerate the cross? How is it different than worship? All Christians agree that worship belongs to the Divine One, alone. But as visual, physical creatures attempting to worship an unseen God, images and objects can be helpful means to focus our devotion. The honour we pay to an image, then, can pass to the one whom it represents. For this reason, we hold the cross in high regard, as it reminds us of Christ, who gave his life upon it. This is also why we continue the ancient tradition of veneration of the cross at our worship on Good Friday. On the day of the Christian year that recalls, with intense emotion and reverence, the sacrifice of Jesus' life, we have an opportunity to do exactly what was done outside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the fourth century—to come forward, and kneel before the cross, and express our reverence and devotion not to a physical object, but to the Saviour who willingly was lifted up on it for our sake.

I encourage you, in the coming days, to notice the cross as you encounter it in daily life. That might be as you pass by churches, or see it on a piece of jewelry, in artwork, or anywhere else. Sometimes we become so accustomed to seeing the same things in our environment that we stop paying attention to them. Let us remember what a sacred symbol the cross is for us, and let our encounters with it move us to gratitude and prayer.

Blessings,  
Mother Terry+



## Welcome Back Sunday: Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who made our Welcome Back Sunday worship service and BBQ such a great success! We are so grateful to our musicians for their superb offering, and to people of all ages who brought backpacks and bags to be blessed. Many thanks also to everyone who brought dishes for the BBQ, tended the grill, helped with clean up, participated in our ball game, cared for the Kandeel family

as they visited, or helped in any way. Most of all, thank you for your presence! **We had 97 people at church on Sunday across both services.** It is a joy to be in community together. Let's keep up the good energy in the busy season ahead!

## Weekly Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers, followed by Bible Study Thursdays at 10 a.m.

We invite you to join us for our mid-week service of Holy Eucharist. If you'd like to receive prayers for healing, there will be opportunity for anointing with holy oil and healing prayers with the clergy. There is a low-key Bible Study afterwards. All are welcome!



## ACW Place Grand Opening

ACW Place has relocated from the leased space in Burnaby (since 2011) to a leased warehouse in Surrey. The new address is: Anglican Church Women, Diocese of New Westminster, Unit 3--6678 152nd St., Surrey, B.C. V3S 7J2.

The Grand Opening was held September 9, 2023 with Venerable Louie Engen in attendance and Chaplain Miranda Sutherland (who cut the cake) and Beth Fortin, Social Action {who offered smudging} and President Kelly Bowman (officiating and conducting tours) {the first photo}.



The second group photo features branch members and fellowship group members from throughout the diocese of New Westminster.

The ACW is a not-for-profit registered society in the province of B.C.

The philanthropy of the ACW is extensive which is aligned with the purposes of the society, one of which is to unite women in fellowship of worship, study and stewardship which will deepen and strengthen their own spiritual lives and which lead them into Christian service everywhere.



**All Anglican women are invited to become members.** The forerunner of ACW was known as the Women's Auxiliary (1904-1966) and became ACW in 1966.

Submitted by Alberta Rudolf, ODNW, ACW Board Secretary and SJS Fellowship Chair.

**BEADING WORKSHOP**  
**Saturday, September 23**  
**1:30-4:30pm at**  
**St. Philip's Anglican Church**  
**3737 W. 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Vancouver**



Beading has an 8,000 year history among First Nations Peoples. Early trade with Europeans included beads which were used for adornment and ceremonial items. First Nations People and Metis used these trade beads to adorn clothing and household items. The Metis were called “The Flower Beadwork People” by some First Nations People in response to the beautiful work created by the Metis women.

Led by Kerry Baisley, in this workshop we will be introduced to Metis beading and go on to learn different beading techniques as we create a beaded Orange Shirt pin. We will talk about the Residential School experience of Phyllis Webstad and how Orange Shirt Day came into being. This pin can be worn to remind yourself and others of the Children who attended Indian Residential Schools.

Kerry has been serving as the Missioner for Indigenous Justice for the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster since 2020. Previously Kerry worked in positions ranging from Emergency Child Welfare, a Regional Social Worker in the Yukon, and Medical Social Work in Residential Care. He retired as a Director of Client Relations and Risk Management in Richmond Hospital with Vancouver Coastal Health. He is a past Board Member of the I27 Society for Housing and a member of the Métis Nation of British Columbia.

This workshop costs \$15/person and space is limited to 15 participants, so be sure to register today! Please let us know if you have any beading experience.

[Beading Workshop - Orange Shirt Pins Tickets,](#)  
[Sat, 23 Sep 2023 at 1:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)



***Vancouver School of Theology & Christ Church Cathedral present  
a free workshop with The Rev. Scott Gunn***

Saturday, Sept 30th  
Free workshop  
10am - 3pm (lunch included)  
In-Person & Online  
Room 110 - Vancouver School of Theology  
6015 Walter Gage Rd, Vancouver

Sometimes you hear people say the church is dying and that our task is to save it. Scott Gunn will lead us through conversation about how Jesus promised that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church, and he's the saviour, not us! But as we look toward the future in a post-Christendom world, the church needs to focus on discipleship and evangelism in a way it has not done for centuries.

