

Thoughts for the Day

Jesus spent a great deal of time preparing his followers to be the teachers and evangelists of the Church. On Friday, we celebrated the great Evangelist of Ireland, Patrick. He left the mark of Christ on Christian communities still alive today. What led men and women to follow Jesus and the cloud of witnesses who continue to build the Church today? Was it joy? Was it hope? Was it love?
How do we incarnate these words in all we say and do?

The Ven. Dr. John Bailey



DATES TO NOTE

Wed. Mar. 22	Lenten Series, 6:15 pm, Totem Room
Sat. Mar. 25	Stabat Mater Concert, 2:00 pm, Church
Tues. Mar. 28	Senior's Café, 10:00 am, Fireside Room
Wed. Mar. 29	Lenten Series, 6:15 pm, Totem Room
Sat. Apr. 1	Open Gym, 5:30 pm, Gymnasium
Sun. Apr. 2	Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am, Fireside Room
Mon. Apr. 3	Jones Girls, 12:00 pm, Fireside Room
Wed. Apr. 5	Lenten Series, 6:15 pm, Totem Room
Thur. Apr. 6	Altar Guild Meeting, 2:30 pm, Fireside Room



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.

"HAM BUCKS" FROM STONG'S FOR DUNBAR HOUSE

If you are not using the "Ham Bucks" yourself, the Outreach Committee will be pleased to pass them on to Dunbar House on 7th. Please bring them to the Church Office or place them on the plate on Sundays.

RUMMAGE SALE

Lawn signs and posters for the Rummage Sale, which will be on April 29th from 9 am until noon, are available for pick-up in the gym after the service. There is also a volunteer sign-up sheet, any help you can give before, during or after the Sale is much appreciated.

REFUGEE NEWS

There have been some recent positive developments in our refugee sponsorship process.

The application to sponsor Lama and her four children, refugees from Syria now in a camp in Lebanon, has been approved by Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). Apparently this means that the application itself was satisfactory, we are approved as sponsors, and the file will be sent to the Canadian Visa Office in Lebanon for further processing. This will include an interview of Lama and family and will take about ten months. The final decision as to whether Lama and her children can come to Canada rests with the Visa office, although we do not anticipate a problem.

The Refugee Fund has received a wonderful memorial donation of \$10,000 from the family of Howard Lear who wished to cover the sponsorship of Lama's parents, the grandparents of the family.

We have also received a wonderful pledge of support from St. Faith's Anglican Church. They have pledged \$5000 when our refugee family arrives and another \$5000 to help with the transition at the end of the one year sponsorship period.

Lama's parents asked if we could include their youngest son, Ward, who is 23 years old, and has a little work experience in construction. Lama, her children, her parents and Ward have been living together in the camp. With the recent donations, we feel confident that we can cover the costs of sponsoring him as well. The applications for Lama's parents, Nasriddin and Fatmeh, and Ward are essentially complete. We are awaiting permission from IRCC to submit them.

It is expected we will need to raise at least another \$15,000. 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

SENIORS CAFÉ

Seniors Café continues on alternate Tuesday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:00 until Noon. Join us for tea, coffee, refreshments and friendly conversation or find a partner for a game of crib or Scrabble. We also feature arts activities and sometimes a local speaker or musician. This is a community-focussed program and everyone is welcome – please reach out and invite a friend or neighbour to Seniors Café.

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY: PACKET WISH LIST

- ◆ Boost or Ensure Nutrition Drink
- ◆ Tinned Meat
- ◆ Juice Boxes
- ◆ Socks
- ◆ Disposable Razors
- ◆ Fruit Cups and plastic spoons



Avoid items with nuts and raisins, as they are hard on the teeth. Please, no expired items.

SENIORS CAFÉ – CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Seniors Café would benefit from having several more volunteers to help set up the Fireside Room and greet visitors. Come and share some laughter and great stories around the café tables. If you could contribute an hour or two on a Tuesday morning this spring, please contact Ann Kent at ann@catkinggardens.ca.



