

Notices for Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020

Dear Friends,

Though we continue to be apart physically, spiritually we can never be separated. I am reminded of those wonderful words from Paul's letter to the Romans: '*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*' Amen to that!

And as we get used to this new 'normal' we are finding lots of ways to connect. I have been amazed at the response to our online services. Last week's Sunday service was watched in over 150 households, both locally and around the world... we even had an email from someone from South Africa who said how much she was enjoying them. This week during Holy Week, I have been 'livestreaming' Compline from the Chapel at St Philip's at 8pm (the final one is tonight, Maundy Thursday) and that service has reached over 130 households each evening so far. These new forms of reaching out 'beyond our walls' are opportunities that we will need to utilize even when we are able to meet together physically.

Our young people have been working hard this week to help me put together a special Stations of the Cross service, and Brian Mix has recorded a special cello piece to help us reflect on the events of Good Friday. The service will be available for Noon on Good Friday so that we can watch it together. Of course, we will have our now 'regular' Sunday Service to celebrate Easter Day together. Harold Munn is looking to start an online study group next week, so watch out for more details about that on our Tuesday eblast!

Though we are apart, so much is happening. The wardens, trustees and staff are working immensely hard not only to keep things going, but also to explore how we can see this time as a gift, an opportunity to put in place all the things we will need to do to serve our community more effectively when the lockdown is lifted. As people are being forced to reassess their priorities in life, we will need to be open and available to help them to help explore what that might look like for them spiritually. Yes, these are challenging times, but I think there will be exciting times ahead for us as a church and community!

Resurrection is all around us, God's Spirit is at work in a new way, and nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus.

A blessed Holy Week to you all,

Love and Prayers,

Stuart

GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER SUNDAY WORSHIP: <https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog>

A worshipper wrote this week from South Africa: "Tell Stuart I really enjoy his sermons and find his voice lovely and strong. Last Sunday's prayers were also very meaningful...Best wishes in this difficult time - May God keep you and all your clergy and congregation safe." Margie

St Philip's COFFEE HOUR: Easter Sunday April 12, 11:00 AM

Last Sunday, 12 parishioners dropped into our first online coffee hour using **Zoom**. It is great to see the faces of people we miss; Margot even joined us from Vancouver Island. Go to **Zoom.us**, explore the app, learn to turn on your computer's mic and camera, and ensure it has power.

On Sunday at 11:00, just click the blue link to attend via live video using your computer for best results. Come as you are. Bring the whole family. See you then! <https://zoom.us/j/454815164>

ST. PHILIP'S RINGERS

The St Philip's Ringers are volunteers who are ringing **every parishioner** to have a chat, keep them informed, and offer practical help, like shopping. While we practice social distancing, we want to ensure our parishioners stay connected and supported. If you or someone you know needs a call, even beyond St Philip's, leave the name & number on 604-224-3238, ext.304.

HOLY WEEK and EASTER WORSHIP from CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

At-home materials and virtual worship are available on the Christ Church Cathedral website for the benefit of the entire Diocese. <https://www.thecathedral.ca>

SPECIAL EASTER DONATIONS

Special Easter envelopes from parishioner and visitors usually bring in about \$3,000 of donations over and above our pledged giving. This year, we need to do things differently. Please give generously this Easter, if you are able. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/47610>

PAD DONATIONS – Many Thanks from the Trustees!

Several of you have changed your giving from envelopes to **Pre-Authorized Donations (PAD)** which allow your offertory donation to arrive unhampered by circumstances. Thank you! If you've yet to set this up, please find the attached **PAD form**. Mail the information requested to the Diocesan Office address on the form. It's so easy! You can alter the PAD easily, if needed.

VIRTUAL PRAYER LIST

Please send your prayer requests to Beth (manager@stpdunbar.com) or leave a voicemail at 604-224-3238 ext. 301.

PARISH CELEBRATIONS

Are you celebrating a birthday, anniversary or a milestone? Let Beth know so that we can celebrate with you in spirit, in prayer or with a phone call.