

THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

As people of God, we celebrate Christ in the heart of Victoria through joyful worship,
building inclusive community, and putting faith into action.

St. John's acknowledges these ancestral territories of the Lekwungen people.



Welcome to the Parish Church of St. John the Divine, Victoria. We are a community of faith in the Anglican Tradition, seeking to live lives of faith, hope and love as part of this community of Downtown Victoria. We are on a journey of learning to be a welcoming, inviting, inclusive and serving community which is open to all.

Our worship reflects our rootedness in the Anglican tradition, whilst drawing on liturgies that reflect the long history and heritage of our Christian faith. Please join in as you feel able, and enjoy the words, music and opportunity for prayer and to be a part of our community.

If our service seems unfamiliar, please follow the cues from our leaflet, the ministers leading the service and those around you. Most of our Sunday morning worship services have the Eucharist, or Holy Communion, at the heart of our worship – please feel free to join us, whatever your tradition, in the sharing of bread and wine, at the station nearest to where you are seated. Gluten free wafers are available at all stations: Please indicate if you need one.

Within the Anglican Church of Canada (under the advice of the Primate and the Chief Medical Officer for Canada) we would ask that bread is not dipped into the wine, as this has the potential to spread infection in a way that the sharing of the cup does not. If you would prefer not to share the cup then receiving only bread is considered ‘full communion’ (also known as ‘Communion in One Kind’).

If there is anything that you wish to talk about, please do take the opportunity to talk to the worship leaders, ministers and other members of the congregation following the service. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Healing Prayer group in the south Quadra entrance who would be happy to pray with you as the Holy Communion is shared.

After our service we usually share coffee and an opportunity to get to know one another, in the Church Hall – through the door on the front left hand side. We have many visitors and newcomers here so please make yourself known to folks as you feel comfortable.

You are very welcome here. We don’t always get it right; please let us know when we do, and when we don’t. Please stay and be a part of our family, for however long you would like.

8:00 am Holy Communion

The order of service is found on page 67 in the Book of Common Prayer

Presider: The Venerable Alastair McCollum

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

The congregation is invited to join in the hymns, responses and prayers marked in bold print.

Presider: The Reverend Canon Kevin Arndt

Deacon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Sermon: The Reverend Patrick Sibley

Readers: Doug Henderson, Chris Eve

Intercessor: Peggy Wilmot

Verger: Richard Routledge

Audio: Bob McIntosh

Music: The Community Choir of St. John the Divine

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (CP 98)

BRISTOL

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Advent wreath is lit.

People of God: return!
You are called to be God's own.
From the mountains announce the good news.
God comes in justice and peace,
to all who follow his ways.
You are God's children.

**All: Lord, make us one in the peace of Christ
today and for ever.
Amen.**

Children and youth continue their worship in the Parish House and will rejoin us for communion.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God

All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS

The priest introduces the prayers.

KYRIE

The priest reminds us of God's healing and forgiveness.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God for whom we watch and wait,
you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way of your Son:
give us courage to speak the truth,
to hunger for justice,
and to suffer for the cause of right,
with Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004)

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 3

Isaiah 12:2-6



With joy you will draw wa-ter from the wells of sal-va tion.

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation. **R**

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted. **R**

Sing praises to the Lord,
for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

THE EPISTLE

Philippians 4:1-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN (CP 105)

MORNING SONG

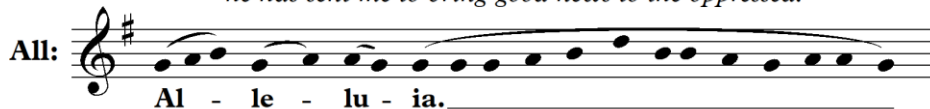
THE GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

Before the Gospel



*Deacon or Cantor: The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has annointed me :
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.*



The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare the faith of Christ as we say,

All: Hear, O Israel;
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE PEACE

Please stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY HYMN (CP 90)

NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of abundance, we bring before you
the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Prayer C – Liturgy of the Islands

May God be with you

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to our God.

Let us give thanks to the Creator of all.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you,
God of love, our source and our fulfillment,
for you create all things
and in you we live and move and have our being.
Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.

