

### **From the Rector**

On Ash Wednesday this year, I went to a nearby transit station and offered “ashes to go” to the community. I wore a cassock and surplice, and I took a sign identifying our parish. I arrived around 8 am, and I stayed until the morning rush had passed.

I got all kinds of reactions from people. Some smiled. Some avoided eye contact. Others looked at me with curiosity. A woman crossing the intersection continued to look at me and then look away. As she got closer, she turned to her companion and said, “Oh! It’s Ash Wednesday!”

While I may have seemed a bit unusual to most people, I did have many positive interactions. A few people came and asked me what the ashes were for, providing an opportunity for me to share a bit about our faith. And for the Christians who approached me, it offered a meaningful way to mark the day and the start of the Lenten season. Some of them asked about our parish. Some simply thanked me for being there. Others had to “ash and dash” because they were trying to catch a train. But all of it was wonderful and holy.

Next year, I would love to have company. It’s a very rewarding ministry, and a great opportunity for the church to be present in the wider community. If you are curious about ashes to go, please let me know.

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Our Tuesday evening formation series is off to a great start! Last week we talked about how we got the canon of Scripture in the first place, as well as important things to consider when trying to interpret what we read in the Bible.

This coming Tuesday, we’ll dive right into a big topic— violence in Scripture. I’ll share some background on ritual sacrifice in the Old Testament, and we’ll consider the Biblical narrative of Abraham and Isaac. If you’d like to follow along in Rob Bell’s book,

*What is the Bible?*, check out chapters 14 & 16. Please also read Genesis 22. You might also want to listen to the Leonard Cohen song, "[The Story of Isaac](#)."

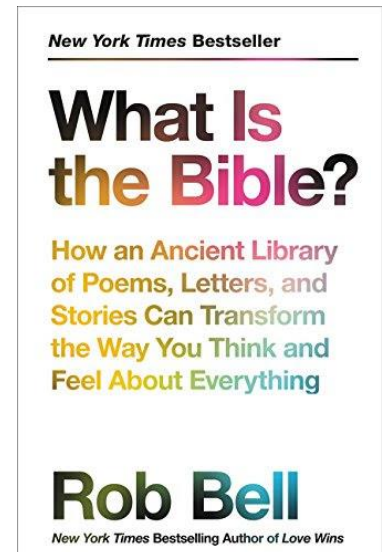
Whether or not you've read anything, please join us for fellowship and good conversation!

*Mtr. Terry*

## **Tuesday Evening Lenten Study, beginning February 20**

On Tuesday evenings in Lent, Mother Terry will lead an adult study based loosely on the book, *What is the Bible? How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything*. In this series, we'll explore common questions about the Bible and how it is relevant to our lives in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

This is a very quick, easy read. Some people love Rob Bell's informal writing style. Others prefer a more linear thought process. Whatever your take, don't worry! The book is simply a springboard for conversation.



Topics will include:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 20 | Where did the canon of Scripture come from?<br>How do we interpret what we read in the Bible?   |
| February 27 | How do we deal with difficult portions of the Bible—<br>especially religious violence?<br>Sacrifice in the Old Testament, and the story of Isaac  |
| March 5     | What role does dualistic thinking play in our daily lives and in<br>religious thought?<br>Dietary laws and Peter's vision   |
| March 12    | Who is our neighbour?<br>The Good Samaritan and Jonah   |
| March 19    | Did Jesus have to die? Christian interpretations of the<br>atonement in Scripture and liturgy<br><i>Presentation by the Ven. Dr. Richard Leggett, Professor<br/>Emeritus of Liturgics at Vancouver School of Theology</i> |

For the first session, please read the introduction as well as chapters 1, 2, and 10 in *What is the Bible*, if you are able. Reading for subsequent weeks will be shared in due course. Although it is not necessary to “do homework” to participate, you’ll have a better experience if you do.

**We will have a limited number of copies of the book available at the church, beginning this Sunday.** The book is also available online in a variety of formats, including as an e-book and as an audiobook.

