

Thoughts for the Week

Plumbing the icy depths of depression

From *A Better Resurrection*

I have no wit, no words, no tears;
My heart within me like a stone
Is numb'd too much for hopes or fears;
Look right, look left, I dwell alone;
I lift mine eyes, but dimmed with grief
No everlasting hills I see;
My life is in the falling leaf:
O Jesus, quicken me.
My life is like a faded leaf,
My harvest dwindled to a husk;
Truly my life is void and brief
And tedious in the barren dusk;
My life is like a frozen thing,
No bud nor greenness can I see:
Yet rise it shall — the sap of Spring;
O Jesus, rise in me.
Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

THANK YOU TO ALL THE RUMMAGE SALE HELPERS AND VOLUNTEERS FOR MAKING THE FAIR SUCH A SUCCESS!

DATES TO NOTE

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| Mon. May 1 | Jones' Girls, noon, Fireside Room |
| Sun. May 7 | Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am, Fireside Room |
| Tues. May 9 | Senior's Café, 10:00 am, Fireside Room |
| Thur. May 11 | Sexual Misconduct Policy Training, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room |
| Sat. May 13 | Spring Work Party, 10 am, Gardens |
| Sat. May 13 | Open Gym, 5:30 pm, Gym |
| Sun. May 14 | Early Music Concert, 4 pm, Church |

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.

ENVELOPE VOLUNTEERS

The two ladies who ensure that there are envelopes in the pews are retiring. Thank you for your years of service. If you are interested in taking on this role, please contact Beth Vondette in the Church Office.

SENIORS CAFÉ

Seniors Café continues on alternate Tuesday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:00 until Noon. Join us for tea, coffee, refreshments and friendly conversation or find a partner for a game of crib or Scrabble. We also feature arts activities and sometimes a local speaker or musician. This is a community-focussed program and everyone is welcome – please reach out and invite a friend or neighbour to Seniors Café.

SENIORS CAFÉ – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Seniors Café would benefit from having several more volunteers to help set up the Fireside Room 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 spring, please contact Ann Kent at ann@catkingardens.ca.

CALL FOR GARDEN VOLUNTEERS - SPRING WORK PARTY - SATURDAY, MAY 13

By, popular request, there will be several Saturday work parties this year for volunteers willing to assist with maintenance of the big borders and courtyard gardens along West 27th Avenue. Can you lend a hand with spreading top-dressing, dividing over-grown perennials, or some weeding? Pruning skills are welcome too. Join us on Saturday, May 13, anytime between 10:00 and 3:00 pm. Please bring your own hand tools and remember a sun hat and sun screen. We can supply kneeling pads and bins for toting green waste.

The street side gardens provide an important welcome to parishioners and members of the community and we are very grateful to the volunteers who continue quietly from week-to-week with seasonal maintenance.

KNITTING 9 INCH SQUARES - A HANDS-ON PROJECT

The objective is to provide blankets for our neighbours in need by knitting (or crocheting) 9 inch squares which can be sewn together into beautiful blankets.

Here's what to do:

- knit (or crochet) 9 inch squares using whatever pattern and colours you want, but please use machine-washable wool or yarn
- Leave the completed squares in the basket beneath the mailboxes
- Leave any spare yarn that others can use in the other basket by the mailboxes
- If you do not know how to knit, ask someone to show you, go on-line, or borrow a book from the library. Perhaps someone would be willing to provide a lesson for beginners...
- Once enough squares have been collected to start putting them together, hold a sewing bee—each quilt will be 5 squares wide and 8 squares long so take 40 squares.



Why not ask family members, friends, fellow-students and colleagues to get involved? It is easy and relaxing to knit a square while chatting, listening to music, or enjoying some downtime—a great summer project! And gentlemen, remember that sailors, especially fishermen, traditionally knitted their own socks and sweaters—9 inch squares are far simpler and a great starting point...

We will hold regular “Tea and Bee” sessions so that the blankets will be ready before the cold weather sets in—again. Please join us—the more the merrier. Thank you!

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday May 24, 2017 Trendell Lounge, St. John's Shaughnessy Parish 1410 Nanton Street, Vancouver (corner Granville & Nanton) 7pm-9pm Light refreshments provided.

REFUGEE NEWS

There have been some recent positive developments in our refugee sponsorship process.

The application to sponsor Lama and her four children, refugees from Syria now in a camp in Lebanon, has been approved by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). Apparently this means that the application itself was satisfactory, we are approved as sponsors, and the file will be sent to the Canadian Visa Office in Lebanon for further processing. This will include an interview of Lama and family and will take about ten months. The final decision as to whether Lama and her children can come to Canada rests with the Visa office, although we do not anticipate a problem.

The Refugee Fund has received a wonderful memorial donation of \$10,000 from the family of Howard Lear who wished to cover the sponsorship of Lama's parents, the grandparents of the family.