You made us in your image. And even though we turn from you,
again and again you call us to yourself, and in every age, promise liberation.

As a mother gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own
to nurture them in the way of compassionate love.
You sent Jesus among us,
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary.
Jesus revealed your love for all Creation,
and showed us the way of reconciliation.

Having lived among us -
Jesus suffered the cross,
died,
and in rising again
became the firstborn of the renewed family.

Your Holy Spirit descended
and gave life to your church.

And so we gather around your table,
with all the saints
and with all Creation
We sing the hymn of your unending love:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

To you be glory, almighty God,
because on the night before he died,
Jesus took bread,
when he had given thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you:

Do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
Poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins;
Do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Recalling Christ's death and resurrection,
we ask you to accept this, our sacrifice of praise.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts
that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son.

Unite us in Christ and give us your hope
that we might be strengthened to do your work
as your body in the world.

Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit,
all praise and glory be yours, Creator God, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ambrosian Chant

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

**All: Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

THE COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.

All are invited to receive communion. Please follow the Greeters' instructions. Receiving bread or wine is considered full communion. It is the practice of the ACC not to dip the bread into the wine. Any not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing, and to indicate that by holding their arms crossed on their chest.

If you are unable to come to a communion station please make this known to the Greeters and we will bring communion to you.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request them from the person who is distributing the bread.

We invite those wishing prayer for themselves or on behalf of someone else to come to the front of the line to receive the bread and wine. Immediately after receiving, go to the prayer station in the south Quadra entrance. Briefly state your need. The prayer team will lay hands on your shoulders and will pray quietly for you.

ANTHEM DURING COMMUNION

Rorate caeli desuper et nubes pluant iustum.

Aperiatur terra et germinet salvatorem.

*Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness:
let the earth open, and let it bring forth a Saviour.*

Words: from the Advent Prose. Music: C. Tye (1505-1572)

THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God for whom we wait,
**All: in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day
when the hungry will be fed with good things.**
**Send us forth to make known your deeds
and to proclaim the greatness of your name,
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.**
Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

ACCLAMATION FOR ADVENT

In the life of our Church
All: Come, Lord Jesus!
With love and compassion
All: Come, Lord Jesus!
In grace and mercy
All: Come, Lord Jesus!
Through love and service
All: Come, Lord Jesus!
In wisdom and growth
All: Come, Lord Jesus!

THE BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL HYMN (CP 102)

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

VOLUNTARY Nun komm der Heiden Heiland

J. Pachelbel (1653-1706)

You are invited to be seated for the Voluntary or to leave at this point.

Coffee and tea will be served in the Parish Hall.



Tonight - 7:30 pm

The traditional carol service
first made popular through the
Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College Cambridge.
Traditional Christmas hymns,
readings, and choral carols.
Sung by The Choristers of St. John the Divine.

READINGS FOR DECEMBER 23 – THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Micah 5:2-5a The prophet tells a besieged people of a coming ruler to be recognized by his ways for peace, justice and security.

Luke 1:46-55 This song of joy is known as the “Magnificat” from its opening word in Latin.

Hebrews 10:5-10 Jesus has made a once and for all sacrifice to bring us to God.

Luke 1:39-45 When Mary realizes she is pregnant with the child who would be Jesus, she goes to visit her relative Elizabeth.

FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God in loving memory of Herbert Alan and Ruth Fenton Zenger, from Michael, Carol-Ann and Susanna.



Today we welcome Theresa James-Bates and family, of the Burnside Gorge Community Centre, who will receive our white gifts for distribution to needy families and children at Christmas through the Centre.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Today

11:45 am	Sunday Reflections	Rector's Office
2:00 pm	PFLAG	Denson Lounge
7:30 pm	Lessons and Carols for Christmas	Church

Monday 17

2:00 pm	Book Study	Chapel
4:00 pm	Living Presence Meditation	Chapel

Tuesday 18

10:00 am	Food Bank	Crypt
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Wednesday 19

7:45 am	Holy Communion followed by Breakfast	Chapel/Denson Lounge
9:30 am	Sermon Circle	Denson Lounge
1:30 pm	Art and Soul Group	Crypt

