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14 September 2025, Pentecost 14

**Holy Eucharist**

Service outline, Parish News & Events

**8 am**  **HOLY COMMUNION**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**9.30 am**  **FAMILY COMMUNION**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Celebrant and preacher: Fr. Allen Doerksen

**The Gathering of the Community**

Worship Songs

Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

Greeting and Collect for Purity BAS 185

Song of Praise *Gloria (Glory to God)* tune: Ash Grove

**The Story of Faith is Proclaimed**

Children’s Time – *Come and see the Light*

First Reading: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Gradual Hymn

*Children & Youth leave for their programs during the gradual hymn*

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia (sung)*

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia (sung)*

Sermon

*A short period of silent reflection follows,*

*signalled by the sound of a bell*

Collect

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution Season of Creation

The Peace BAS 192

Offertory Hymn

Prayer over the Gifts

**The Celebration of the Eucharist**

Eucharistic Prayer Salal & Cedar

Sanctus: *Holy, holy, holy Lord*

The Lord’s Prayer (*sung)*  BAS 211

Breaking of the Bread BAS 212 #1

The Communion

Music during Communion

Prayer after Communion

Doxology (Glory to God) BAS 214

Announcements & Birthday Box

Blessing BAS 683 ii

Closing Song

Dismissal



***Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the 9.30 service!***

*The abbreviation BAS in the service order refers to page numbers in the Book of Alternative Services, the green volume in the pews. CP is Common Praise, the blue hymn book.*

**Welcome to Communion**

We want you to feel welcome at St. Philip. All are encouraged to come forward to receive the bread (communion wafer) and wine. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please keep your head and hands down. If you are more comfortable not drinking from the cup, you may keep your head down and let it pass, or return to your pew after receiving the bread. Please tell the person distributing the bread if you require a gluten-free wafer. Prayer Ministers are available during Communion at the 9:30 am service, at the side of the altar.

**Offering**

It is Anglican custom to receive a financial offering in our worship, as an expression of gratitude to God. Please do not feel compelled to participate in this offering. Your presence is gift enough.

**Services this week**

**14 September 2025 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost, Season of Creation**

**8am Holy Eucharist**

9.30am Holy Eucharist, in-person and live streamed via Facebook Live

* Celebrant and preacher: Fr. Allen Doerksen
* Altar Guild: Jackie Prowse, Kathy Fyfe
* Readers: Bruce Fyfe, Kathy Fyfe
* Prayers of the People: Florie Varga
* Children's ministry: Melinda Weicker
* Powerpoint slides: Clayton Savage, Neil Ryan
* Facebook Live: Karishma Iyer
* Coffee:  Lillian Konkin, Jennifer Clarke
* Offerings counters: Betty Davidson, Dorothy Dahli

**16 September**, Tuesday 10.30am Contemplative Prayer

**18 September**, Thursday 10am service and following discussion will begin again with an Examen Prayer check-in. The book for Thursday discussion this fall, starting on the 18th, will be S. Mark Heim's *Saved from Sacrifice: A Theology of the Cross*.



**Parish News & Notices**

***Welcome Sunday with Blessing of the Backpacks: Sunday, September 21***

On Welcome Sunday at the 9.30 service, we celebrate new beginnings and the continuation of many normal routines, whether they are going to school, starting or resuming any new course or program at whatever level, heading back to work, joining a community, or returning to church.  Join us as we bless kids' school bags, everyone's backpacks, lunch kits and briefcases -- please bring whatever bag symbolizes a new beginning for you!

And, there are rumours of treats after the 9.30 am service!

Join us for the festivities!



***Memorial - Louise Ferguson***

There will be a memorial for Louise Ferguson on Sunday September 21st 1-3pm, at Brock House Society, 3875 Point Grey Rd, Vancouver, BC V6R 1B3

*- Angus Ferguson*



***From Allen’s Desk: An Invitation and a Reflection***

Friends, as we get ready for the fall season, I'd like to offer an invitation and a reflection.

1. You're invited to join our "Fall Book Study," which this year will be on the beautiful and important book *Saved From Sacrifice: A Theology of the Cross* by S. Mark Heim.  The book was written 20 years ago, but has aged well.  Don't be scared off by the fact that this is a "theology" book; it is extremely well-written.  It was one of the best books I've ever read explaining why the death of Jesus matters in the modern world; and though I've read hundreds of theology and biblical studies books, it is among the 10 most influential theology books in shaping my understanding of the Christian faith.

