

Notices for February 14, 2021

Dear lovely people of St Philip's,

It seems amazingly appropriate that we celebrate Valentine's Day on Transfiguration Sunday this year. Actually, we know very little of the real Valentine. Although there were several Christian martyrs named Valentine, the day we remember on the 14th February may have taken its name from a priest who was martyred around the year 270 AD by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus. According to legend, the priest signed a letter "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended and, by some accounts, healed from blindness. Other accounts hold that it was St. Valentine of Terni, a bishop, for whom the day was named, though it is possible the two saints were actually the same person. Another common legend reckoned that St. Valentine defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from having to go to war. It is for this reason that the feast day is associated with love.

Regardless, romantic love and the experience of being loved by another human being is transformative. Such experiences take us beyond the rational world to encounter the otherness of life. These are moments when the veil that separates us from this world and the next are parted and we stand in what the Celtic tradition calls a "thin place." I've spoken of these before and often. Thin places describe when the veil between this world and the other, between heaven and earth, between the divine and the human, between matter and spirit, between the eternal and the temporal, seem to be lifted. In the thin place the duality of life disappears and we experience union, wholeness, otherness or what the church describes as holiness. The real becomes really real!

This is exactly what happened to Peter, James, and John when Jesus is Transfigured on the mountain. They came face to face with the really Real – the holy. It was not simply a rational experience, one that could be tasted, touched, smelled, seen, or heard. It was rather an experience of transformation, one that left them changed forever.

We all experience thin places. It maybe through romantic love, or holding our child or grandchild for the first time, or experiencing an amazing sunset or piece of art. What ever it is, it can be hard to explain, but we will be transformed by the presence of God's love forever. Happy Valentine's Day!

Love and Prayers,
Stuart

DATES TO NOTE

Sun Feb 14	Transfiguration Sunday Service Online 10 am https://www.stphilipsdunbar.com/blog Join us for Zoom Coffee at 11am https://zoom.us/j/454815164 Live Streaming Training and Practice at 2:00 pm. Register with Pat
Mon Feb 15	Family Day Holiday. St Philip's buildings are closed and staff on holiday.
Tues Feb 16	Parish Council Meeting on Zoom at 7:30 pm
Wed Feb 17	Ash Wednesday. The Imposition of Ashes will occur on Feb. 21 this year
Thurs Feb 18	Zoom School 7:30 pm register with Stuart https://zoom.us/j/99356251296?pwd=eEU0ZzVjUUJlVWktqb3ZlZWxidkZRQT09
Sat Feb 20	Deadline for Parish Council nominations 4 pm to Diana Bragg
Sun Feb 21	First Sunday Of Lent Service Online 10 am
Sun Feb 21	Annual Vestry Meeting on Zoom at noon: please register with Pat
Wed Feb 24	Intercessor Information & Training with Stuart on Zoom at 7:30 pm
Thurs Feb 25	"What Does God Want From Us?" Lenten Series begins. Details TBA

WEBSITE WORSHIP Sundays at 10:00 am

Our Website Worship is easy to follow along with: we deliver the order of service to your in-box. 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. Please join using the link above.

COFFEE TIME

Join us for Zoom Coffee at 11 am <https://zoom.us/j/454815164>
To join the gathering by phone, dial 778-907-2071. Coffee Hour ID is 454815164

MIDDAY PRAYERS - Mondays to Thursdays, via Zoom, 12 Noon

Join Stuart 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/98573390558?pwd=bWJkS0hTc1E1RzNkQUNicEl3QzFadz09>

To join by phone, dial 778-907-2071 The Meeting ID: 985 7339 0558

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.

PRAYER LIST

Please pray for those who have asked for our prayers at this time: Sally Antrobus and her family, Greg, Maura and Brian, Nancy Kwasnicki, Larry Hoad and Mike Lane, Sarah Burns, Jan Alexander, and Hazel Maunder.

Let us pray for those who have died: Brian Rocksborough-Smith ODNW, Donald David, and those that rest in our Memorial Garden.

MILESTONES

Margot Rocksborough-Smith, on Feb. 9th, welcomed to the world a granddaughter, Lily Frances O'Brien . Her mother Kate is a former St. Philip's server. All the family and older brother Luke are thrilled. Blessings to you all!

Join in celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and other milestones. Please send your news to [Pat](#) in the office.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Like for many other festivals during COVID 19, we are having to re-imagining how to do Ash Wednesday this year. The Diocese has given the option to incorporate the Imposition of Ashes during the service for the 1st Sunday of Lent. Therefore, there will be no Ash Wednesday service this year. The Imposition of Ashes will occur during next Sunday's online service on the 21st February, the 1st Sunday of Lent. If you would like to impose ashes on yourself, making the sign of the cross on your own forehead during the service, you can pick up envelopes of ashes from last year's psalm crosses in the coming week from church. The envelopes will be in the entrance hall near the mailboxes. Alternatively, you can simply make the sign of the cross with your finger on your own forehead during the service.

VESTRY MEETING: February 21, 2021

Location: Zoom at Noon. See Zoom School options below to prepare you to attend.

Register: Register with [Pat](#) for Vestry this year so we know how many will attend on Zoom.

Reports: The Vestry Report was **emailed** to you. See Note below.

If you need to have a paper copy printed for you this year, please notify [Pat](#) soon and she will prepare one for you to be available for pick up from your mailbox Sat to Wed, except Feb 15.