Upcoming Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Noon Annual Vestry Meeting

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

7 p.m. Marc D'Anjou Organ Concert

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

4 p.m. Choral Evensong

TUESDAYS, BEGINNING FEB 20

7 p.m. Lenten Study on *What is the Bible?*

EVERY THURSDAY

9 a.m. Labyrinth Open for Meditation  
10 a.m. Healing Eucharist and Bible Study

St. John's, Shaughnessy


1400 NANTON AVE.

Calendar

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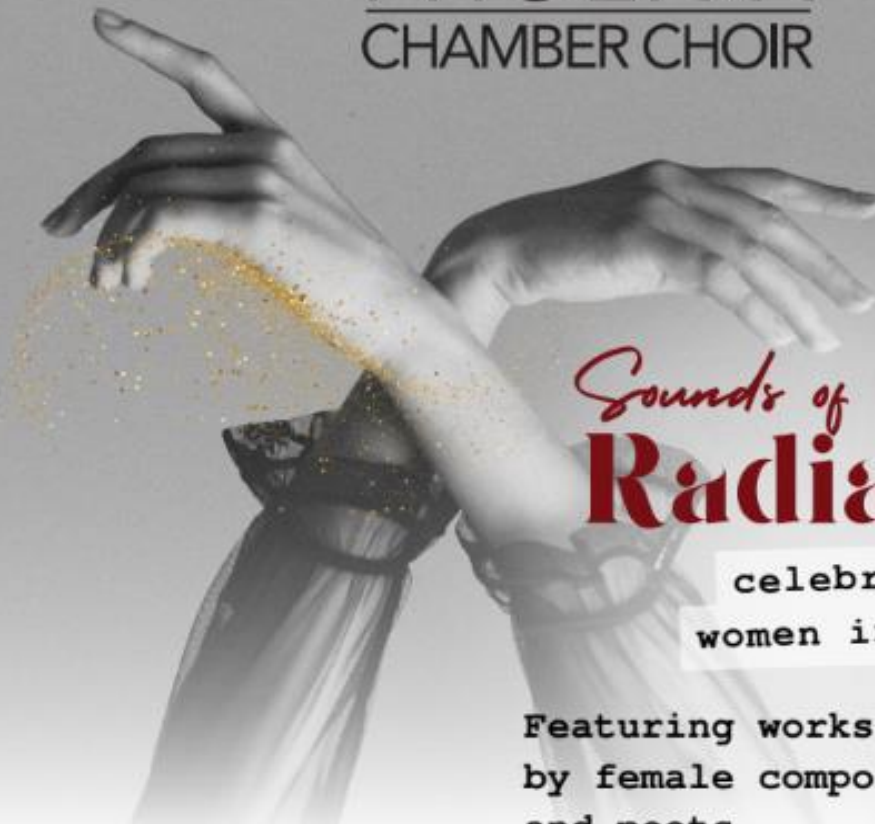
Lent 2024    Sundays @ 7 pm

18 February, 25 February, 9 March,  
10 March, 24 March



**St Augustine's Anglican Church**  
8680 Hudson Street  
Vancouver, BC  
V6P 4M5  
604 263 9212  
[staugustinesanglican.com](http://staugustinesanglican.com)

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SEASON

23 | 24

 **St John's** &  **RCCO · CRCCO**  
SHAUGHNESSY  
PRESENT

Quebec City  
Cathedral-Basilica  
Organist  
**Marc D'Anjou**  
in concert

St. John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church  
1490 Nanton Ave. Vancouver

**March | 2<sup>nd</sup> | 2024 | 7:00 PM**

Tickets at the door  
Adults \$20  
Students & Seniors \$10  
Families pay what you can

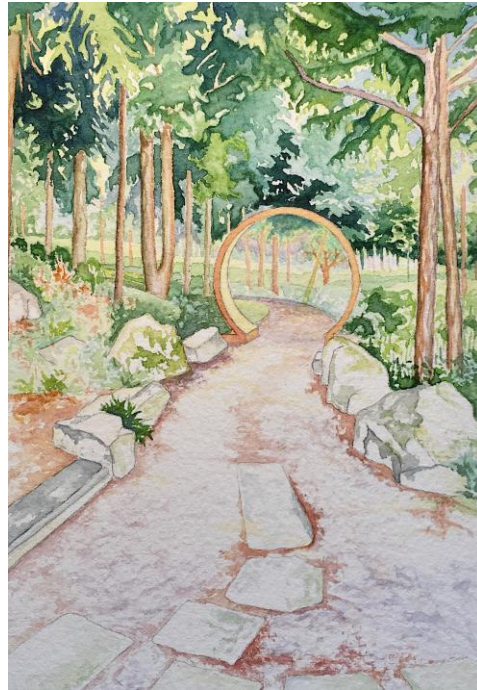


*From the Baroque era to the 21st century,  
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Vierne's "Carillon de Westminster", and  
Vancouver's own Denis Bédard*





## Finding “The Way”



A quiet mini-retreat at SJS  
for reflection, spiritual refreshment and drafting  
a personal *Rule of Life*\*

10:00 am-2:30 pm, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 at SJS  
(Please bring a bagged-lunch)

\*Anglicans are encouraged to frame a *Rule of Life* that evolves to guide us  
on our faith journeys as well as through life as circumstances change

## Volunteers for making props for Sunday school (Godly Play materials)

We all know that the presence of children at our parish is a treasure beyond measure. Their innocence, curiosity, and unrestricted imagination bring vitality to the community and we learn how to love and be kind while nurturing them. Our parish is also blessed with a group of dedicated volunteers who offer their time and talent to children's ministry. Using Godly play format, we have been providing children a space and time to listen to the stories in the Bible in a tangible way, ponder on personal meanings from the stories, and create their own stories in a playful way.

