

# **THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**December 10, 2017**

As people of God, we celebrate Christ in the heart of Victoria through joyful worship,  
building inclusive community, and putting faith into action.

St. John's acknowledges these ancestral territories of the Lekwungen people.

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**Welcome to the Parish Church of St. John the Divine**, Victoria. We are a community of faith in the Anglican Tradition, seeking to live lives of faith, hope and love as part of this community of Downtown Victoria. We are on a journey of learning to be a welcoming, inviting, inclusive and serving community which is open to all.

Our worship reflects our rootedness in the Anglican tradition, whilst drawing on liturgies that reflect the long history and heritage of our Christian faith. Please join in as you feel able, and enjoy the words, music and opportunity for prayer and to be a part of our community.

If our service seems unfamiliar, please follow the cues from our leaflet, the ministers leading the service and those around you. Most of our Sunday morning worship services have the Eucharist, or Holy Communion, at the heart of our worship – please feel free to join us, whatever your tradition, in the sharing of bread and wine, at the station nearest to where you are seated. Gluten free wafers are available at all stations: Please indicate if you need one.

Within the Anglican Church of Canada (under the advice of the Primate and the Chief Medical Officer for Canada) we would ask that bread is not dipped into the wine, as this has the potential to spread infection in a way that the sharing of the cup does not. If you would prefer not to share the cup then receiving only bread is considered ‘full communion’ (also known as ‘Communion in One Kind’).

If there is anything that you wish to talk about, please do take the opportunity to talk to the worship leaders, ministers and other members of the congregation following the service. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Healing Prayer group in the south Quadra entrance who would be happy to pray with you as the Holy Communion is shared.

After our service we usually share coffee and an opportunity to get to know one another, in the Church Hall – through the door on the front left hand side. We have many visitors and newcomers here so please make yourself known to folks as you feel comfortable.

You are very welcome here. We don’t always get it right; please let us know when we do, and when we don’t. Please stay and be a part of our family, for however long you would like.

## **8:00 am Holy Communion**

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*The order of service is found on page 67 in the Book of Common Prayer*

**Presider:** The Venerable Alastair McCollum

# 10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Baptism

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*The congregation is invited to join in the hymns, responses and prayers marked in bold print.*

**Presider:** The Reverend Gillian Hoyer

**Deacon:** The Reverend Patrick Sibley

**Sermon:** The Venerable Alastair McCollum

**Readers:** Kevin Farris, Lauren Hodgins

**Intercessor:** Karen Coverett

**Vergers:** Jim Pauly

**Audio:** Walter Hundleby

**Music:** The Choristers of St. John the Divine, The Sutton Organ Scholar, The MacRae Choral Scholars

**Congregational Mass Setting:** New Plainsong Mass, David Hurd (b. 1950)

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## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Gifts will be presented to Burnside Gorge Community Centre.*

### INTROIT

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore.  
Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more,  
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:  
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest.

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise.  
Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:  
Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:  
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

*Text and Music: Thomas Campion (1567-1620)*

In this time and in this place  
We gather on the ancestral lands of the Lekwungen people.

**All: From many places and many peoples  
we come to this house in prayer.**

In this time and in this space  
We are not alone  
For we meet in the presence of the living God.

**All: We meet in the presence of the living God.**

In this time and in this place  
We are not alone  
For the Risen Jesus stands in our midst.

**All: The Risen Jesus stands in our midst.**

In this time and in this space  
We are not alone  
For the wind of the Spirit  
moves in and through us.

**All: The wind of the Spirit  
moves in and through us.**

In this time and in this place  
we gather with the whole company of heaven:  
here heaven and earth are one.

**All: In this time and in this space  
heaven and earth are one.**

In this time and in this space  
as the nights lengthen  
and the days are dim,

**All: we light this candle to  
remind us that our Light comes.**

In this time and in this place  
as we wait for Jesus, who is  
Peace for the world,

**All: we light this candle to  
remind us that our Peace comes.**

In this time and in this space,  
we gather together,  
one people in Jesus Christ.

