

Thoughts for the Day

Perfect Light of revelation,
as you shone in the life of Jesus,
whose epiphany we celebrate,
so shine in us and through us,
that we may become beacons of truth and compassion,
enlightening all creation with deeds of justice and mercy. Amen.

From the Revised Common Lectionary Prayers

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey

DATES TO NOTE

Sun. Feb. 26 Vestry Sunday, after Church
Sun. Feb. 26 Sweeter than Roses, 4 pm.
Mon. Feb. 27 MAID talk, St. John's Shaughnessy, 7 pm.
Tues. Feb. 28 Seniors Café, 10 am
Sat. Mar. 4 Open Gym, 5:30 pm

CHILDREN AT CHURCH - EVERY SUNDAY

At the 10.00am service there are Church School classes for all children who wish to attend. Children are encouraged to come to the front of the church for the "Children's Focus" and then leave for their classes, returning during the Peace. The youngest (newborns to two years old) can use our "Noah's Ark" room (just off the side of the church) under parental supervision.



GARDEN WORK PARTY - Tuesday, February 28, 10:00 – 3:00

Weather permitting, we will hold two garden work parties for the street side and courtyard gardens on the above dates in February. Drop by for an hour or two in the morning or afternoon. Coffee, tea, juice, and cookies will be on hand. Please bring your own gloves, small clippers, and a rake. Check with Ann about which patch to work. We will provide small tarps for waste and bins and a barrow for transferring green waste to the alley, or for removal off site. Please contact

Ann at ann@catkinggardens.ca if you have any questions.

SENIORS CAFÉ IS BACK

Seniors Café has returned and will continue on alternate Tuesday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:00 until Noon. A special event is planned to welcome you back. Come and join us for tea, coffee, refreshments and friendly conversation or find a partner for a game of crib or Scrabble. Please reach out and invite a friend or neighbour to come to Seniors Café.

SWEETER THAN ROSES - SIMPLE BEAUTY FOR A WINTER'S AFTERNOON

On February 26th at 4 pm, after the Annual Vestry meeting, please consider taking an hour or so to revel in some of the most beautiful music ever written.

Lucy Smith, soprano, joined by Michael Murray on organ and harpsichord, and Natalie Mackie on viola da gamba, will share some of her favourite music in the lovely acoustics of St Philip's.

The program will include excerpts from Handel's Theodora, Bach's Anna Magdalena Notebook, and Telemann's Germanicus, songs by Purcell and Monteverdi, and solo organ pieces.

Admission is by donation at the door. Suggested donation is \$20.



ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

The annual Vestry meeting will be on February 26th at 12:00 pm, following the 10:00 am service. The Annual Vestry Report for 2016 is available in the Narthex. The Auditors' Report was unable to make the deadline and will be passed out next week.

The meeting will receive parish reports and financial statements for the year 2016 and the budget for 2017, and nominations for Parish Officers will be presented and voted upon. All Vestry members are invited to attend. A light lunch will be served to those attending the meeting.

REFUGEE UPDATE

The application package for Lama and her four children, Syrians in a refugee camp in Lebanon, was mailed to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada just before Christmas.

In the new year, Mary will also put together an application package for the family's grandparents. Including the grandparents will cost an additional \$10,000 to the original fundraising goal of \$40,000, making the new goal \$50,000. We have already raised more than \$25,000 and will likely have a year or so to fundraise the remaining money.

If you wish to donate, please make cheques payable to St. Philip's and write "Refugee Fund" on the envelope as well as on the memo line. For more information please contact Mary Lymburner, 778-898-5117 or kmarylymburner@telus.net

ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN HOME FUNDRAISER

St. Jude's Anglican Home is putting on a capital fundraiser by putting on a play at the Metro Theatre at 1370 S.W. Marine Drive on Wednesday, March 8th at 8 pm. The play is called "Guilty Conscience". Tickets are \$50 each, but receive a \$25 tax receipt per ticket. There will also be a silent auction, a 50/50 draw and light refreshments available. For tickets, speak to Beth Vondette in the Church office.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING FORUM

St. Philip's is presenting a public event, featuring Dr. Charles Blanke at St. John's Shaughnessy at 7 pm on Monday, February 27th. St. John's Shaughnessy is located at 1410 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver.

CANONICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Canonical Committee started its work last year after the resignation of our rector, John Stephens, to work with the parish in the development of a parish profile and identifying a candidate to be our new rector. We were advised from the start that we must take a minimum of twelve to eighteen months to move through the process.

We now have our representative from the diocese and are able to move into the final stages to complete the profile.

To get to this stage, the Canonical Committee has been working in the background all year. Along with hiring John Bailey as our Priest in Charge, we have been: pulling together material from the many parish ministries and groups; reviewing the results of the Parish Questionnaire and input from the Visioning Days; working with Church Committee to finalize the mission statement and parish goals; and reviewing a variety of resources to inform the parish profile.

We look forward to providing further updates at the Vestry meeting on February 26.

CHAPEL UPDATE

After the 10:00am service today, there will be an update from the Chapel Task Force on the progress made so far in exploring possible renovations to the Chapel. Please plan to attend, your input is valuable and welcomed.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY: PACKET WISH LIST

- ◆ Boost or Ensure Nutrition Drink
- ◆ Tinned Meat
- ◆ Juice Boxes
- ◆ Socks
- ◆ Disposable Razors
- ◆ Fruit Cups and plastic spoons



Avoid items with nuts and raisins, as they are hard on the teeth. Please, no expired items.

CARETAKER'S REQUEST

Gerry, our caretaker, has submitted a wish list of power tools and other items that would make his tasks much easier. He is looking for the following items:

- ▶ electric drill
- ▶ electric sander
- ▶ skill saw
- ▶ various drill bits
- ▶ open-end or box-end wrench
- ▶ pipe wrench
- ▶ trouble lite

If you happen to have any of these items lying around unused in your garages, and wish to donate them, please contact Beth Vondette at the office.

SENIORS CAFÉ - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Seniors Café would benefit from having several more volunteers to help set up and greet visitors. Come and share some laughter and great stories around the café tables. If you could contribute an hour or two on a Tuesday morning this winter or spring, please contact Ann Kent at ann@catkinggardens.ca.

PALM CROSSES

Please remember to bring any palm crosses you may have to the Church before the 10:00 a.m. service and Annual Meeting on February 26. The palms will be burnt in preparation for Palm Sunday.

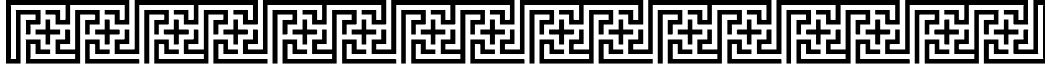
THE LOOK OF LOVE - A MAGICAL MUSICAL EVENING

The Vancouver Hospice Society is having a Fundraising Gala Concert at 7:30 pm on March 4th at Shaughnessy United Church, featuring Jane Mortifee, Sound Eclectic Vocal Ensemble and EnChor. Tickets are \$30 and available for purchase at the Hospice, HOB Outlets, or PayPal at www.soundeclectic.ca. Raffle tickets are also available for high-end prizes (winners will be drawn at the concert) from hospice volunteers (1 for \$10; 3 for \$25; 5 for \$50). Top prize is an all-expenses paid weekend at Tofino's exclusive Wickaninnish Inn.

ST. PHILIP'S STREET SIDE AND COURTYARD GARDENS - A REQUEST



The gardens at St. Philip's took quite a beating from the snow and an extended period of freezing during December and January. It will be several weeks before we can determine the extent of any dieback or permanent damage. We ask that people do not cut or prune shrubs, trees, or woody perennials. Please limit clean-up to very gently raking away loose dead leaves or foliage and contact Ann at ann@catkinggardens.ca for guidance. Unfortunately, someone has already chopped several small shrubs to grade level in beds and containers – we cannot afford to replace these – and cut back several roses, an invitation to a host of diseases during chilly, wet weather. Piles of debris left lying loose on the courtyard is also a problem - this poses a tripping hazard and we cannot quickly dispose of green waste that is left to lie. If you have the urge to help with clean-up, please join us at one of our February work parties.



The Grateful Bones

By The Rev'd. Clare Morgan

Bramble bitten,
wilderness weary,
we stand on cliffs and long for flight
wait by water for living wine
gather pebbles as crumbs

Where are our kingdoms now?
Sand between our toes

Is this the devil that drives me,
or is an absence only an absence:
the howling apathy
the contemptuous void

Where is the voice that sang to my scars?
The thorny sage
whose crimson petals I plucked
only to trample.

It is my own dust I trample them into.

I will gather them and set them free
in an empty valley
where once a great voice sang
and a chorus rose
from grateful bones