We have also received a wonderful pledge of support from St. Faith's Anglican Church. They have pledged \$5000 when our refugee family arrives and another \$5000 to help with the transition at the end of the one year sponsorship period.

Lama's parents asked if we could include their youngest son, Ward, who is 23 years old, and has a little work experience in construction. Lama, her children, her parents and Ward have been living together in the camp. With the recent donations, we feel confident that we can cover the costs of sponsoring him as well. The applications for Lama's parents, Nasriddin and Fatmeh, and Ward are essentially complete. We are awaiting permission from IRCC to submit them.

It is expected we will need to raise at least another \$15,000. 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 kmarylumburner@telus.net



REFUGE CONCERT

Sixty years after the Hungarian Revolution. On April 30, 2017 at 4 pm St. Philip's Music Concert Series presents Refuge - Music to celebrate Vancouver's Refugee Heritage. The concerts will include original music for tárogató by BC composers and feature classical Hungarian works with performances by: Jason Hall, tárogató; Corey Hamm, piano; Erik Kallo, tenor; Gergo Peter Eles, shepherd's flute; Michael Murray and members of Abendmusik. Admission is by donation. Suggested donation: \$20. Money raised will go toward the Refugee family.

FILM SCREENING

On Saturday May 20, 2017, from 5:30-7:00pm in the Fireside Room, the film *A Shape of Time: The composer Jo Kondo* (2016) By Viola Rusche & Hauke Harder (Directors) will be screened. Our films are part of a community project including invitation to St Philips parishioners as well as Dunbar and Kerrisdale communities. Donations are welcome. All donations in excess of the \$75 for St Philips will be sent directly to the filmmakers (Directors). Next film dates in the Fireside Room: Saturdays May 20, Jun 17, Jul 15, Aug 12, Sep 23, 2017.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast will be on Sunday, May 7 at 8:30 am in the Fireside Room. All men welcome.



NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY



Team 4, Caroline, Whitney and I set out from St. Philip's this morning. We were delighted to welcome Whitney O'Brien to our team. Don Lamb sent us off from St. Philip's with packets, fruit, sandwiches, water and extra blankets and clothing.

At 4th and Highbury we found T, B and W. All seemed well and in good spirits and happy to take some food.

We found no one at Jericho Beach.

We went down past the hostel to look for M. We found the wood chips pile by the parking lot of the City Works yard. There was a tarp spread on the ground behind it with a sleeping bag under it but no M. We went back to the hostel, and checked M's big box, but he was not there. We went back to the tarp and left a packet. We continued further down to the substation, and found A back in his old place. He was a little more talkative than usual. He took some food from us. He already had a whole cake in front of him, which had attracted lots of small ants. We then went over to Locarno Beach but found no one. We then returned by the works yard and just to get back up to 4th, and there was M walking along on his way back from grocery shopping. He actually looked quite well. He did not seem to be having any trouble walking. He was happy to see us and we gave him some more food.

At 4th and Vine we met P selling Megaphones on the NE corner. He took some food. A bit further along in front of Whole Foods we met R in an electric wheelchair panhandling. He was new to us, but seemed familiar with our group. He lives somewhere in the area. He told us that he had been given an eviction notice for June 1. He is very worried about that. He gave me his phone number in case we could help him. He said he did have a case worker but had missed an appointment with her yesterday.

We continued up to Granville. We found S and G around Granville and 11th on opposite sides of Granville. Both seemed OK. S seemed very happy to see us. We gave them food, including extra peanut butter and jam sandwiches as we had lots.

Along Broadway we found S in his usual spot in front of London Drugs. As usual he took only a few items out of a packet.

May for Team 4

POVERTY AND VIOLENCE: DOING JUSTICE IN A POST-COLONIAL WORLD BY INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION (IJM) & CRISTOSAL

On Sat. May 13th 2017, you are invited to join IJM Canada and Cristosal as we unpack what it means to do a justice in a post-colonial world. Hear from **Noah Bullock** and **Celia Medrano** from Cristosal and **Kevin Dixon** from IJM Canada as they share about the inroads they are seeing on the frontlines of seeking justice. The day will conclude with a panel discussion that will challenge participants about what it means to be a seeker of justice in the midst of a broken world. Sat, 13 May 2017 8:45AM – 4:00PM. St. Mary's Kerrisdale Anglican Church 2490 West 37th Ave (at Larch). Tickets are available thorough 'Eventbrite' for \$45.00 (lunch included). <https://www.eventbrite.ca/d/canada--vancouver/events/>



EARLY MUSIC CONCERT

A nice thing to do for mom on May 14, 2017 (Mother's Day) at 4:00 pm, is come and listen to nine Handel Arias performed by Janice Long, soprano, accompanied on harpsichord by Christina Hutten. Admission is by donation. Suggested donation: \$20. A tax receipt will be issued for donations above \$20.