



VESPERS
on the Commemoration of
John XXIII
Bishop of Rome

1963

2026 June 4

As members of a parish in the Diocese of New Westminster, we acknowledge that we are gathered from a variety of locations within the traditional and unceded ancestral territory of the Coast Salish people, including but not limited to, the halq'-emylém speaking Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Tseil-watuth, and Tsawwassen nations.

The Preparation

Officiant

John XXIII convened the second Vatican Council in 1962 and thereby launched Roman Catholics into the modern renewal of their Church. We especially remember him because of his ecumenical concerns. He himself once remarked to an Anglican priest: "Whenever I see a wall between Christians, I try to pull out a brick." Born as Angelo Roncalli in 1885, he entered seminary at the age of ten. Ordained priest in 1904, he spent the next decade as secretary to the bishop of Bergamo, one of the most enlightened prelates of his time and place. After the end of the first World War, Roncalli's career in the Church developed rapidly. In 1934 he was appointed Apostolic Delegate in Turkey and Greece. His predecessors in the post had confined their dealings with the Orthodox to official business; Roncalli went out of his way to develop cordial relations with the Oecumenical Patriarch himself. During the second World War, Roncalli used his office as Apostolic Delegate to help Jews escape from German control, and towards the end of the war he arranged relief supplies for the starving Greeks. In 1944 he was appointed Papal Nuncio to the newly liberated France, and nine years later was made Patriarch of Venice. Roncalli was elected Pope in 1958, and took the name John XXIII. At the age of seventy-three, he had

The Preparation (Cont'd)

been chosen as a “caretaker” Pope. But John quickly made it clear that he did not intend to doze in the Chair of Peter. He inaugurated a series of administrative reforms and established the Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity. Then, on October 11, 1962, he opened the second Vatican Council. At about this time John was told that he had an inoperable cancer. He replied: “Don’t worry about me, because my bags are packed. I’m ready to go.” Undeterred by his illness, he spent the last months of his life mediating between American and Soviet leaders in order to broaden the scope of their nuclear disarmament talks. He died in early June, 1963.

From “***For All the Saints***”
Anglican Church of Canada

The Preparation

Officiant

O God, make speed to save us,
O Lord, make haste to help us.

From the rising of the Sun to its setting
your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.
Amen.

Act of Praise

We Praise You, Father, for Your Gift
Common Praise #33

Cantor or Officiant

We praise you Father, for your gift of dusk and nightfall over earth, foreshadowing the mystery of death that leads to endless day.

Within your hands we rest secure, in quiet sleep, our strength renew; yet give your people hearts that wake in love to you, unsleeping Lord.

Your glory may we ever seek in rest, as in activity, until its fullness is revealed, O source of life, O Trinity.

The Psalm

Psalm 122

Psalmist

I was glad when they said to me, *
”**Let us go to the house of the Lord.**”

Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself.

To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.

For there are the thrones of judgement, *
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
”**May they prosper who love you.**”

Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

The Psalm (Cont'd)

For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the Lord our God, *
I will seek to do you good.”

The Psalm Prayer

Lord Jesus, give us the peace of the new Jerusalem.
Bring all nations into your kingdom to share your gifts,
that they may render thanks to you without end and
may come to your eternal city, where you live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for
ever.

Amen.

The Reading

John 17: 9b - 11; 14 - 19

Reader

A reading from John.

I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Response

*After a brief period of reflection
the Reader says:*

Blessed are the meek for they shall
inherit the Earth.

Thanks be to God!

Affirmation of Faith

Let us Affirm our Faith as we recite “Hear, O Israel”

**Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.
Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.**

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgivings

Presider

Holy, holy, holy God, in calling forth creation from the void, revealing yourself in human flesh, and pouring forth your wisdom to guide us, you manifest your concern for your whole universe. As your people, we gather the world's needs into our hearts and bring them before you, responding to the bidding, God of Love with **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for The Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney – The Scottish Episcopal Church, The Rt. Revd. Anne Dyer, Bishop. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

In the Anglican-Lutheran-Moravian cycle, we pray for The Rt. Revd. Andrew Asbil, Bishop; The Rt. Revd. Kevin Robertson, Suffragan Bishop; The Rt. Revd. Riscylla Shaw, Suffragan Bishop, and the clergy and people of the Diocese of Toronto; The Lutheran Collegiate Bible Institute in Outlook Saskatchewan; The Rt. Revd. Paul Graf, Bishop of the Unity residing in the Northern Province. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

Intercessions, Petitions, & Thanksgivings (Cont'd)

Presider

In this Diocese of New Westminster, we pray for The Deanery of Yale – The Revd Matt Koovisk, Regional Dean; Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Shane Parker; St. George, Maple Ridge, The Revd David Edgerton. God of Love, **Hear our Prayers.**

In our Parish of Holy Trinity Cathedral, we pray for Chris, the National Indigenous Archbishop; John, our Archbishop; Stephanie, our priest; Bishop Benny and the people of Northern Philippines; our sister parish of St. Gabriel the Archangel in Lubon; all in need of our prayers; Brian D., Kyumin L., Robert R., and any others you wish to name, either silently or aloud. God of Love **Hear our Prayers.**

Holy, holy, holy God, fill us with strength and courage, with discernment and compassion, that we may be your instruments of justice and love in this world, that it may be on earth as it is in heaven. **Amen.**

The Collect

Officiant

Lord of all truth and peace, you named your bishop John the servant of the servants of God and gave him wisdom to begin the work of renewing your Church. Grant that, after his example, we may extend our hands to other Christians, to clasp them with the love of your Son, and labour among the nations of the world to kindle their desire for justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant

Believing in the promises of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

The Sending Forth

Deacon (or Officiant)

Let us go forth into the night, rejoicing
in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Officiant

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the
love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy
Spirit, be with us all, evermore.

Amen.