**All: In this time and place,  
we are one people in Jesus Christ.  
In the name of God,  
Creator, Saviour and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF PENITENCE AND FORGIVENESS**

The grace-filled shadows of Advent  
offer us the opportunity to explore our human complexities  
through the lens of God's saving love.  
Trusting in God's promises,  
let us confess our sins.

*Silence*

## **KYRIE**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you close,  
pardon and cleanse you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and show you the glory of the Word made flesh,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Almighty God,

**All: who sent your servant John the Baptist  
to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah,  
inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth,  
to turn our disobedient hearts to you,  
that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge,  
we may stand with confidence before his glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

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## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

### THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

85:1-2, 8-13

You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

### THE EPISTLE

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### GRADUAL HYMN (CP 100)

PSALM 42

### THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

*Before the Gospel*

The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*After the Gospel*

The Gospel of Christ.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## SERMON

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### HOLY BAPTISM

#### PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Our candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Sponsor:* I present *Justin David* to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Do you desire to be baptized?

*Candidate:* I do.

*The Presider asks the following questions of the candidate.*

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

*Candidate:* I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

*Candidate:* I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

*Candidate:* I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

*Candidate:* I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

*Candidate:* I do.

Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

*Candidate:* I do.

*The Presider addresses the congregation, saying,*

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

**All: We will.**

#### PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATE

Let us now pray for *Justin David* who is to receive the sacrament of new birth.

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER**

The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus. For us he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. For us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit. For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin and death, and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**



We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

**All: Blessed be God for ever.**

We give you thanks for you have called *Justin David* to new life through the waters of baptism.

Now sanctify this water that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Anoint them with your Holy Spirit and bring them to new birth in the family of your Church, that they may become an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

We give you praise and honour and worship through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**All: Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.**

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

## **THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**All: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**All: I believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin,  
repent and return to the Lord?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour  
as yourself?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every  
human being?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and  
renew the life of the Earth?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

## **THE BAPTISM**

*The minister sprinkles the candidates with water from the font.*

*Justin David, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.*

**All: Amen.**

I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.  
Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit  
you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin,  
and have raised them to the new life of grace.  
Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit.  
Give them an inquiring and discerning heart,  
the courage to will and to persevere,  
a spirit to know and to love you,  
and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

**All: Amen.**

## THE WELCOME AND THE PEACE

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
*Justin David*, by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

**All:** We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;  
we are children of the same heavenly Father;  
we welcome you.

We are all one in Christ Jesus.  
We belong to him through faith,  
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All:** And also with you.

*Let us offer one another a sign of peace.*

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## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

### OFFERTORY HYMN (CP 101)

CRÜGER

### THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God our strength,  
**All:** we are nothing without you.  
Receive all we offer you this day  
as you sustain us with your mercy;  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *People* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that we should praise you,  
God of love, our source and our fulfillment,  
for you create all things  
and in you we live and move and have our being.  
Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.

You made us in your image.  
And even though we turn from you,  
again and again you call us to yourself,  
and in every age, promise liberation.

As a mother gathers her children,  
you embraced a people as your own  
to nurture them in the way of compassionate love.  
You sent Jesus among us,  
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary.  
Jesus revealed your love for all Creation,  
and showed us the way of reconciliation.

Having lived among us -  
Jesus suffered the cross,  
Died,  
And in rising again  
became the firstborn of the renewed family.

Your Holy Spirit descended  
and gave life to your church.

And so we gather around your table,  
with all the saints and with all Creation  
We sing the hymn of your unending love:

## **SANCTUS**

To you be glory, almighty God,  
because on the night before he died,  
Jesus took bread,  
when he had given thanks,  
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take, eat, this is my body  
which is given for you:  
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;

when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you.

This is my blood of the new covenant  
poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this to remember me.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Recalling Christ's death and resurrection,  
we ask you to accept  
this, our sacrifice of praise.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,  
and on these gifts  
that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son

Unite us in Christ  
and give us your peace  
that we might be strengthened to do your work  
as your body in the world.