Time & date: Starting on September 18th, the study will take place in person at the church on Thursdays following the 10am service (i.e. starting a little after 10.30), with coffee.

\***If you are interested in a Wednesday evening online option**, please let Fr. Allen know as soon as possible: email incumbent@stphilipvictoria.ca

2. This past week I invited you to send me feedback on my sermon on Luke 14:25-33 where Jesus uses the strong language of "hating father and mother..." in contrast to loyalty to him.  I tried to explain why this language made sense in historical context and why an exclusive "focus on the family" leads to the breakdown of a society.  It was an argument supported by sociology and by examples in history.  Though I didn't share this in the sermon, when, in the later stages of the Roman empire, wealth became overly concentrated in the hands of several families, the larger society was weakened severely leading to its eventual collapse.  One can clearly see similar trends unfolding in the world today e.g. the rule of the Oligarchs is ruining Russia and it looks perilous for the United Stated at the moment.

But some of you raised good counter points a) some versions of Christianity have taken Jesus' message in this passage and used it to justify caring very little for the family vs. the Church.  This is a misuse of Jesus' words.  In another context Jesus said "And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition? For God said, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘Whoever speaks evil of father or mother must surely die.’ But you say that whoever tells father or mother, ‘Whatever support you might have had from me is given to God,’ then that person need not honor the father. So, for the sake of your tradition, you make void the word of God" (Matt 15:3-6).  Clearly Churches who say families don't matter have missed the boat!

Another person said to me that from "an more eastern perspective" the passage we looked at isn't troubling but is about the difference between "attachment" and "love."

Thoughtful churches always attempt to locate and understand Jesus' words in historical context and in the light of the Scripture and Tradition as a whole.  Thank you for your feedback, keep it coming!

***Parish Council meeting: Monday, September 22, 7pm at the church***

All are welcome to attend.



***Safe Church — Training Video Screening*** Sunday, September 28

Ensuring St Philip Church is a safe place for everyone is a priority.  To this end, the Diocese requires some of us to watch a 30-minute training video, get Criminal Record Checks done, and read & acknowledge the relevant Diocesan Safe Church policy documents.  It's pretty simple and easy to meet these requirements but it applies to:

* all clergy, wardens and employees;
* anyone handling money;
* anyone supervising children or vulnerable people;
* anyone who has a key or code for church access;
* anyone in a named position.

If you think you need Safe Church training, please contact our new Safe Church Liaison, Ceal McLean, at safechurch@stphilipvictoria.ca and she will help you fulfill the Diocese's requirements.

The Safe Church Training Video will be shown in the church **immediately after the 9:30 service on September 28**.  It takes half an hour, and you only need to see it once.

 Safe Church training needs to be renewed every 5 years, so if you have fulfilled the requirements recently, you don't need to do it again — at least not this year!

Ceal McLean safechurch@stphilipvictoria.ca



***Planning ahead - a reminder***

If you are planning/organizing/thinking about regular, recurring, or single events, meetings, rehearsals or other activities in the church or downstairs hall this fall,

**now is the time to get them into the parish calendar.**

There's more happening on weekdays and weekends than has been the case in recent years, and new rental enquiries are coming in, so booking well in advance is more important for everyone in order to avoid clashes and disappointments.

Booking your space ahead of time will also help Neal to plan his work as Verger at St Philip, which is both more needed as the building gets busier, and less flexible now that he is managing the busy Conservatory of Music site at Metropolitan United.

Please email Anna: admin@stphilipvictoria.ca



***Contemplative Prayer***

Please join us on Tuesday mornings, 10:30 - 11:30, meeting in the choir area of the nave (at the front of the church), for a 20 minute contemplative sit with a time of prayer following.



***LIVING PLASTIC FREE***

Living plastic free – ever thought about it? Is it possible? Young Canadian entrepreneurs have stepped up, and now your bathroom, laundry room and kitchen as well as the rest of your house can be free from plastic containers; even much of your food no longer needs to be wrapped in plastics.

A list of on-line companies compiled by Merle Campbell, all Canadian in production and design, and no plastic containers, is available on the table in the narthex and on the parish website. Please share any personal recommendations to add to the list via admin@stphilipvictoria.ca!