LENTEN SERIES - EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM MARCH 8, 2017 - APRIL 5, 2017

Every Wednesday during Lent, there will be Liturgical Arts (a Banner-making for Easter activity) beginning at 6:15 pm in our Totem Room, followed by Prayer and meditation introduction at 6:45 pm (A different style taught each week) in the Church. At 7 pm, Contemplating the Holy (Music and Art for Personal Devotion), leads into Alt Vespers at 7:30 pm (Worship with readings and reflection), concluding with the Lenten Study 'Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ' at 8 pm.

This image is a black and white rendering of a painting done by the Rev'd Dr. Marilyn Hames.

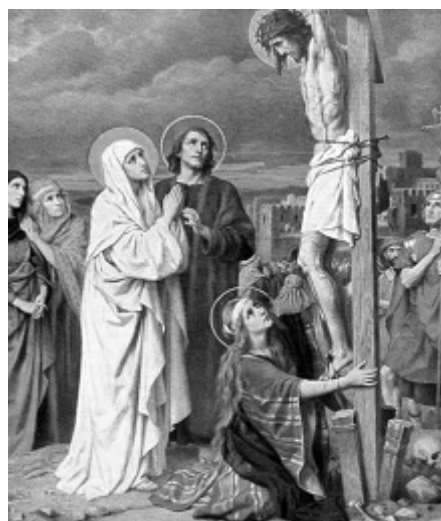
STABAT MATER CONCERT

This year as part of St. Philip's Lenten series, we present Walking the Way of the Cross with Mary, which includes a performance of Pergolesi's Stabat Mater with soloists and baroque chamber orchestra as well as a short lecture preceding the work. The performance will occur on the Feast of the Annunciation, March 25th at 2pm.

The Stabat Mater, written by Giovanni Battista Pergolesi, is universally recognized as the most poignant and heartrending hymn of the Middle Ages. In simple and vivid language, it exemplifies the Holy Mother of the Jesus overwhelmed with grief and weeping beneath the Cross on which he was suffering an undeserved and agonizing death.

The musicians include Sinéad White, soprano; Shane Hanson, countertenor; Michael Murray, organ; Jiten Beairsto & Elana Cooper, violins; Sarah Kwok, viola; Shin-jung Nam, cello.

Admission will be by donation. Suggested amount: \$20. Reservations can be made by emailing mmurray@stpdunbar.com.



FLOWERS FOR EASTER

The Altar Guild will be decorating the church for Easter on Saturday, April 15th, and welcomes gifts of spring flowers and greenery from members of the parish. If you would like to contribute in this way, please bring your donation to the Church by 9:00 am on Easter Saturday. Thank you.

SOUP MAKERS NEEDED FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

We need about 10 soups for our Maundy Thursday simple supper and service. If you can help with this, please speak to the Parish Manager, Beth Vondette.

CAFÉ CARITAS

You are invited to join St. Faith's Anglican Church for a special Café Caritas on Monday, April 3, 2017 from 2:00-4:00pm "Walk and Be Seen".

A few times a year St. Faith's hosts Café Caritas, a chance for seniors in our neighbourhood to get together for food and fellowship. On April 3rd at our next Café Caritas, along with coffee and conversation, we will be highlighting the importance of senior pedestrian safety. We will be joined by a member of the Westside Seniors Hub who will give a short presentation called "Walk and Be Seen". There will be reflective arm bands available for \$4.00 as well as Safe T Brellas for \$30.00. These high tech umbrellas offer an LED fiber-optic shaft along with a built-in LED flash light to deliver a safe walking experience.

St. Faith's Anglican Church (downstairs in the Church Hall)

7284 Cypress Street (at W. 57th near W. Blvd)

Parking is on the east side of the church off W 57 and we have an elevator

For more details call The Rev'd Christine Wilson at 604-266-8011 ext. 1

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY, MOBILE CARE UNIT TRAINING

The Neighbourhood Ministry is looking for new volunteers, especially for the Mobile Care Unit (MCU) that was recently launched. The MCU offers basic medical care and social service support for homeless and needy people on the Westside. Currently, the MCU visits three community meals weekly (Saturday mornings at Kits Community Centre; Tuesdays mid-day at St. Mary's Kerrisdale; and Thursday Evenings at St. Augustine Marpole), where about 200 people gather. In just the first two months of the trial launch, the team directly served over 60 people. The large uptake for MCU services points to the significant need in the community.

