

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

The 1st Sunday in Lent *February 22, 2026*

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 lands of the Lekwungen people.

We are an inclusive and affirming parish; the sacraments of the church (baptism, communion and marriage) are available to all people on equal terms. Christ welcomes you, and so do we.



Duccio, di Buoninsegna, -1319?. Temptation of Christ on the Mount, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=49183> [retrieved February 20, 2026]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Duccio_di_Buoninsegna_040.jpg.

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 in 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.

Services at St. John's are: **8:00 am (Holy Communion – said service), 10:00 am (Holy Eucharist – with choir and organ), 4:30 pm (BCP Choral Evensong)** on Sundays as well as mid-week services (please see our website for times). If you can't attend in person we invite you to join us via Zoom (email admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca for the link) or through the livestream on the Website: www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

We continue to share daily prayer online with a link on our website.

Contacting Us: Please email us at admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca or call 250-383-7169. If you wish to receive prayer for yourself or for another, there will be members of our Pastoral Care Team who will offer their prayers. Please contact the church office at the above email address.

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.

If you would like to give to support the work and ministries of St. John the Divine you can do so in the offering plate which is by the Garden door and will be presented as the Communion is prepared. You may also conveniently use our tap machine (no tax receipt) which is available at the garden door entrance, or the bank machine (tax receipt with envelope completion) available at the office. Envelopes for regular giving are available from the church office. Alternatively, you can scan this QR code which will take you to our Canada Helps giving page.

Thank you for your support.



8:00 am Holy Communion

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

Presider: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

10:00 am Parish Eucharist

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

Presider: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Greeters: Barbara Jenks, Ruth Swinton

Crucifer: Penny Holt

Sacristan: Ann Barry

Readers: Judith Branion, Michael Zenger

Gospel: Gary Moss

Sermon: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Intercessor: Lorraine Gates

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Gerry Melville,

Virginia Miller, Jessie Bosma

Verger: David Pupak

Streaming Technician: Karen Coverett

Music: The Choristers of St. John the Divine
David Stratkauskas, Director of Music

Char Hodgkins, Assistant Director

This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending this service, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

The Gathering of the Community

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

Announcements

Please stand as you are able.

Processional Hymn (CP 372)

GERONTIUS



- 1. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in every word most wonderful,
most sure in all God's ways.**
- 2. O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.**
- 3. O generous love! that flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail;**
- 4. and that the highest gift of grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence, and God's very self,
and essence all-divine;**
- 5. who in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach all people, and inspire
to suffer and to die.**
- 6. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in every word most wonderful,
most sure in all God's ways.**

Text: John Henry Newman (1801-1890).
Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).

Gathering

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Invitation to Confession

We are all called to healing and wholeness through the God who draws us close
and embraces us with love and strength.

We acknowledge our broken relationship with the earth, with one another, with
God, and with ourselves, as we pray.

Silence

Please stand as you are able.

During lent, the Gloria is replaced with the Kyrie Eleison.

Kyrie (sung by the choir)

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison.

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy.

Music: John Ireland (1879-1962)

The Collect of the Day

Silence is kept.

Spirit of the desert,
you drove Jesus to the edge of the world
to seek your truth and find his calling:
scour our hearts and awaken our hunger,
so that freed from empty clinging
we may serve only you the Creator;
through Jesus Christ, the Lord of the wilds.

All: Amen.

Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009) alt.

The Proclamation of the Word

Let us listen for the Word of God in Holy Scripture.

Please sit for the Reading and the Psalm.

The First Reading

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

After the Reading

Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm

32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, * and whose sin is put away!
Happy are they to whom GOD imputes no guilt, * and in whose spirit there is
no guile!

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, * because of my groaning all
day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; * my moisture was dried up as in
the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, * and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to GOD." * Then you forgave me the guilt
of my sin.

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; * when
the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; * you surround me with
shouts of deliverance.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; * I will guide you
with my eye.

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; * who must be fitted
with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; * but mercy embraces those who trust
in GOD.

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in GOD; * shout for joy, all who are true
of heart.

Inclusive Language Psalter: A New Gender-Inclusive Adaptation of the Book of Psalms,
Based on the 1979 Book of Common Prayer Text (Version for Congregational Use)
Edited and adapted by Adam Waddell, Hannah Bowman, the Rev. K.D. Joyce, and the Rev. Bailey Pickens.