The Rev. Scott Gunn is executive director of Forward Movement, a discipleship ministry of the Episcopal Church in the USA. He travels widely as preacher, speaker, and retreat leader. Author of several books, his most recent book is *Easter Triumph, Easter Joy: Meditations for the Fifty Days of Eastertide*. Prior to serving at Forward Movement, Scott was a parish priest in the Diocese of Rhode Island. Before that, he had a career in information technology. He lives in Cincinnati, Ohio with his spouse, the Rev. Sherilyn Pearce.

Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/the-gates-of-hell-will-not-prevail-why-we-dont-need-to-save-the-church-tickets-699172161757?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>



# Upcoming Events

## **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**

7 p.m. Parish Council Meeting

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

4 p.m. Choral Evensong

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1**

3 p.m. Blessing of the Animals

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5**

6 p.m. Taizé Prayer

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

4 p.m. Neighbourhood Gospel Band  
Concert

## **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27**

7:30 p.m. 18th Annual RCCO  
Organ Spooktacular  
Halloween Concert

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29**

4 p.m. Choral Evensong  
for All Faithful Departed

## **EVERY THURSDAY**

10 a.m. Healing Eucharist and Bible Study

St. John's, Shaughnessy  
1490 NANTON AVE.

# Calendar



## There's still a spot on the Hospitality Team!

Volunteering for the Coffee Hour Team has never been easier. Our newest team member, Rena, the “Coffee Hour Verger” does much of the preparation and cleanup and as a volunteer you would usually only serve once every 2 months. Besides hosting and helping our guests, you would bring a few goodies

and check the supplies for next week's host. If you'd like to be on this team, please just email Ken Pepin at: [ken.pepin@sjsparish.net](mailto:ken.pepin@sjsparish.net)

## Invitation to serve on the Church Greeter Team

*Dear Parishioners:*

We are thankful for your presence and ministry at St. John's, Shaughnessy. As you know, our church values meaningful times of worship, outreach and fellowship. As we continue to grow and welcome visitors and long-time members, we need to expand our rota of volunteers to serve as greeters on Sunday mornings.



**Time commitment:** 9:30am-10am once every two months on Sunday mornings.

**Duties:** You will be greeting entrants at the church door; handing out service leaflets; sharing a smile, a “hello,” and the warmth of your presence; receiving the collection during the service and taking it up to the altar at the appropriate time. You will be trained and paired with an experienced greeter.

**Please consider joining this ministry.** Contact Joan Stewart, People's Warden, at (604) 805-7315 or email [jstewart@westerndriver.com](mailto:jstewart@westerndriver.com)



# TAIZÉ PRAYER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH AT 6PM

ST. JOHN'S, SHAUGHNESSY  
1490 NANTON AVE

Taizé is a form of Christian prayer originating from the ecumenical Christian community of Taizé in France.

One is invited to rest in God through the singing of psalm verses and other simple chants, alternating with periods of silent reflection.

**Pottery hand building workshop  
- spiritual practice of creativity**

September 30th Saturday 2pm  
(coiling)  
October 14th Saturday 2pm  
(pinching)

At St. John's Shaughnessy Parish  
Facilitated by James Hwang  
Number of participants is limited



Spirituality in general always includes restoring connection. From my experience of doing pottery over 10 years, pottery in that sense, is not just a craft but also a spiritual practice of being in touch with the soil in a tactile way, being in touch with your body, being in touch with your inner creativity. The sessions are offered separately on different dates and will include some reflective sharing about creativity and conversations.

Since there is no wheel at the parish, it will be slap building, coiling, or pinching. Due to the limits of space, each session will accommodate a limited number between 2 and 4 participants, and you may inquire other specific dates of your own if you are registering with someone (non-parishioner is welcome as well).

The materials and kiln will be offered by Hand Eye Pottery Studio. To get the final piece, it will take about 2 weeks, and once it is bisque fired, you will get an email to choose which glaze you would like to choose. The fee is for the material and firing fee. It will be decided by the size of the object later, and I speculate approximately 10 CAD for the size of cereal bowl. Please register at [jhwang@sjns.net](mailto:jhwang@sjns.net) (please indicate what you would like to make, i.e. cup, bowl, vase, plant pot, plate, etc.)

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net">terry.dirbas@sjs.net</a>
The Reverend James Hwang, Curate	<a href="mailto:jhwang@sjs.net">jhwang@sjs.net</a>
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, Honorary Assisting Priest	
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, Honorary Deacon	
The Reverend Pitman Potter, Honorary Deacon	
Michael Dirk, Music Director	<a href="mailto:organist@sjs.net">organist@sjs.net</a>
Ann Houghton, Interim Parish Administrator	<a href="mailto:church.office@sjs.net">church.office@sjs.net</a>

### Trustees

The Rev. Terry Shields Dirbas, Rector	<a href="mailto:terry.dirbas@sjs.net">terry.dirbas@sjs.net</a>
Ken Pepin, Rector's Warden	<a href="mailto:ken.pepin@sjsparish.net">ken.pepin@sjsparish.net</a>
Joan Stewart, People's Warden	<a href="mailto:joan.stewart@sjsparish.net">joan.stewart@sjsparish.net</a>
Mike Dezell	<a href="mailto:mike.dezell@sjsparish.net">mike.dezell@sjsparish.net</a>
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