Volunteers assist our social work and medical professionals at each site by engaging with clients, building trust, and helping folks become more comfortable accessing medical and social work services. If this kind of service appeals to you, please come to a training session and learn more about the Neighbourhood Ministry and the Mobile Care Unit, about how these ministries connect with our faith, and about some of the specifics in assisting with government forms.

Training will be held Saturday April 1, 10am -2:30pm at St. Anselm's, across from the UBC golf course. An alternative session will be held over two evenings, Tuesday March 28th and Wednesday April 5th, 6:30-8:00 pm, also at St. Anselm's. ALL ARE WELCOME.

RSVP to Deacon Pitman: pbpotter@live.ca

NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

A full car-load of Team 1 set out on this wet day, with Rev. Pitman sending us off with a blessing from the park. Thanks to Don and St. Philip's for the lovely packets, extra socks and some winter

coats. With us today were Anna (our MCU social work student), Pauline, Matthew, Heather and me.

We visited M at the Jericho hostel. He was just coming back from the park washrooms, and I must say he looked very frail (he's 63). He said his legs were very sore and wobbly. He was eager to get back into his sleeping bag (within the refrigerator box). He gladly accepted food and a new quilt (thanks to Anna's family for supplying us with several today). I am so happy that M is visited very regularly by Karen, our Angel. He commented specifically on her good cooking!

Next we stopped at the 4th and Highbury fence, where B, B and W were trying to stay dry. They were in good spirits and happy for our chatter, food and various pieces of clothing. All live indoors, and we see the often.

Onward down 4th Avenue, everyone hopped out of the car and spread out to various camps and people that are centered around the Shoppers/Safeway corner. With the pending deconstruction of the south side of the street, a number of storefronts are vacant and there are signs of at least three new homeless camps in the alcoves. They were all empty of people today. Our only chat was with P, the Megaphone man. Gracious, as always.

We went on to Granville street, but no sign of S and G today. There was one empty pile of blankets and other items, and we left some goods on top.

S was not in his usual spot on Broadway at London Drugs, but we did find J at the Safeway at Broadway and McDonald. She was happy to receive some food, and also mentioned that she was having to move from here shelter in 2 days. We told her we would see what we could do to help.

Finally, we saw A near Blenheim and Broadway, and he was quite chatty with Heather and Anna. By this time, we were out of packets and most of the clothing. Just a few sandwiches left. After dropping everyone back at the park, I called the "211" hotline, which is a service that links people to shelters. They said that Belkin House downtown was accepting women. So, I drove back over to Safeway to see if J was interested. Unfortunately, this is the place that she has to leave from (they have a 30 day limit), and she seemed very stressed when I said their outreach workers would help her find another spot (which they said they would do when I called). I suggested we try Yukon, another shelter, and she vehemently shook her head and said she was ok for now. It is a very worrisome situation. She seems very vulnerable.

Please keep all our homeless neighbours in your prayers,
Vicki

LENT MADNESS 2017 - WHO WILL WIN THE GOLDEN HALO?

Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck. In seeking a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints, Tim came up with this unique Lenten devotion. Combining his love of sports with his passion for the lives of the saints, Lent Madness was born on his blog "Clergy Family Confidential" which has subsequently moved locations and become "Clergy Confidential.

The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and Who will win the Golden Halo? people vote for their favorite saint. 16 saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch. To download a copy of this year's bracket of 32 saints, go to:
<http://www.lentmadness.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/LM2017calendar-1.pdf>

The purpose of this fun activity is to allow people to get to know some amazing people who have come before us in the faith and reminding one another that there's no reason for a dreary Lenten discipline. If this helps people connect with the risen Christ during this season of penitence and renewal, and have a bit of fun in the process, then it continues to be worthwhile. We hope you'll participate fully this Lent and vote daily at www.lentmadness.org