

Notices for January 3, 2021

Dear lovely people of St Philip's,

Happy New Year!

If ever we wished for a year to go away it must be 2020. Who could have imagined this time last year as we thought about our hopes and fears for the New Year that any among us could have expected the Coronavirus, something that was barely in the news this time last year, to have such a devastating impact on us and the whole world in 2020! Thank God it is now behind us and good riddance some would say!

Although we now have a vaccine and the hope of a different year to come, we also have a new and more virulent variant of COVID 19. Cases are still very high, a long winter ahead still awaits and there is bound to be a post-Christmas bump. In some ways we seem to have taken one step forward and another back. We are all longing to get through this pandemic and yet we fear what may be still to come, unsure of how 2021 might work out.

Longing and fear are the very essence of the Epiphany story. The longing of the Wise Men from the East who are prepared to respond to their longing and follow the mysterious star to, well, God knows where! On the flip side there is Herod whose fear of the 'new king' causes him to hunker down in the Palace, in a place of familiarity and safety.

We tend to think that it is only the Wise Men who have the Epiphany, but both they and Herod experience epiphanies of a kind. For the Wise Men they respond to something new with openness, trust and faith. They experience the Christ Child, are changed and 'go home by a different route'. On the flip side Herod responds with fear and loathing with disastrous consequences for himself and his people.

As we look to this New Year, we all carry our own longings and fears with us, both carry the promise of epiphany, which kind depends on our response.

Continued Christmastide blessings to you all.

Love and Prayers,

Stuart

DATES TO NOTE

Sun Jan 3	Epiphany Holy Eucharist 10am online https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog
Sun Jan 10	Baptism of the Lord 10am online https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog
Mon Jan 18	Annual Reports Deadline

Thurs Jan 21

Thurs Jan 28

Register for [Transforming Questions](#)

Transforming Questions via Zoom 7pm

<https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/pages/transforming-questions>

WEBSITE WORSHIP Sundays at 10:00

Join Stuart and others in Sunday morning Website Worship and follow along with the order of service delivered to you. The services are recorded and posted by Saturday evening, so you can watch and revisit them at your convenience.

St Philip's will continue to offer online worship for the many worshippers who cannot attend in person or who live afar. Visit <https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog>

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT -

PRAYER, CARE AND SHARE

Wednesdays via Zoom at 10:00 AM

On your computer, click the link at 10:00 AM <https://zoom.us/j/2939572088>

To join the gathering by phone, dial 778-907-2071. The meeting ID is 2939572088.

MIDDAY PRAYERS

Join Stuart Mondays to Thursdays for Midday Prayers. Whether you are at home or busy at work, this 20 min service will help you relax and reconnect with yourself, your community, and your Creator... <https://zoom.us/j/98044347032?pwd=NjdIQmg5bTc4Ym9GajdYL1BZNtBZz09>

To join by phone, dial 778-907-2071 Meeting ID: 980 4434 7032

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers at this time: Ron Ramsay, Sally Antrobus and her family, Ann Halfnights, Penny Francis and family, Greg, Maura and Brian, Nancy, Tracy and family, Larry Hoad and Mike Lane, Brenda Harrison, Sarah Burns, Jan Alexander, Mia Salamito, Diana Bragg and Family, Hazel Maunder, and Min's sister Jill and Min's advocate Dorothy McNaughton.

Let us pray for those who have died, The Rev. David Hawkins, Ken Crookall, Eve Alexander, and for their friends and family bereaved by their loss.

TRANSFORMING QUESTIONS – Jan. 28 – Apr. 15, 2021 7pm

After a successful pilot of this course last summer, Transforming Questions returns in January 2021. The pandemic has stirred up basic questions about life, faith, purpose, and God. In 11 sessions, we will seek to move deeper by engaging in some of faith's most basic questions. Let's gather for prayer, hear a presentation, and then join in small-group discussion. Through listening and sharing, we will wrestle with these foundational questions in each other's company. As we do so, we will learn more about ourselves, one another, and the Jesus we are seeking.

Dates: Thursdays, 7pm, starting January 28, 2021. Session length: 60-75 minutes

Place: Zoom

Who is it for: adults (16+) preparing for baptism, confirmation, reception into the Anglican

Church, or reaffirmation of baptismal vows; those exploring faith for the 1st or the 50th time. Attendance: Sessions are related to and build upon one another, so this is not a drop-in course. Please register in advance as you are encouraged to attend all of the sessions. You can request to be in a small group with someone you know.

Registration: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUoduyhqDlvG9X0Tz7QGwuKBx-cQVBcejwM>

Questions? Contact [The Reverend Jessica Schaap](#), Missioner for Christian Formation

Deadline to Register: January 21, 2021

STEWARDSHIP 2021: A Message from the Trustees

Please pledge as generously as you can in this time of lost rentals, curtailed fundraising, and suspended in-person events. We need to support St Philip's everyday expenses and ministries even when we cannot attend in person. For the 2020 budget, Finance used an identified giver list of 82 pledgers and 29 regular donors. To date, Paul Harrison has recorded 57 pledges for 2021. If you're running late or this is new for you, we look forward to your pledge.

Call Pat in the office if you need assistance: 604-224-3238

ANNUAL REPORTS – Attention Committee Chairs

The **deadline** for Annual Reports is noon on **Monday, January 18**. Please submit your committee reports to the office no later than noon, so that Pat may begin compiling the report.

Thank you! manager@stpddunbar.com

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

As we complete our second year of the three-year Capital Campaign, we have much to thank donors for: the buildings are protected and updated, and we are looking at future staffing. We are reminded to make our contribution soon. You might even consider *Donation of Securities and Related Tax Benefits*. <https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/pages/2019-capital-campaign>

Staying Close While We're Apart,

Stuart Hallam (Rector), Debbie Matheson, Brian Mix, Diana Bragg, and Suzi Noetzel (Wardens)