The Epistle

Romans 5:12-19

After the Reading

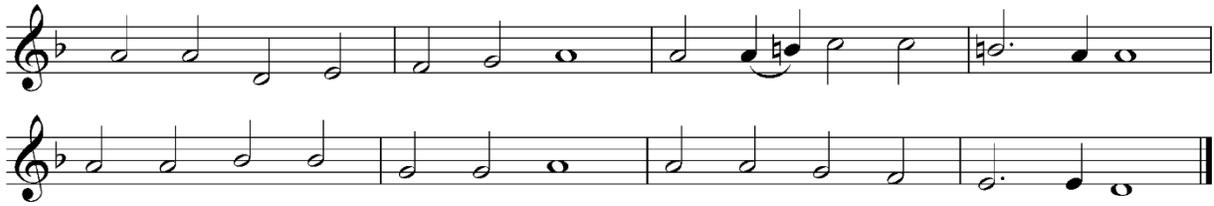
Hear what the Spirit is saying.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gradual Hymn (NEH 67)

AUS DER TIEFE



1. **Forty days and forty nights
Thou wast fasting in the wild,
Forty days and forty nights
Tempted and yet undefiled.**
2. **Sunbeams scorching all the day,
Chilly dewdrops nightly shed,
Prowling beasts about thy way,
Stones thy pillow, earth thy bed.**
3. **Let us thine endurance share,
And awhile from joys abstain,
With thee watching unto prayer,
Strong with thee to suffer pain.**
4. **And if Satan, vexing sore,
Flesh or spirit should assail,
Thou, his vanquisher before,
Grant we may not faint nor fail.**
5. **So shall we have peace divine,
Holier gladness ours shall be,
Round us too shall angels shine,
Such as ministered to thee.**
6. **Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,
Ever constant by thy side,
That with thee we may appear
At the eternal Eastertide.**

Text: G. H. Smyttan (1822-70) and Francis Pot (1832-1909).
Music: 'M.H.' in Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch 1676. Melody possibly by M. Herbst (1654-81).

Please stand as you are able.

The Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11



Cantor: The Lord is a great God; O that today you would listen to his voice; harden not your hearts.



God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Hear the Good news of Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

After the Gospel

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare the faith of Christ as we say,

**All: 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.

Please stand, sit, or kneel as you prefer.

Prayers of the People

Those who have asked for our prayers are listed at the end of the leaflet.

Please stand as you are able.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

All may offer their neighbour a sign of peace.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Hymn (CP 533)

ABERYSTWYTH



1. **Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the heaven guide;
O receive my soul at last.**
2. **Other refuge have I none;
hangs my helpless soul on thee.
Leave, ah! leave me not alone;
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.**
3. **Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find!
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name;
I am all unrighteousness:
false and full of sin I am;
thou art full of truth and grace.**
4. **Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart;
rise to all eternity.**

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788).
Music: Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

Please stand as you are able.

The Prayer over the Gifts

God our provider,
you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.
Bless us and these your gifts,
which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006)

As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist, we remember that we are the people of God. Near or far we are gathered together by the love of Christ. We remember that we are incorporated into the body of Christ. We join together in this celebration of our union in Christ.

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer V
Scottish Episcopal Church 1982 (revised 2002) altd.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff has four measures with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al-so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The second staff has two measures with lyrics: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise." Above the first staff, the vocal parts are labeled "Priest:" and "All:". Above the second staff, the vocal parts are labeled "Priest:" and "All:". The music is written in a simple, rhythmic style with a key signature of one flat.

Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness.

Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos,
brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home.

In Christ your Son enemies are reconciled,
debts forgiven, and strangers made welcome.
Your Spirit frees us to live
as children in our Father's house.

We who by Christ's power
follow the way of the Cross,
sharing the joy of his obedience,
now offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Sanctus (sung by the choir)

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.*

*Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord:
Hosanna in the highest.*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving God,
for Christ in whom the world is reconciled.
Lifted on the Cross,
Jesus' suffering and forgiveness
spanned the gulf sin had made.
Through that dark struggle
death was swallowed up in victory,
that life and light might reign.

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
recalling the night of Israel's release,
the night in which the sons of Egypt died,
your Chosen One, himself the First-Born,
freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples he took bread
and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat. This is my Body: It is broken for you.”

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks,
and gave it to them saying:
“Drink this, all of you.
This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son's command.
We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves,
a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Creator,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by your Spirit's life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

Help us to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage
in the company of Mary, the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our siblings living and departed.