***Long-term Housing Rental Request***

From Alecs and Lucie Kotesovsky: Our family of five (2 adults, 3 children) is looking for a long-term rental property (apartment or house) in the Greater Victoria or Saanich Peninsula area with the move-in date on or around November 1, 2025. We are seeking a property with 2 or 3 bedrooms. If you have a suitable place available or anticipate availability around this date, please contact Lucie at 778-533-7877 or [lucie.kotesovska@seznam.cz](mailto:lucie.kotesovska@seznam.cz) . Thank you very much for any tips and information.



***Mustard Seed hospitality supplies request***

The Mustard Seed needs the following items for their daily hospitality service:

* Green tea bags
* Herbal tea bags (non caffeinated, various flavours)
* Coffee (Medium ground and medium roast)
* Coffee whitener powder

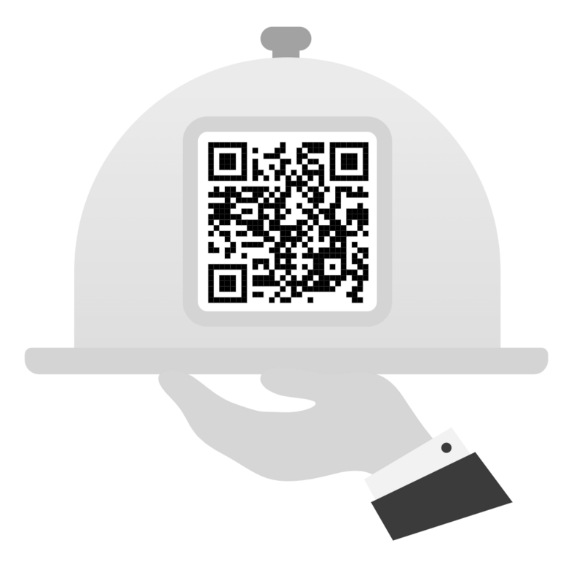
In addition to lunch, the Mustard Seed serves **coffee, tea, soup and sandwiches Mon-Fri 9am - 3pm** for the street community and those using the food bank. Please leave donations **in the box in the narthex on Sunday** and we will deliver them. Thank you very much, and a big thank you to everyone who donated clothing in July. It has been much appreciated!

Thank you,

*St. Philip Missions Committee*

**St Philip Oak Bay invites you to a Syrian Fundraiser Evening in support of Mar Elias Maronite Church in Rablah, Syria**

Syrian food  \*  Syrian dance lesson  \* Music   \*  Fun

Saturday September 27, 5:30-8.30 PM, by donation. St George’s Anglican Church Hall, Cadboro Bay (3909 St. George Lane via Maynard St)

**BOOKING:**to reserve seats, scan the QR code >>>

Please book one name per seat. You can also sign up in person on the sheet in the narthex at St Philip.

**DONATIONS**: **Etransfers** to  [**lsdanthony@shaw.ca**](mailto:lsdanthony@shaw.ca) (no password needed); **cash** on the door; **cheques** made out to **J. Prowse** (memo line "Syria Fundraiser")

**No tax receipts:**100% of all donations raised will go to Syria, but ***please note that as this is not a registered Canadian charity, tax receipts cannot be issued.***

**Questions?**[**admin@stphilipvictoria.ca**](mailto:admin@stphilipvictoria.ca)**, 250-592-6823**

As always, thank you for your support,

*- St Philip Missions Committee*

*\*Many thanks to St George’s for the use of their church hall and to St Philip for food costs.*

**Rector: Rev. Allen Doerksen (**[incumbent@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:incumbent@stphilipvictoria.ca)**,**

**work cell 236-508-2928; day off: Friday)**

**Warden: Judith Armstrong (**[jarmstrong@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:jarmstrong@stphilipvictoria.ca)**)**

**Warden: Larry Anthony (**[lanthony@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:lanthony@stphilipvictoria.ca)**)**

**Parish Office Hours: Mon 1-4.30, Wed & Thurs 9-4.30**

250-592-6823 | [admin@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:admin@stphilipvictoria.ca)

Facebook including live streams: <https://www.facebook.com/stphilipoakbay>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/stphilipoakbay/>

*Thank you for avoiding scented products at church.*