Note: The Capital Campaign report will arrive soon. It was omitted in error.

Nominate: Nominations close Feb. 20 at 4:00 pm. Contact Diana dasbragg@gmail.com

Prepare: Read the Vestry Report carefully and prepare any questions that come to you.

Question: We'll be taking questions in a slightly different way this year due to the virtual format of our meeting. To ensure all questions are heard and addressed, and to share the time effectively, please send your questions in advance of the meeting to rector@stpdpdunbar.com
Impromptu questions will also be welcome during discussions, of course.

INTERCESSOR INFORMATION & TRAINING SESSION

All Intercessors and those who may be interested in becoming prayer leaders are encouraged to attend this session. We have not had an instruction session for several years. Stuart will guide us through the formats and where to find the prayer resources. Please join us on Wednesday, February 24 at 7:30 pm for a zoom meeting. To register, email Diana Bragg, Intercessor Coordinator at dasbragg@gmail.com

RESOURCES FOR LENT

This year's Lenten Series called 'What Does God Want from Us?' is a five-week course on Zoom that pairs a six to thirteen-minute TED Talk with a passage from Scripture. Discussion questions invite us to talk about how our faith connects with daily life. Weekly topics include everyday leadership, doubt, identity, community, and perseverance. This free resource was adapted by the Diocese into a booklet here: <https://tinyurl.com/tepbible> Course dates and times to follow.

Resources - <https://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/diocesan-resources/lent-2021-resources>

ZOOM

Zoom gives you access to the many virtual events that keep us together: Prayers, Coffee Hour, the Lenten Series, and this year's Vestry Meeting.

Here's the link to download Zoom free onto your computer: <https://zoom.us/download>

Open it up, explore the site, try a sample meeting, watch the tutorials, and join Zoom School.

ZOOM SCHOOL

Novice Level: for parishioners who have managed to download the app on their device.

Register with Stuart so he knows to expect you: rector@stpbar.com

Zoom School on Thur 18th Feb at 7.30 pm. Practice skills, etiquette and online communication.

Click on the link below and Stuart will welcome you into the class on Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/99356251296?pwd=eEU0ZzVjUUJlVWktqb3ZlZWxjdkZRQT09>

If you have no computer or smart phone, join by landline. Dial +17789072071 (Canada)

Meeting ID: 993 5625 1296 Passcode: 045417

Beginner Zoom School: for parishioners who feel daunted about using Zoom.

Call Debbie Matheson (604-202-6196) for a one-to-one phone lesson.

Topic: St. Philip's Dunbar's Zoom Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting, any time. We will set up a practice lesson with you.

<https://zoom.us/j/94272543452?pwd=bm5GRXdWDF4RkswMkQ4RzJSWdVrdz09>

You can click on the link in the invitation, or go to <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 942 7254 3452 Passcode: 148682

Have this practice lesson on Saturday, and you can join us for Zoom Coffee on Sunday!

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

Help us Restock with Supplies:

- Juice boxes, fruit cups, puddings, soft cereal and protein bars, canned meat and fish.
- Small bottles of hand sanitizer and small can openers
- **Urgently needed!** Sleeping bags, sleeping pads, sleeping bag liners, tarps, blankets
- \$40 towards the purchase of a sleeping bag
- Fleece, winter jackets, sweatpants, gloves, toques, scarves, rain pants, long underwear, winter socks, boots.
- Travel size soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors and shaving cream

Food Bank:

We are also collecting donations for the Marpole food bank, delivered on a bi-weekly basis.

GRATITUDE CONFETTI

Let us give our thanks to Dr Baha Azizi of Abba Dental who, when Debbie Matheson asked him if he could spare some sample items for the **Neighbourhood Ministry** and she explained what we do, donated dozens of toothbrushes and 36 tubes of toothpaste. People are ready to help, if only we ask it of them.

THE CHAPEL

Given that the chapel is overdue for some renovation and renewal, and the Capital Campaign now has funds available, Parish Council agreed on January 19th that renovations to the chapel should now be reconsidered. Much good planning work has been done in the past. Interested parishioners are asked to contact the wardens with concerns, questions and ideas, and if you'd like to be involved in a working group. We look forward to a future when we can use the chapel once again and we want that special space to be ready for that day.

OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN TO RUN LIVE-STREAMING - Sunday 14 February, 2:00 pm

Two live-streaming cameras have been installed in the church! We seek to train a team of volunteers to learn to operate the system so we will be able to livestream all our services and events on the internet. This is an exciting opportunity. If you are interested in getting trained to be involved in this exciting new ministry, contact Pat at manager@stpdpunbar.com

TRANSFORMING QUESTIONS

Dates: Thursdays, Jan. 28 – Apr. 15, 2021 on Zoom. Session length: 60-75 minutes

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

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

COMMUNICATION

In this time devoid of in-person gatherings, communication is more essential than ever! Stuart and the wardens remind you that you are always encouraged to speak to the Rector, a Warden, a Trustee, Treasurer Don Thomson, a committee leader, or members of Parish Council. Please communicate your questions, thoughts or suggestions, especially in time for monthly Parish Council meetings or Vestry, the dates of which are listed in the bulletin.

Staying close while we're apart, Your Rector and Wardens

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Debbie Matheson	debbiematheson53@gmail.com
Brian Mix	bmix@telus.net
Diana Bragg	dasbragg@gmail.com
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