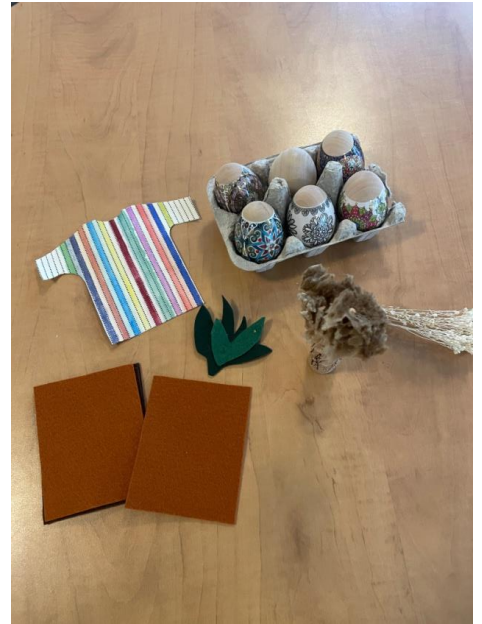


Beginning from the New

Year, our team has been trying to upgrade the settings so that the program can serve its purpose for our children's growth in a better way. One of those efforts was adding more stories that would intrigue and inspire them. Many teachers contributed their time and resources already, and I would like to ask for help from anyone who wants to join this particular project. The following props are

bisque fired clay pieces, which are ready to be painted. The props serve as symbols not toys so these are already okay as they are, but I think more colors will make children more interested in stories.

Painting props is one thing, but once we get together, I will appreciate extra hands in making plaques with printed images. There are also other props that require different materials (clothe, paper, little branches, etc), and more ideas and participation will be welcome. The ones in the last photo are examples, which were made by Marilyn. At the moment, Saturday seems to be a good day for gathering, but it can change depending on available schedule of participants. Please contact me through parish email: [jhwang@sjs.net](mailto:jhwang@sjs.net)



## **Labyrinth is Open**

The Labyrinth here at St. John's Shaughnessy will be open for walking on Thursday mornings from 9 am to 9:45 am. For those who would like to stay, a service of Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers begins at 10 am followed by a low-key Bible Study.

## **Westside Anglican Neighbourhood Ministry**

As always, we are very grateful for the generosity of parishioners for their donations that go out to folks living on the street. At the moment we are especially in need of the following items:

- Socks (thick socks are good, but please not so thick that folks cannot get shoes on over them)
- T-shirts (medium size and up is best)
- Pudding cups
- Simple wipes (or an equivalent brand) for hands/face/body in small packets
- Handwarmers
- Toothbrushes individually wrapped
- Disposable shaving razors

We also welcome donations of the following items that are continually needed:

- Warm tops (hoodies, sweaters)
- Sweat pants
- Travel size toothpastes
- Mini unscented soaps (like you find at hotels)
- Meal replacement drinks (e.g. Ensure/Boost)
- Juice boxes with straws
- Fruit caps
- Canned tuna or similar (check that it has a ring pull)
- Soft granola bars (not hard or crunchy)



## 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@sjis.net](mailto:church@sjis.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 the office ([church.office@sjis.net](mailto:church.office@sjis.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, <i>Rector</i>	<a href="mailto:terry.dirbas@sjns.net">terry.dirbas@sjns.net</a>
The Reverend James Hwang, <i>Curate</i>	<a href="mailto:jhwang@sjns.net">jhwang@sjns.net</a>
The Reverend Dr. Marilyn Hames, <i>Honorary Assisting Priest</i>	
The Reverend Karin Fulcher, <i>Deacon (Retired)</i>	
The Reverend Pitman Potter, <i>Deacon (Retired)</i>	
Dr. Graeme Langager, <i>Choral Director</i>	<a href="mailto:graeme.langager@sjns.net">graeme.langager@sjns.net</a>
Michael Dirk, <i>Principal Organist and Artist-in-Residence</i>	<a href="mailto:organist@sjns.net">organist@sjns.net</a>
Jonathan Robinson, <i>Assistant Organist</i>	
Deanna Ferguson, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	<a href="mailto:church.office@sjns.net">church.office@sjns.net</a>

### Trustees

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