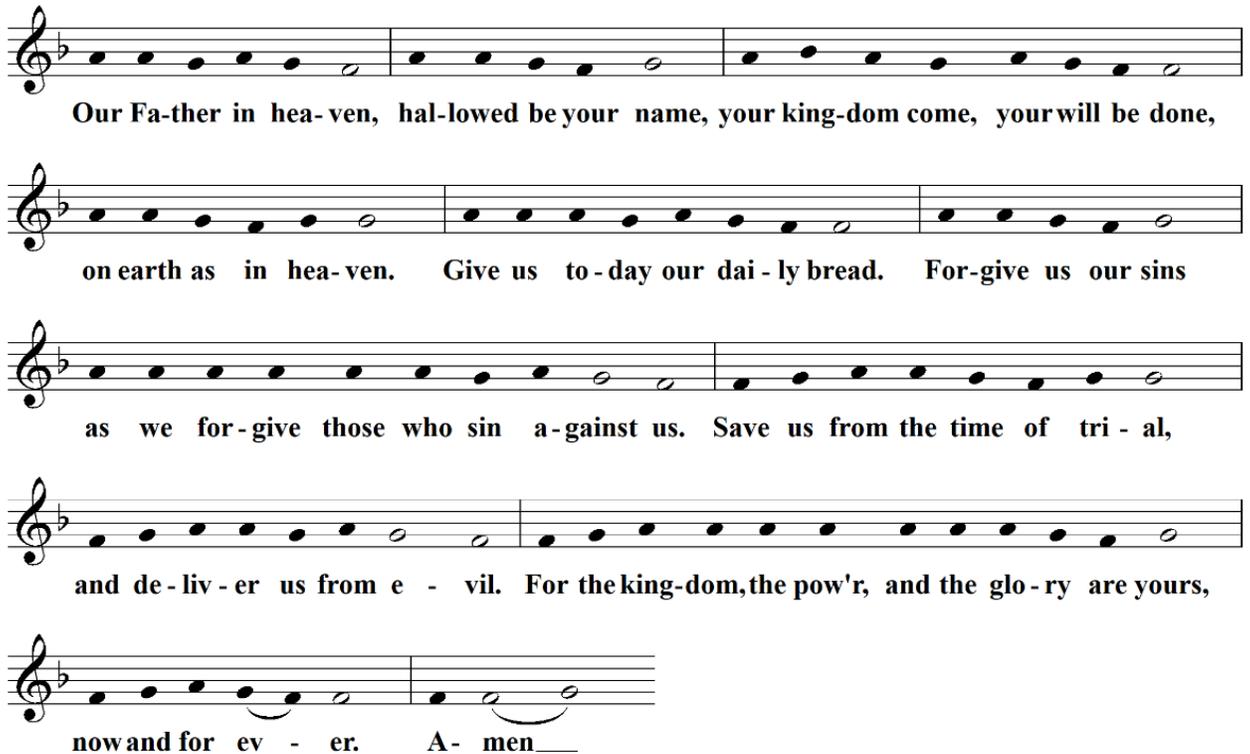
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages, world without end.



All: A - men, A - men, A - - men.

The Disciples' Prayer

Priest: As our saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray:



Our Fa-ther in hea-ven, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins
as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al,
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r, and the glo-ry are yours,
now and for ev-er. A-men

Music © 1985, Church Publishing Inc. / All rights reserved. Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-719605.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat
which bears its fruit in dying.

**All: If we have died with him,
we shall live with him;
if we hold firm,
we shall reign with him.**

The Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

All are invited to receive communion. 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.

Agnus Dei *(sung by the choir)*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.

Motet *(sung by the choir)*

In jejuniis et fletu orabant sacerdotes:

Parce, Domine, parce populo tuo, et ne des hereditatem tuam in perditionem.

Inter vestibulum et altare plorabant sacerdotes, dicentes:

Parce populo tuo.

In fasting and weeping the priests prayed:

Spare, O Lord, spare thy people, and give not thine inheritance to perdition.

Between the porch and the altar the priests wept, saying:

Spare thy people.

Text and Music: Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

Following the Communion there will be a pause for silence.

The Commissioning of the Community

Please stand as able.

One body are we.

