

Thoughts for the Day

"A powerful moment on my Holy Land trip was our drive up the Mount of Precipice, which gave us an astonishing panoramic view of the Jezreel Valley, the city of Nazareth, and Mount Tabor, traditionally believed to be the site of the Transfiguration. Our lives are filled with "mountaintop" moments that set us ablaze with inspiration, but in between those moments, the days can sometimes feel long and tedious as we try to remember those peak experiences. Today, we are gathering together for the work of Vestry, which can sometimes be exciting and sometimes feel pretty routine. Let us not forget that even Jesus came down from his many mountains to continue his work of healing, and so it should be with us. We are blessed by our sudden mystical encounters, and we may thank God for coming close to us by continuing in our work, knowing that Jesus comes among us in ecstatic prayer and in the everyday places of our lives.

Prepare this day and in the coming season of Lent to be surprised by Jesus."

The Rev'd. Clare Morgan

DATES TO NOTE

Sun. Feb. 26	Vestry Sunday, after Church
Sun. Feb. 26	Sweeter than Roses, 4 pm.
Mon. Feb. 27	MAID forum, Diocesan Centre at St. John Shaughnessy, 7 pm.
Tues. Feb. 28	Seniors Café, 10 am
Wed. Mar. 1	Ash Wednesday Service, 7:30 pm
Sat. Mar. 4	Open Gym, 5:30 pm
Sat. Mar. 4	The Look of Love, Shaughnessy United Church, 7:30 pm
Sun. Mar. 5	Food Bank Sunday
Sun. Mar. 5	Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am
Mon. Mar. 6	Jones Girls, noon
Mon. Mar. 6	Outreach meeting, 7:30 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.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

The annual Vestry meeting will be today, following the 10:00 am service. The Annual Vestry Report for 2016 is available in the Narthex. 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 Parish members are invited to attend.

A light lunch will be served to those attending the meeting.



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.

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 today.

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

Today 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.



MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING FORUM

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

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

FOOD BANK SUNDAY

March 5th, 2017 is Food Bank Sunday for non-perishable food items. Particularly welcome are nut butters (i.e., almond butter), legumes and canned fruit.



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.

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.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY: PACKET WISH LIST

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

Neighbourhood



Ministry

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

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.

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@catkingardens.ca.

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ASH WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday, March 1st at 7:30 pm, there will be a special Ash Wednesday Service. This is in addition to the regular Wednesday service at 10:00 am.

STREET MINISTRY

Dale, Carol and I set out from St. Phillips yesterday morning; it was drizzling, but not raining. Dan met us there with packets, bananas and oranges and a large supply of warm jackets and other clothing. Our first stop was the Shoppers on Dunbar Street. There we found D from the Dunbar Apartments. He was in good spirits and took a packet, fruit and some extra socks. He talking about his housing – we were unsure as to what he meant, but he seemed to be saying he had to leave his housing for a time, but is going to be allowed back soon. He had obviously been spending some time in front of the Shoppers, as he was using an old metal newspaper container in front to store some food and clothing items.

At Fourth and Highbury we met B, T, B, M and W. All took fruit and packets, and everyone found some extra pieces of clothing that fit, and these were very much appreciated. W was very chatty, and told us that after the snow melted she had pushed her shopping cart all the way up the 10th hill to collect bottles. She said her hip bothered her, but she got a huge haul of bottles that people had saved for her. She was going to see her daughter soon. D chatted with B, who told him about his aunt and sister being Olympic calibre skiers. Next we headed to the Jericho Hostel, and found M sleeping in a large box in his usual spot on the Hostel porch. He was happy to take a packet and fruit. There was no sign of A at the sub-station, so we checked at the Locarno beach concession, where he had been seen previously, but again no sign of him. We did see M's bike and belongings, though, so left him a packet and fruit. Just as we were leaving, we spotted M at the Hostel so we looped back around to talk with him. He speaks Spanish, with very little English, so we had some difficulty understanding him. He is staying at the Regent Hotel downtown, and said it is "not very good" there, but he uses it just to sleep. He knew that we were a group from local churches, and told D that many years ago a doctor New Mexico had said that his leg needed to be amputated due to gangrene. But with prayer, that was avoided. A very charming and cheerful fellow. He took some extra socks and tee shirts.

As we headed along Fourth, we saw a fellow sleeping on the sidewalk on the north side of Fourth at the bus stop at Collingwood. He had a blanket, but it wasn't big enough to cover his body. He was older, had a long grey beard.

We gave him a sleeping bag and a packet and some fruit. He did not speak, so we don't know his name. But as we left he was already eating the fruit cup from the packet.

Also on Fourth we saw a fellow sleeping on the sidewalk outside the Shoppers (not M, this fellow was new to us). He was a younger fellow, probably in his forties, clean shaven. He woke up when we asked him if he would like some food, and gratefully accepted a packet and the fruit, but did not want to talk or tell us his name. He also took scarf and extra socks.

We had saved our last packet and fruit for B, who is now back staying at the United Church at 8th and Tolmie. He was there when we arrived, in his sleeping bag, but did not want anything from us yesterday. So we headed over to West 10th, thinking we might see R there. As we turned left on 10th and Tolmie, we spotted a large cart with lots of belongings, very neatly stowed, by the bus stop at 10th and Tolmie. We couldn't see anyone that looked like they owned the cart, but we pulled over and put a packet and fruit on top. We went back into the car, but as we were pulling out, a young woman came over and waved to us and said thank you. So we got out again to speak with her, and gave her some extra socks and boots. Her name is K, and she is homeless. She is petite, probably in her 30s, has long blonde hair, and doesn't look like a typical homeless person. She came to Vancouver from Newfoundland via Toronto, with a boyfriend, but the relationship did not work out. She doesn't know Vancouver well, or have any connections here.

She said she had trained as a care aid in Toronto, but had had some trouble with depression and had at one point used some street drugs, but has been clean for a year. We are not sure how long she's been here, but she said she had had an accident on her bike when it was snowy and slippery, and broke her thumb. It looked like she had also hurt her face, one cheek had cuts that were healing over. We gave her the address of the Kits Saturday morning shower program and gave her directions to get there. We did not have a list of shelters with

us, and she said she did not feel safe downtown. She did say that she was going to the hospital that day to see to her thumb, so we hope the hospital found her a place in a shelter. We all felt badly leaving her there, and we hope she will find her way to the Saturday morning showers program next week.

Sue, on behalf of Team 3.