

PASTORAL CARE MESSENGER

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa, January 2021



A Winter Blue Jay

Crisply the bright snow whispered,
Crunching beneath our feet;
Behind us as we walked along the parkway,
Our shadows danced,
Fantastic shapes in vivid blue.
Across the lake the skaters
Flew to and fro,
With sharp turns weaving
A frail invisible net.
In ecstasy the earth
Drank the silver sunlight;
In ecstasy the skaters
Drank the wine of speed;
In ecstasy we laughed
Drinking the wine of love.
Had not the music of our joy
Sounded its highest note?
But no,
For suddenly, with lifted eyes you said,
“Oh look!”
There, on the black bough of a snow flecked
maple,
Fearless and gay as our love,
A blue jay cocked his crest!
Oh who can tell the range of joy
Or set the bounds of beauty?

— Sara Teasdale, *Rivers to the Sea*, 1915



Dear Lord, thank you for our homes. We thank you for the shelter you provide us with physically, as well as, in body, mind and spirit. We pray for your strength to persevere through these present days and those to come. Give us the wisdom to know that we are not alone and trust you are present with us always. AMEN

— Canon Hilary

***If you need to speak with one of the clergy, please don't hesitate to contact
Canon Hilary Murray at 613-236-9149 ext. 11.***