

Thoughts for the Day

Christianity seeks to turn prophecy into reality. The Gospels all see Jesus as the incarnation of God's prophetic call. Micah contrasts the externals of religious behaviour with the spiritual intent of the behaviour. He does not mean that the externals have no value. He means our worship points us to lives grounded in the values underpinning religious action. Micah writes: 'He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?' Justice, kindness, and humility – these are the truth beneath our worship. Amen.

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey

DATES TO NOTE

Sat. Feb. 4 Open Gym, 5:30 pm
Fri. Feb. 10 Deadline for Lent/Easter POST
Sun. Feb. 26 Vestry Sunday, after Church
Sun. Feb. 26 Sweeter than Roses, 4 pm.
Mon. Feb. 27 MAID talk, St. John's Shaughnessy, 7 pm.

CHILDREN AT CHURCH - EVERY SUNDAY

At the 10.00am service there are Church School classes for all children who wish to attend. Children are encouraged to come to the front of the church for the "Children's Focus" and then leave for their classes, returning during the Peace. The youngest (newborns to two years old) can use our "Noah's Ark" room (just off the side of the church) under parental supervision.

ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN HOME FUNDRAISER

St. Jude's Anglican Home is putting on a capital fundraiser by putting on a play at the Metro Theatre at 1370 S.W. Marine Drive on Wednesday, March 8th at 8 pm. The play is called "Guilty Conscience". Tickets are \$50 each, but receive a \$25 tax receipt per ticket. There will also be a silent auction, a 50/50 draw and light refreshments available. For tickets, speak to Beth Vondette in the Church office.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH COMMITTEE 2017-2018

If you are interested in being part of Church Committee for 2017-2018, or wish to nominate a candidate, please contact Sarah Burns. Voting occurs at the Vestry meeting which will take place on Sunday, February 26th.



PARISH POST

I have been asked to publish the next Post on Ash Wednesday, therefore I will require all articles to be submitted to the office by noon on February 10th in order to meet that deadline. This deadline is firm. Please attach any photographs or pictures in a jpeg format if you would like them included in your article.

REFUGEE UPDATE

The application package for Lama and her four children, Syrians in a refugee camp in Lebanon, was mailed to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada just before Christmas. In the new year, Mary will also put together an application package for the family's grandparents. Including the grandparents will cost an additional \$10,000 to the original fundraising goal of \$40,000, making the new goal \$50,000. We have already raised more than \$25,000 and will likely have a year or so to fundraise the remaining money.

If you wish to donate, please make cheques payable to St. Philip's and write "Refugee Fund" on the envelope as well as on the memo line. For more information please contact Mary Lymburner, 778-898-5117 or kmarylymburner@telus.net

ALT VESPERS NEWS

Alt Vespers will be cancelled until February 1st while Clare is in Jerusalem. February 1st we will have a special Labyrinth walk and Candlemas service. All are invited!

SENIORS CAFÉ - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We hope to continue Seniors Café in 2017 and would benefit from having several more volunteers to join our cheerful team. Come and share some laughter and great stories around the café tables. If you could contribute an hour or two on a Tuesday morning, starting mid-February, please contact Ann Kent at ann@catkingardens.ca.

SWEETER THAN ROSES - SIMPLE BEAUTY FOR A WINTER'S AFTERNOON

On February 26th at 4 pm, after the Annual Vestry meeting, please consider taking an hour or so to revel in some of the most beautiful music ever written. Lucy Smith, soprano, joined by Michael Murray on organ and harpsichord, and Natalie Mackie on viola da gamba, will share some of her favourite music in the lovely acoustics of St Philip's.

The program will include excerpts from Handel's Theodora, Bach's Anna Magdalena Notebook, and Telemann's Germanicus, songs by Purcell and Monteverdi, and solo organ pieces.

Admission is by donation at the door.



OUTREACH REPORT

At our recent Outreach Committee meeting we donated to Aunt Leah's and AIDS Vancouver. We received a thank you letter from Missions to Seafarers for a donation we made before Christmas. Thank you for supporting Outreach and making such donations possible.

CHAPEL UPDATE

After the 10:00am service on February 19th, there will be an update from the Chapel Task Force on the progress made so far in exploring possible renovations to the Chapel. Please plan to attend, your input is valuable and welcomed.

CARETAKER'S REQUEST

Gerry, our caretaker, has submitted a wish list of power tools and other items that would make his tasks much easier. He is looking for the following items:

- < electric drill
- < electric sander
- < skill saw
- < various drill bits
- < open-end or box-end wrench
- < pipe wrench
- < trouble lite

If you happen to have any of these items lying around unused in your garages, and wish to donate them, please contact Beth Vondette at the office.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING DISCUSSION

St. Philip's is presenting a public event, featuring Dr. Charles Blanke at St. John's Shaughnessy at 7 pm on Monday, February 27th. St. John's Shaughnessy is located at 1410 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver.

JONES GIRLS

The Jones Girls next meeting will be on Monday, February 6th at 11:30 am, followed by a belated Christmas luncheon.

CANONICAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Canonical Committee started its work last year after the resignation of our rector, John Stephens, to work with the parish in the development of a Parish Profile and identifying a candidate to be our new rector. The process for hiring a parish rector is overseen by the Diocese and includes phases for hiring an interim Priest in Charge, for discernment within the parish, for writing and posting the Parish Profile, and for selecting a new rector. We were advised from the start that we must take a minimum of twelve to eighteen months to move through the process.

The Canonical Committee has been very busy in the background all year. Along with hiring John Bailey as our Priest in Charge, we have been: pulling together material from the many parish ministries and groups; reviewing the results of the Parish Questionnaire and input from the Visioning Days; working with Church Committee to finalize the Mission Statement and Parish Goals; and reviewing a variety of resources to inform and include in the Parish Profile.

In late September we were given the go ahead from the Synod office to begin developing the Parish Profile. There are additional approval stages ahead but we now have our mentor from the diocese and are moving into the final stages of work on the profile.

We look forward to providing further updates at the Vestry meeting on February 26.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next men's breakfast will be on February 5th at 8:30 a.m. All men welcome.



NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY REPORT

Irene James set us off with blessings from St Helen's on this quiet and warm (relatively) morning with packets, bananas galore, and stacks of PB&J sandwiches (the holy grail out there!). She said St John's had dropped by with some extra packets and warm clothes to help contribute to the general effort (thank-you St John's).

Carol and Anna (third year UBC sociology student who joined this week) and I drove west from the church on 8th to the United Church where B was said to have uprooted to again. He wasn't there but his belongings were, so we left a packet, a couple bananas and a couple sandwiches for him.

Onward to 10th looking for R, but again no luck. We haven't see R now in several outings. Hope he has doing ok.

Next to Jericho, no M at the Hostel, neither he nor A at the pumping station (in fact that space was cordoned off with barricades and tape, as though to discourage).

We next headed around toward Locarno but before arrived came across M, on his bicycle stopped in the trees having a thermos of coffee. He was very happy to greet us and accept our wares. First time meeting M, and (perhaps because he noticed our N-Ministry tags and crosses) he was very eager to tell us about himself and his story (mostly in Spanish, which neither Carol nor I have). I'm guessing he'd be in his 40s, he said from Cuba although here for ~10 years now. He is an auto mechanic and welder. He also explained a once quite serious situation with his leg (an accident or injury or something), a pending amputation, and his decision instead to leave Cuba. The details after this point were difficult for us (getting only a word here and there to piece together) so I hope I have understood correctly – in any case here now and still with his leg and extremely grateful to God and eager to share that (these parts seemed universal to understand). He stays at the Regent Hotel but seemed to be conveying that he considers the outdoors here (gesturing toward the beach/water/mountains) to be where he lives.

Next to the Locarno Concession where A was under the overhang. He had all his stuff there so it seems to be his new place. He took a little of everything and seemed pleased to receive them, and he managed to speak a little when I mentioned the old place being cordoned off.

Next, on to the Highbury/Jericho-Village group. Only W and W were there waiting today, B had been and left (W scolded us, nicely, said her feet were getting cold waiting for us to arrive - I promised we'd make them our first stop going forward). W seemed her old upbeat self, says recovering but trying to sort out some pretty serious side effects of her medications. W was in good spirits and chatted with Anna and Carol – I overheard something about the Canucks. W said she called T this morning but she said he wouldn't get out of bed! Nice that he can choose now. Just after pulling out we saw B walking on the sidewalk. Carol and Anna had a quick chat and set him up with a packet and bananas and sandwiches.

Along 4th at McBride Park we spotted B with his bicycle. B talked about the snowy and icy weather now passed, how he still managed to get around on his bike although taking great focus to avoid falling and injury while he went about collecting. He said it turned out to be a good period (lucrative) since most others seemed to stay in. He took a packet and a banana, but said he couldn't eat the sandwich.

Further up 4th we checked Shoppers – no one there today.

Onward to Granville, and near 12th we met S on the west side, reading a book. I was parked illegally so Carol and Anna didn't take time to catch up, but he was happy to the packet fruit and sandwiches. S is bearded now (I didn't recognize) and appeared to me to have put on weight since last (though I haven't seen him for a while) – it could have been the bulk of the layers he was wearing. Across the street was his brother G who also was pleased to get everything.

Heading back west on Broadway, at Cypress we saw S, taking a break on the corner with many bags of can/bottles, no gear otherwise though. He is from Montreal, 60s, white hair, slight build, and Carol and Anna said very pleasant, affable.

Our last stop was at the corner of Bayswater where a fellow was asleep in sleeping bag, but travelling very lightly otherwise. He was very bearded, blue eyes (apparently one was open...) but otherwise quite bundled, so not sure if we might know him.

Nice to have Anna along with us today – thanks Anna.

Thanks, Dale.

ANNUAL REPORTS – NOW OVERDUE

If you are a committee chair or group leader and you have not submitted your report for 2016, please do so in the next few days.

Email your report to manager@stpdunbar.com

Many thanks to those whose reports have been received.