

**Celebrant: The Rev'd Canon Dr. Harold Munn**  
**Preacher: The Rev'd Dr. Marilyn Hames**



**DATES TO NOTE**

Sun. Dec. 24	Simple Christmas Eucharist, 4 pm, Church Children's Christmas Eve Service, 5 pm, Church Choral Christmas Eve Eucharist, 7:30 pm, Church Candlelight Christmas Eve Eucharist, 10 pm, Church
Mon. Dec. 25	Christmas Day Service, 9:00 am, Church
Sun. Jan. 7	Men's Breakfast, 8:30 am, Fireside Room
Mon. Jan. 8	Jones Girls, noon, Fireside Room
Tues. Jan 16	Church Committee, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room
Wed. Jan. 17	Sacred Sanctuaries Presentation, 7 pm, Fireside Room
Thurs. Jan. 18	Annual Reports due for Vestry

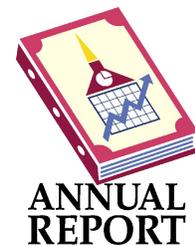


**CHILDREN AT CHURCH - EVERY SUNDAY**

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.

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

The deadline for annual reports is Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Please submit your committee reports to the office no later than noon, so that Beth may begin compiling the Annual Vestry report. This deadline is firm. Thank you.



**REFUGEE NEWS**

While we wait for Lama and her four children, refugees from Syria, to be cleared for arrival in Vancouver, we would like to put together a registry of household/personal effects you might be willing to contribute as we prepare a new home for them. There is no place to store things at the church for what could be an extended period, and so we are asking you to hold on to things in your own home until we have notification that the family are on their way. Brenda Harrison has offered to set up this registry - feel free to contact her with a list of what you can contribute along with your contact information at [brendaharrison@shaw.ca](mailto:brendaharrison@shaw.ca) or leave a note in the "H" slot outside the Totem Room. For more information on the family and how you can help, please contact Mary Lymburner, 778-898-5117 or [kmarylymburner@telus.net](mailto:kmarylymburner@telus.net). Donation of interim storage space would be greatly appreciated.

**BOTTLE DRIVE**

The youth will be having a bottle drive in the new year. We would like you to please save the bottles and cans from your holiday festivities. Thank you.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

We are happy to report that donations from Identified Givers, the backbone of our budget, are doing well to the end of November. However, some long time parishioners are no longer with us and this has reduced the number of contributions. Although we started the year with a significant budget deficit, we are on track to be able to balance the budget by year end if pledged giving is at least maintained. The deficit has been reduced due to a combination of: controls on spending, increased rental revenue, and a generous donation from a parish family. Thank you for your support of St. Philip's throughout 2017 and please continue to meet your pledge to the end of the year.

## HAMPER DRIVE

Enormous, heartfelt thanks to all parishioners and non-parishioners, our clergy and staff for the terrific support of our annual Hamper Drive. The generous contributions of food and gifts embraced all 22 families in need. The hamper packing effort was the best we've ever had, in fact completed in record time ( before noon ) after last Sunday's service ! Those who wished were then able to join in the lovely Simple Pleasures lunch and recitation.

Monday's hamper loading and delivery went smoothly. The hampers were most gratefully received at Queen Alexandra Elementary and Nightingale Community Schools. A very special thanks to Helen Weatherall and Michael McKenzie for their outstanding organizational skills, all members of the Outreach Committee; the children and youth who packed and pushed boxes; of particular note : Rebecca Gregg, Charlotte French, Bruce Gregg ; Euan , Duncan and Craig Wilson; Sheila Butt, Diana Bragg, Suzanne and Ian Noetzel ; John Schretlen , Glenn Sutherland, Michael and Joanne Vondette, office manager Beth Vondette, and very notably our steadfast caretaker Gerry Windsor, for his unfailing watchfulness and assistance.

Our parish Hamper Drive owes an especially large debt of gratitude to the Manager and Staff of SAVE ON FOODS -Dunbar for their joyful support, and for providing all the turkeys, hams, fish, Mandarin oranges and cranberry sauce at cost. **Blessings to all!**



## ST. JUDE'S ANGLICAN HOME FUNDRAISER

Looking for a Christmas gift idea? St. Jude's Anglican Home is putting on a fundraiser to raise funds to refurbish their bathrooms by putting on a play at the Metro Theatre located at 1370 S.W. Marine Drive on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. The performance of "Murder by the Book" by Duncan Greenwood and Robert King begins at 8 pm, but there will be a silent auction and light refreshments at 7 pm. The tickets are \$50 each, but a \$25 tax receipt is available upon request per ticket. Beth Vondette has 10 tickets available for purchase in the office.

## SACRED SANCTUARIES: DELPHI TO JERUSALEM

On Wednesday, Jan.17th @ 7pm, at St. Philip's Church (located at 3737 West 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Derek Simpkins will be offering a lecture and slide presentation on "Sacred Sanctuaries: Delphi to Jerusalem". Both he and Linda, together with Jocelyn Gardner, recently completed a voyage around the Eastern Mediterranean, where they were able to visit some outstanding "sacred sanctuaries".

In addition to his lecture on Jan.17th, Derek and Linda will introduce their new book, "Jerusalem the Golden".



## HELP FINDING A LOCAL RENTAL HOME FOR OUR RECTORY TENANT

Do you know of a home rental opportunity? After 8 years renting our rectory, our tenant will be seeking new accommodations in this neighbourhood - ideally West of Granville. Occupation would start April 1, 2018. If you know of an opportunity with 4 bedrooms, please pass the information onto Beth via [manager@stp.dunbar.com](mailto:manager@stp.dunbar.com). Note: that they do **not** have any pets.



### **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

Immaculate Conception School is having an Open House on Wednesday, January 17, 2017 at 6:30 pm. They are accepting applications for September, 2018 for Kindergarten to grade 7. They are located at 3745 West 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue. For more information, please visit their website: <https://www.icschoolvancouver.com/> or email the office: [office@icsschoolvancouver.com](mailto:office@icsschoolvancouver.com)

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY**



On Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, many Neighbourhood Ministry volunteers amassed at St. Anselm's to assemble all 30 of the Christmas Packages for our homeless friends with items donated by the four parishes: St. Anselm's; St. John's Shaughnessy; St. Helen's and St. Philip's. The tables were overflowing with much-needed items such as warm socks, toques and mittens. The 30 packages were divided into 3 team cars for distribution.

Some volunteers then headed over to Dunbar House to prepare Christmas lunch for the residents. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by our friends at Dunbar, several of whom lingered to express their appreciation at the end of the event. Additional thank-yous to the parishioners at St. Philip's who provided their turkey dollars for the event. Beth Vondette was able to purchase 4 turkeys from Stong's with the turkey dollars collected.

The camaraderie and fellowship that we enjoyed while preparing the meal was truly wonderful. And I must add that the seamless flow in the preparations once again proved that there are never "too many cooks" in a Neighbourhood Ministry kitchen. Blessings to everyone for a safe and happy Christmas.