Thursday 20

12:10 pm	Meditative Eucharist	Chapel
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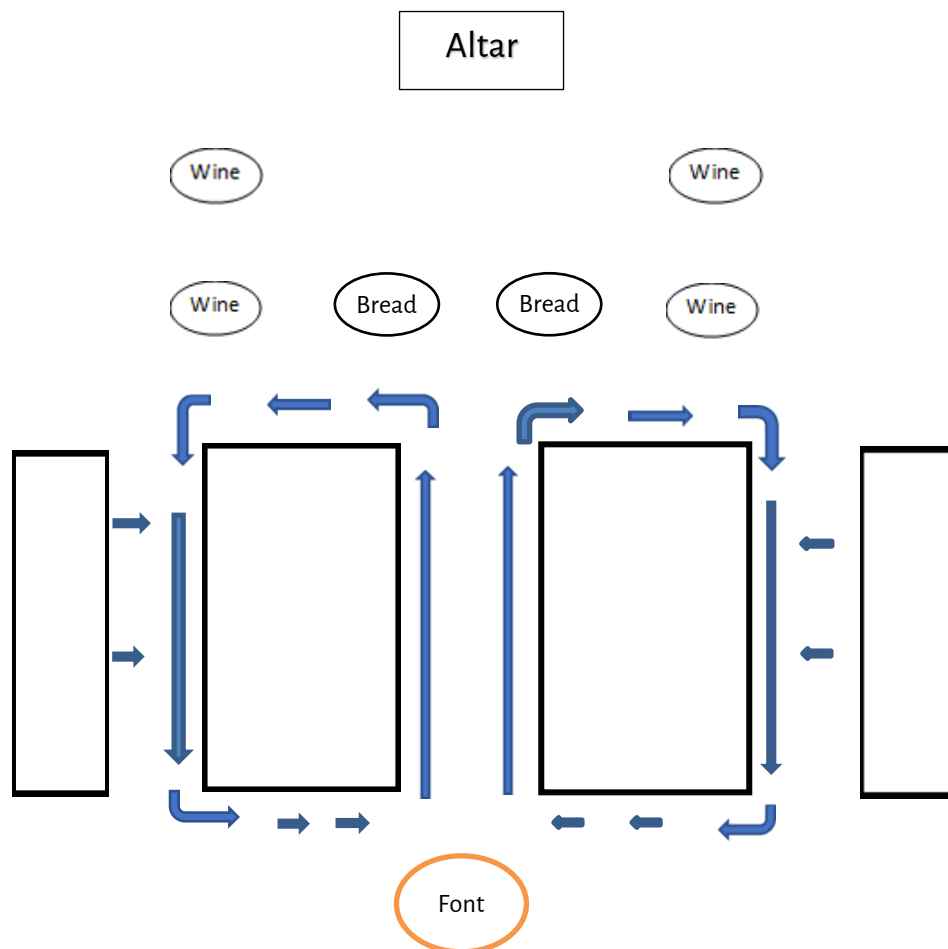
Sunday 23 – 4th of Advent

8:00 am	Holy Communion	Chapel
10:00 am	Parish Eucharist	Church
11:45 am	Sunday Reflections	Denson Lounge



SHARING IN COMMUNION

We are trialling a new way of distributing our communion. A number of people – both newcomers/visitors and those of us who have been a part of the community for some while – have commented on how confusing, and frankly unwelcoming, our current way of sharing bread and wine is. Therefore, in an effort to make for ourselves a welcoming, accessible, straightforward space, we are going to be sharing communion in one place – at the front of the church – at two stations. Please take bread from the Eucharistic Minister standing on your side, then move to the next available chalice of the two which will be at each station. We ask those in the side aisles to go to the back of the church and then to the front to receive.



Gluten free wafers will be available at both stations.

Those with limited mobility please indicate your desire to take communion in your seat and a minister will come to you.

As always, all are welcome to take part in our sharing. Thank you for being a part of our community!