Through Christ our Redeemer,  
in the power of the Spirit,  
all praise and glory be yours, Creator God,  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Ambrosian Chant

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

**All: God here among us, light in the midst of us,  
bring us light and life.**

## **THE COMMUNION**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

*All are invited to receive communion at the side chapel, at the altar rail, or at the back of the church. Please follow the Greeters' instructions. Receiving bread or wine is considered full communion. It is the practice of the ACC not to dip the bread into the wine. Any not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing, and to indicate that by holding their arms crossed on their chest.*

*If you are unable to come to a communion station please make this known to the Greeters and we will bring communion to you.*

*Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request them from the person who is distributing the bread.*

### **Ministry of Healing**

We invite those wishing prayer for themselves or on behalf of someone else to come to the front of the line to receive the bread and wine. Immediately after receiving, go to the prayer station in the south Quadra entrance. Briefly state your need. The prayer team will lay hands on your shoulders and will pray quietly for you.

### **ANTHEM DURING COMMUNION**

This is the record of John - Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; and said plainly, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, What art thou? that we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord. (John 1:19)

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## **THE COMMISSIONING OF THE COMMUNITY**

### **THE DOXOLOGY**

All your works praise you, O Lord.

**All: And your faithful servants bless you.**

**Gracious God we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
May we, who share his body, live his risen life;  
we, who drink his cup, bring life to others;  
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so that we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE**

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**All: Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Father.**

### **ADVENT BLESSING**

May the saving hope of the coming infant Christ  
fill you with expectation,  
the joy of Mary's song surround you and give you courage,  
the faith of the prophets strengthen your resolve  
to work for the redemption of the world,  
and the blessing of God, Source of all being,  
eternal Word and Holy Spirit,  
be with you this day and always.

**All: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** (CP 106)

ASCENSION

**VOLUNTARY** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

J.S. Bach

*You are invited to be seated for the Voluntary or to leave at this point.*

*Coffee, tea and cake will be served in the Parish Hall.*

# Office Hours 9am – 12 Noon Monday to Friday

**The deadline for leaflet announcements is Tuesday noon of each week.  
All notices are to be given in writing, preferably by email.**

## THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

### Today

11:45 am	Sunday Reflections	Denson Lounge
4:00 pm	Christmas Pageant (Gather at 3:00 pm for barbecue and hot apple cider)	Parking Lot and Church Garden
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

### Monday 11

12:00 Noon	Book Study Christmas Luncheon	Denson Lounge
1:30 pm	The Divine Knitters	Home of Anne Henderson
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

### Tuesday 12

10:00 am	Food Bank	Crypt
12:30 pm	ACW Christmas Luncheon	Swiss Chalet on Douglas St.
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

### Wednesday 13

7:45 am	Holy Communion followed by Breakfast	Chapel/Denson Lounge
9:30 am	Sermon Circle	Denson Lounge

### Thursday 14

12:10 pm	Meditative Eucharist	Chapel
5:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	Denson Lounge

### Friday 15

10:00 am	Food Bank	Crypt
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### Sunday 17 (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent)

8:00 am	Holy Communion	Chapel
10:00 am	Parish Eucharist	Church
11:45 am	Sunday Reflections	Denson Lounge
2:00 pm	PFLAG	Denson Lounge
7:30 pm	Lessons and Carols for Christmas, reception to follow	Church
9:00 pm	Out of the Rain Youth Shelter	Crypt

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**Please ensure that any written announcements to be read on Sunday morning  
are received in the office by Friday noon.**



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## READINGS FOR DECEMBER 17 – 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11** As the exiles begin to return home from Babylon there is much to rebuild, but the prophet reminds them that God's salvation is not about bricks and mortar but about justice, kindness, and generosity.

**Psalms 126** Remembered joy gives hope: what God did before, God can do again.

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24** The third Sunday of Advent is *Gaudete* or Rejoice Sunday. Joy comes not from circumstances but from the experience of God's strengthening.

**John 1:6-8, 19-28** John the Baptizer is at the centre of the preparatory action for God's coming.

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## FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

### Main

In memory of Grahame Baker, a much loved and greatly missed husband, father and grandfather, from his family.

### Chapel

In memory of Kay and Sandy Pearson from their daughter Kit

## THIS WEEK



**Today we welcome** Theresa James-Bates and family, of the Burnside Gorge Community Centre, who will receive our white gifts for distribution to needy families and children at Christmas through the Centre.

We have three beautiful styles of **CHRISTMAS CARDS** available at coffee hour today. A donation of \$20 (for which you will receive a full tax receipt) is suggested for each packet of 12 cards. The funds collected help the **Primate's World Relief and Development Fund** do its work across the world and here at home.

**Pledge Cards:** If you have not yet handed in your pledge card for 2018 please do so now as we need this information to help us prepare the Budget for 2018.



## Christmas Pageant today at 4:00 pm.

Gather at 3pm for barbeque and hot apple cider.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Spiritual Director** Sherri Koster will be at St. John's this Mon., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> and Tues., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or would like to book an appointment please contact Sherri directly at 250-883-9287 or [sherrickoster@gmail.com](mailto:sherrickoster@gmail.com).

#### **New Year's Eve TAIZÉ**

What a beautiful way to welcome the New Year! Everyone is invited to this simple candle-lit Taizé service with chant, prayer, word and silence.

**Sunday, December 31, 9:00 - 10:00 pm**

St. Philip Anglican Church, 2928 Eastdowne Road *at Neil in north Oak Bay*

[www.stphilipvictoria.ca](http://www.stphilipvictoria.ca) / [office@stphilipvictoria.ca](mailto:office@stphilipvictoria.ca) / 250-592-6823

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A Prayer Group** prays through the week; to request confidential prayers for yourself or others contact Pat Manning by email: [patriciacmanning@gmail.com](mailto:patriciacmanning@gmail.com) or leave the request at the church office.

**Prayer is the bedrock of our relationship with God through Christ.** Individual requests for intercessory prayer (read at Sunday and weekday services) may be made by filling out a Prayer Request Card available at the back of the church (on the west wall) or by emailing the same information requested on the card to: [carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca).

**In appreciation:** As a family, we went to express our heartfelt thanks that so many of you at St. John's have supported us so strongly over the past weeks---and indeed years---since Trevor's accident four years ago and his untimely death this past month.

Your sympathy and shared grief and warm messages of love and support have buoyed us up immeasurably. St. John's is truly a special and caring community.

With love, from the Ashwells.

**The Canadian Church Calendar is now available for sale at the office - \$5.00**

### **Sunday Reflections**

On weeks without other events we offer the opportunity to ask 'what just happened?' at our Sunday service - an open forum to discuss the sermon, liturgy, music, and indeed anything that might have cropped up during our worship services, or about Anglican practice and tradition generally. This takes place at **11:45am, following the 10am service** and usually lasts for 45 minutes or so. All are welcome; come, and bring your questions!

Come and revive your **Art & Soul** at the art and spirituality group held in the basement space at St. John the Divine every Wednesday afternoon at 1:30pm. Art experience is not necessary! We ask for a *voluntary* donation of \$4.00 per session to provide supplies for those in need. Any questions - please contact Gillian Barlow or Susan McCabe.



**"THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER"** – Today is your **last chance to order** poinsettias to make our church look even more beautiful at Christmas. Please consider making a dedication. Cost: \$13 per plant. Contact Carol-Ann in the church office ([carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:carolann.zenger@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca) or 250-383-7169 ext. 226) to order a poinsettia and give a dedication. Thank you, Susan Powell.

**The special blue envelope for December is for Rector's Discretionary Fund.** This money is used by the rector to help people quietly and without embarrassment. It allows him to act quickly in emergencies. It gives him the ability to access funds that are not already dedicated to other purposes.

**A BIG THANK-YOU FROM THE INMATES AT THE JAIL:** Kevin wants to pass on a thank-you to everyone who so generously donated items for inmates being released around Christmas-time. Because of your thoughtfulness, dozens of men will receive a basic care package when they leave custody and begin their new life in the community. It means a world of difference to have some basic personal hygiene items and some clean cloths. A special thanks goes to Chris Eve who organized and facilitated this project -- well done!



### **Out of the Rain Christmas Stockings**

Every year, for Christmas, we give the homeless young people who sleep in our crypt a gift. Typically we fill a Christmas stocking with socks, some hygiene products and a treat. If we have enough funds, along with Christmas stockings, we buy hoodies. If you would like to contribute to this project, please make a cheque out to St John the Divine designating the funds to 'OOTR Stocking Project'. If you have any questions contact Gerry Melville or Karyn Lehmann. Thanking you in advance for your support.

**NEWCOMERS!** IF you would like a **nametag**, please ask Carol-Ann (church office: 250-383-7169, ext. 226). But IF you would NOT, please bear with us while we learn your name.

# SOUL SPACE

Things to nourish our spiritual journey

“Advent is the time of promise; it is not yet the time of fulfilment. We are still in the midst of everything and in the logical inexorability and relentlessness of destiny....Space is still filled with the noise of destruction and annihilation, the shouts of self-assurance and arrogance, the weeping of despair and helplessness. But round about the horizon the eternal realities stand silent in their age-old longing. There shines on them already the first mild light of the radiant fulfilment to come. From afar sound the first notes as of pipes and voices, not yet discernible as a song or melody. It is all far off still, and only just announced and foretold. But it is happening, today.”

— Alfred Delp, *Advent of the Heart: Seasonal Sermons and Prison Writings, 1941-1944*

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Wherever there are sinners,  
the weak, the sorrowful, the  
poor in the world, that is  
where God goes. Here he lets  
himself be found by  
everyone. And this message  
goes throughout the world,  
year after year anew. And it  
also comes once again to us  
this year.

- Bonhoeffer on Advent



# Advent and Christmas at St. John the Divine

## **Lessons and Carols for Christmas —**

**Sunday, December 17 - 7:30 p.m.**

The traditional carol service first made popular through the Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College Cambridge. Christmas hymns, readings, and choral carols with The Choristers of St. John the Divine.

## **Christmas Eve – Sunday, December 24**

**4:00 p.m.**

### **All-Age celebration of the Nativity Story**

Bring the whole family and rejoice at the birth of Christ. Children, especially, are invited to participate in the telling of the Christmas story in word and song.

**7:00 p.m.**

### **Holy Communion for Christmas Eve**

An opportunity to share in a Eucharist for Christmas if the Midnight Mass is a little late. With the Community Choir of St. John the Divine.

**11:00 p.m.**

### **Midnight Mass**

The festive Christmas Eucharist, including traditional carols and candlelight, With the Choristers of St. John the Divine

## **Christmas Day – 10:00 a.m.**

**Monday, December 25**

Christmas Communion



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# THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

## STEWARDS

**People's Warden:** Graeme Brown

**Deputy People's Warden:** Joan Huzar

**Envelope Secretary:** Jim Harlick

**Rector's Warden:** Duane Lecky

**Deputy Rector's Warden:** Penny Holt

**Treasurer:** Kate McCabe

## PARISH COUNCIL

Sherrie Allen, Rhoda Brodie-Smith, Tom Clements, Trevor Elton, Carol Anne Harper, Doug Sheepwash,  
Catherine Small, Michael Zenger, Molly Patton (Clerk)

## STAFF SUPPORTING THE MINISTRY OF ST. JOHN'S

**Rector:** The Ven. Alastair McCollum

**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Canon Kevin Arndt

**Associate Priest:** The Rev'd Bill Tarter, OSF

**Curate:** The Rev'd Gillian Hoyer

**Deacon:** The Rev'd Patrick Sibley

**Director of Music:** David Stratkauskas

**Family Ministry Coordinator:** Ruth MacIntosh

**Interim Parish Administrator:** Carol-Ann Zenger

**Bookkeeper:** Nicolas Michel

## HONORARY ASSISTANTS

The Rt. Rev'd R. Barry Jenks / The Rev'd Derek Dunwoody

The Rev'd Dr. Larry Scyner / The Rev'd Jane Reid

1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2L5 Tel. 250-383-7169 / Fax 250-381-3573

[pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca](mailto:pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca) or **for urgent calls only**, use 778-678-6873

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