**All: For, though we are in many places,
spiritually we share one bread.**

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage;
may our fasting be hunger for justice;
our alms, a making of peace;
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

All: Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

The Blessing

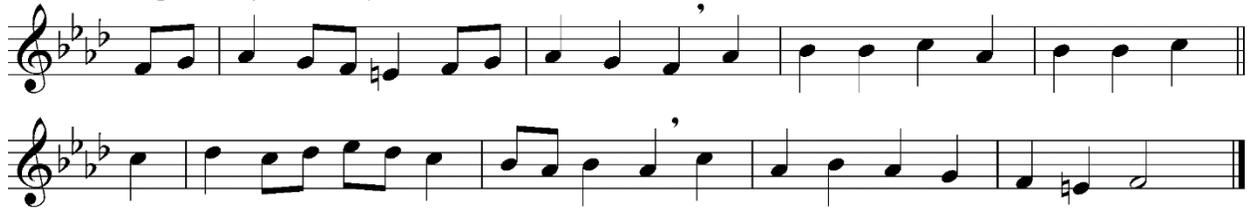
Dismissal

Let us go in peace to love and serve our living God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn (CP 170)

ERHALT UNS, HERR



1. The glory of these forty days
we celebrate with songs of praise;
for Christ, through whom all things were
made, himself has fasted and has prayed.
2. Alone and fasting, Moses saw
the loving God who gave the law;
and to Elijah, fasting, came
the steeds and chariots of flame.
3. So Daniel trained his mystic sight,
delivered from the lion's might;
and John, the bridegroom's friend,
became the herald of Messiah's name.
4. Then grant us, Lord, like them to be
full oft in fast and prayer with thee;
our spirits strengthen with thy grace,
and give us joy to see thy face.
5. O Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
to thee be every prayer addressed,
who art in three-fold name adored,
from age to age, the only Lord.

Text: Latin (6th cent.); tr. Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947), alt. Tr. © Oxford University Press.
Music: Melody – *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543; adapt Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

Please be seated

Voluntary Fantasia in c minor BWV 562

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Please join us in the hall for the Annual Vestry Meeting.
Coffee and tea will be served – bring a brown bag lunch.



No Sunday Reflections today.

Choral Evensong today at 4:30pm

Readings: Psalm 50:1-15; Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 16-25; Luke 18:9-14

Officiant: Gary Moss

Preacher: The Venerable Alastair Singh-McCollum

Music: Quartet

Responses: Katherine Burk Webb ; Canticles: Amy Beach / Olivia Sparkhall

Anthem: TBD

Readings for March 1st – The 2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 12:1-4a God calls Abraham, promising blessings, and Abraham responds in faith.

Psalms 121 God offers constant presence and care for us as we journey through life.

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 Paul teaches that God chose Abraham not because he had done all the right things but because he trusted God's promises.

John 3:1-17 Jesus challenges Nicodemus to take up a new life that sees, hopes and believes in God's creative, transforming power.

Blue Envelope for March – Alongside Hope

Alongside Hope, formally known as the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), was established by the Anglican General Synod of Canada in 1959. The name reflects the agency's main program focus and philosophy. Alongside Hope provides for long-term development needs connected to most of the suffering caused by natural or human-provoked disasters.

The following people have asked for our prayers.

Please keep them in your heart and mind as you go through your week.

Chuck
Paul C-S.
Zoe
Carolyn & family
Richard M.
Ronnie A. & family
Kai & Chelsea
Claire
Kate
Lisa

Jill & family
Grace
John & Pat
Liz & family
Andrew
Jamie G.
Sue
Emily
Miranda
Laura

Charles & Frances
Mallory
Vorna & family
James M.
Brian T.
Tonja D.
Joshua
Robyn
Deb

The Anglican Church of St. John the Divine

Stewards

People's Warden: Jim Harlick
jharlick@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Associate Warden: Lorraine Gates
lgates@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Givings Coordinator: Jim Harlick
givings@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

Incumbent's Warden: Jamie Lawson
jlawson@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Associate Warden: Carol Anne Harper
charper@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Treasurer: David Buckman
treasurer@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

Parish Council

Jaqueline Gillespie, Murray Harris
Pam Plummer, Ruth Swinton, Cornelia van Voorst

Synod Delegates

Jim Harlick, Jamie Lawson, Michael Zenger

Staff Supporting the Ministry of St. John's

Incumbent: The Ven. Alastair Singh-McCollum
incumbent@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Volunteer Priest Associate: The Rev. Dr. John Thatamanil
jthatamanil@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Pam Worthington
alie2coachman@gmail.com

Director of Music: David Stratkauskas
sjdchoirs@gmail.com
Family Ministry Coordinator: Ruth MacIntosh
familyministry@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
Parish Administrator: Carol-Ann Zenger
admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca

1611 Quadra Street, Victoria, BC V8W 2L5 Tel. 250-383-7169 / Fax 250-381-3573
pastoral@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca or **for urgent calls only**, use 250-516-9565
or email admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca
www.stjohnthedivine.bc.ca facebook.com/St.JohnVicBC
e-mail: admin@stjohnthedivine.bc.ca