EVENTS

Sunday Reflections - On weeks without other events we offer the opportunity to ask 'what just happened?' at our Sunday service - an open forum to discuss the sermon, liturgy, music, and indeed anything that might have cropped up during our worship services, or about Anglican practice and tradition generally. This takes place at **11:45am, following the 10am service** and usually lasts for 45 minutes or so. All are welcome; come, and bring your questions!

Come and revive your **Art & Soul** at the art and spirituality group held in the basement space at St. John the Divine every Wednesday afternoon at 1:30pm. Art experience is not necessary! We ask for a *voluntary* donation of \$4.00 per session to provide supplies for those in need. Any questions - please contact Gillian Barlow or Susan McCabe.

Christmas at St. John the Divine



Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24

4:00 p.m.

All-Age celebration of the Christmas Story

Bring the whole family and rejoice at the birth of Christ.

Children, especially, are invited to participate in the telling of the Christmas story in word and song.

7:00 p.m.

Early Christmas Eve Communion

An opportunity to share in a Christmas service if the Midnight Mass is a little late.

With the Community Choir of St. John the Divine. Sermon by The Reverend Bill Tarter, OSF.

11:00 p.m.

Midnight Mass

The festive Christmas service, with Holy Communion, traditional carols and candlelight.

With The Choristers of St. John the Divine and the Sermon by The Reverend Bill Tarter, OSF.

There will be incense used at this service.

Christmas Day – 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 25

Christmas morning service, with organ-led carols and Holy Communion.

Sermon by The Venerable Alastair McCollum.

Announcements

A Prayer Group prays through the week; to request confidential prayers for yourself or others contact Pat Manning at: patriciaacmanning@gmail.com or leave the request at the church office.

Prayer is the bedrock of our relationship with God through Christ. Individual requests for intercessory prayer (read at Sunday and weekday services) may be made by filling out a **Prayer Request Card** available at the back of the church (on the west wall) or by emailing the same information requested on the card to: carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca.

CHRISTMAS with PWRDF

We have now sold all of the PWRDF Christmas Cards we ordered!! Many thanks for your kind card donations/purchases!

Don't forget to check out the 2018 PWRDF "World of Gifts Guide" (inserts in the Nov. and Dec. issues of the Anglican Journal). This will introduce you to lots of meaningful Christmas gifts, especially for your loved ones who "have everything"! You can easily place an order on-line, too -- (pwrdf@pwrdf.org).

Thanks to our Sunday School kids with their stuffed cows, pigs, sheep, and goats who are showing us the way ahead with alternate gift-giving! Remember, when you purchase presents using the PWRDF "World of Gifts Guide", you are contributing to a more just, healthy and peaceful world!. Thanks!! Murray and Wendy (PWRDF coordinators)

Please note: The Sunday School children will be holding a small bake sale after church today with funds going to the PWRDF.

2019 Envelopes are now available (at the back of the church), including blue envelopes for **Credit Card and Automatic donors**.

If you expect to be visiting any shut-in parishioners between now and December 30th, please take their envelopes to them.



Out of the Rain Christmas Stockings

Every year, for Christmas, we give the homeless young people who sleep in our crypt a gift. Typically we fill a Christmas stocking with socks, some hygiene products and a treat. If we have enough funds, along with Christmas stockings, we buy hoodies. If you would like to contribute to this project, please make a cheque out to St. John the Divine designating the funds to 'OOTR Stocking Project'. If you have any questions contact Gerry Melville or Karyn Lehmann. Thanking you in advance for your support.

The Special Monthly Envelope for December is the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This provides the rector with money that he can give away and use at his discretion. It could be to help a family in the parish whose house burned down. It could be used to buy a sandwich for a street person. It allows the parish to help people quietly and gives the rector a budget that he can use as he sees fit without getting approval from wardens, parish council, or vestry.

Pledge Cards: If you have not yet handed in your pledge card for 2019 please do so now as we need this information to help us prepare the Budget for 2019.

The new 2019 Flower Dedication Calendar is now at the garden door.

Looking for a St. John's Treasurer

With sadness we report that Kate McCabe, our Parish Treasurer has resigned, effective immediately, for personal reasons and the pressures of a new job. Kate has done a wonderful job as our Treasurer and we will miss her. We wish her well.

So, we are seeking a Treasurer (the Parish has a bookkeeper who maintains account records). The person should have some financial knowledge and will work with the Finance Committee to oversee the finances of the Parish and report to Parish Council.

We welcome a conversation with interested individuals.

Chris, Graeme and Joan, the Wardens.

The Canadian Church Calendar is now available for sale at the office - \$5.00

Social Media – St. John's is committed to communication. If you would like to share the service on social media please do, but please do so as part of your worship and sensitively. Please feel free to use the hashtag #SJDVic.

NEWCOMERS!

Nametags: IF you would like a nametag, please ask Carol-Ann
(office, 250-383-7169 ext.226).

But IF you would NOT, please bear with us while we learn your name.

SOUL SPACE

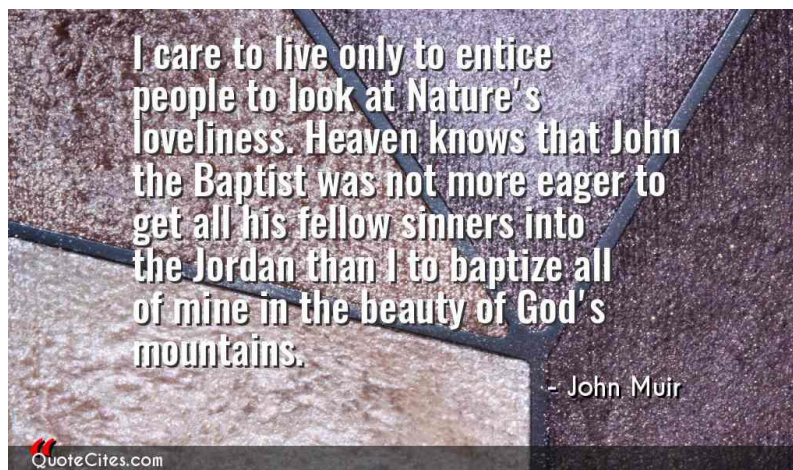
Things to nourish our spiritual journey

Preparation

"I have no time for those things now," we say;
"But in the future just a little way,
No longer by this ceaseless toil oppressed,
I shall have leisure then for thought and rest.
When I the debts upon my land have paid,
Or on foundations firm my business laid,
I shall take time for discourse long and sweet
With those beloved who round my hearthstone meet;
I shall take time on mornings still and cool
To seek the freshness dim of wood and pool,
Where, calmed and hallowed by great Nature's peace,
My life from its hot cares shall find release;
I shall take time to think on destiny,
Of what I was and am and yet shall be,
Till in the hush my soul may nearer prove
To that great Soul in whom we live and move.
All this I shall do sometime but not now—
The press of business cares will not allow."
And thus our life glides on year after year;
The promised leisure never comes more near.
Perhaps the aim on which we placed our mind
Is high, and its attainment slow to find;
Or if we reach the mark that we have set,
We still would seek another, farther yet.
Thus all our youth, our strength, our time go past
Till death upon the threshold stands at last,
And back unto our Maker we must give
The life we spent preparing well to live.

Effie Waller Smith, 1879-1960

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# THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

## STEWARDS

**People's Warden:** Graeme Brown

**Rector's Warden:** Chris Eve

**Assistant Warden:** Joan Huzar

**Envelope Secretary:** Jim Harlick

**Treasurer:** vacant

## PARISH COUNCIL

Sherrie Allen, Tom Clements, Carol Anne Harper, Penny Holt, Elizabeth McAuley,  
Rod Marsh, Catherine Small

## STAFF SUPPORTING THE MINISTRY OF ST. JOHN'S

**Rector:** The Ven. Alastair McCollum

**Director of Music:** David Stratkauskas

**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Canon Kevin Arndt

**Family Ministry Coordinator:** Ruth MacIntosh

**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Bill Tarter

**Parish Administrator:** Carol-Ann Zenger

**Deacon:** The Rev'd Patrick Sibley

## HONORARY ASSISTANTS

The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody

The Rev'd Dr. Larry Scyner / The Rev'd Jane Reid

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twitter.com/StJohnVicBC e-mail: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca