

Celebrant: The Rev'd. Stuart Hallam

Preacher: The Rev'd. Stuart Hallam

DATES TO NOTE

Sun. Dec. 1	Advent Lessons & Carols, 4 pm, Church
Mon. Dec. 2	Jones Girls Meeting, 12:00 pm, Fireside Room
Mon. Dec. 2	Advent Study Group, 7:30 pm, Totem Room
Sun. Dec. 8	Men's Breakfast, 8:00 am, Fireside Room
Sun. Dec. 8	"The Villager" Reading, 11:30 am, Totem Room
Sun. Dec. 8	Abendmusik Advent Vespers, 7:30 pm, Church
Mon. Dec. 9	Advent Study Group, 7:30 pm, Totem Room
Tues. Dec. 10	Altar Guild Meeting, 2:00 pm, Fireside Room
Wed. Dec. 11	Seniors' Eucharist and Luncheon, 11 am, Church
Sun. Dec. 15	Christmas Carol Sing Along, 7:30 pm, Church
Sun. Dec. 22	Dickens' <i>A Christmas Carol</i> reading, 7 pm, Church
Mon. Dec. 23	Advent Study Group, 7:30 pm, Totem Room
Tues. Dec. 24	Family Nativity Service, 5:00 pm, Church
Tues. Dec. 24	Lessons & Carols Service, 7:30 pm, Church
Tues. Dec. 24	Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist Service, 10:00 pm, Church
Wed. Dec. 25	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist Service, 9:00 am, Church

St Nicholas Story

Enjoy hearing the St Nicholas story at the Dec. 1 Family Service, and come away a little bit richer for it...

The Christmas Fair

By Dec. 1, we will have held this wonderful community event, welcoming friends and neighbours and new visitors to share community at St Philip's while they shop and have tea. They return because we offer our effort, time and talents. I want to throw heaps of Gratitude Confetti on all you people who have given so much to produce and host this lovely event.

I am deeply grateful. Debbie Matheson



2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED!

This year's annual Stewardship Campaign, Sharing Our Gifts, Sustaining Our Community, has officially begun. This campaign focuses on supporting our existing ministries, and is separate from our Capital Campaign, Under Our Roof and Beyond Our

Walls, which seeks to raise funds to restore our buildings and develop new initiatives over a three-year span. Information packages have been sent out for those who haven't picked them up in person.

Information about the campaign will also be shared at each Sunday service, or you can get in touch with Brian Mix. Please return your 2020 pledge form to Beth in the office no later than December 8, 2019.

RAFFLE

The draw is on Sunday during coffee time. Help Debbie reach the goal of selling 50 books of tickets at \$20 per book. Every ticket is a winner! It's not too late to buy yours!





ADVENT WREATHS

This Sunday, after the 10 am service, parishioners may assemble their own Advent Wreaths. Please bring you bases from last year. Thank you to Rhona and Nancy for arranging for the greenery and other supplies.

ADVENT STUDY COURSE

This year's Advent Study Course began on Monday, November 18th and repeats every Monday at 7:30 pm in the Totem Room until December 22, led by Stuart. The course will be focussing on the Beatitudes. Please let Stuart or Carol Simpson know if you intend to come, but drop-ins are also very welcome.



Christmas Hampers



CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRIVE

Thank you to all the St. Philip's parishioners who chose a hamper family to sponsor for gifts. All 18 recipient families now have a sponsor. The deadline for bringing in gifts for the family members is Sunday, December 15. Please put wrapped gifts in a box labelled with the number or letter of the family. Please label each wrapped gift with the details of the recipient and the number or letter of the family, such as Boy, age 8, family 6 or Mom, family B in case a present falls out of its box." to replace the part seeking sponsors. The Sundays from Nov 17 to Dec 15 will each have a specific meal/food focus: **Dinners: Dec. 1; Treats: Dec. 8; Whatever's Missing: Dec. 15.** Packing Sunday will also be Dec. 15.

Collection Baskets will be placed at the back of the church beside the old Baptismal Font where non-perishable food donations can be left any day of the week starting Nov. 17.

REFUGEES

Many thanks to Pat Brandon, our caretaker, for working with Ward Chebli (25) whose family are sponsored as refugees by St Philip's Church. Ward arrived in May and attends English classes for newcomers. Pat is instructing and supervising Ward on four Saturdays as he develops his painting skills, learns English, prepares for working life in Canada, and earns a day's pay, thanks to Outreach donations. Ward reports that he had a great day!



WESTSIDE ANGLICANS NEIGHBOURHOOD MINISTRY

Today is Neighbourhood Ministry Sunday

Thanks to all of your kind donations we were able to put together several months of packages. Thanks also to those who helped assemble them. We are still in need of the following items: **Sleeping bags and mats, Blankets, Tarps (ideally not orange) Rain pants, Winter shoes/boots, Men's underwear.** We don't need any other clothing right now.



Neighbourhood Ministry brings Christmas Cheer

The Neighbourhood Ministry is celebrating Christmas with our homeless and vulnerable neighbours with special Christmas packets that volunteers will distribute on the four Saturdays leading up to

Christmas. Through the generous contributions you have made to the program this year, we will purchase long underwear, winter gloves, McDonald's gift cards, and men's and ladies underwear to supplement the lovely packets that we distribute year-round. Thank you for your generosity. Your support makes a huge difference in the lives of our most vulnerable citizens.

If you want to join a street team during one of their rounds this season, to see first hand this Ministry in action, please contact our Office Administrator, Beth, at 604-312-1241, and she will link you up with a team. If you want to help with preparing packets at your church, please speak with Rhona Thornton.

Neighbourhood Ministry Report for Saturday, November 23, 2019

The team this weekend was Mary, Rhona, Casey and Sidney. Thank you to St. Phillip's for supplying the packets and sandwiches this week. It was a dreary morning but not too rainy.

Our first stop was the fence where we only saw D and P (we think his name is). They both took packets and some food and were doing well. Our next stop was 4th and Vine. We saw T outside whole foods. He was happy to accept a packet and some food, he is currently housed in the area and has started volunteering at Kits Neighbourhood House. We also saw P who took some food and was smiley as always. We saw M in passing in front of whole foods as well but he didn't need anything.

We stopped at the Granville bus loop park where we saw W under the Granville bridge, he took a mat and some food. Then we headed over to the Vancouver School Board park where we saw J who took some food and a sleeping bag (one of the cotton ones that is better for indoors).

We walked down Granville to the McDonalds at Broadway and saw A and F. They were in good spirits and very happy we had some clothes and sleeping bags with us this week. They had some food and one mat, and two sleeping bags. A is quite tiny and has a hard time finding pants that fit her. She is a size double zero or extra small. F is recovering from eye surgery and still has someone helping him search for housing.

J was also by the McDonalds and took some food and a sleeping bag.

Our last stop was at 13th and Granville. Here we saw P outside of the Shoppers. He took food, a mat, rain pants, and socks and underwear, and a blanket.

We also saw G here who was happy to see us. He was about to meet his brother, so he took a packet and a sandwich for his brother as well. He also accepted a pair of gloves and shoes that were the perfect size for him. G is currently living in modular housing at Hastings and Franklin area but has been in the hospital a lot recently and sometimes sleeps outside in this area.

Thank you,

Respectfully submitted by Sidney, on behalf of Team 4

YOUTH ROOM

The youth of St Philip's now have exclusive use of the Upstairs Room on Sundays, 9:00 – 1:00, and can reserve it with Beth at other times too, as the need arises. The Upstairs Room is the central room & kitchen surrounded by offices, next door to Godly Play.





MONDAY MANTRAS

All are welcome to join the weekly meditation group on Monday mornings at 10 am in the Totem Room, led by Paddy Leal. Monday Mantras will not occur on Statutory Holidays.

2020 CHURCH CALENDARS

The 2020 Anglican Church Calendars have arrived. They are \$6.00 each and Janet Brown will be selling them after the 10 am service. They can also be bought through the office between 9 am and noon Monday through Friday.



THE VILLAGER READING

Gerry Brown will give readings from his latest book *The Villager* on Sunday December 8th in the Totem Room after the 10:00 o'clock service. All are welcome.

SENIOR'S EUCHARIST AND LUNCHEON

All Seniors are welcome to the Annual Senior's Eucharist on Wednesday, December 11th at 11 am, followed by a luncheon in the Fireside Room.



GARDEN ROOM

Following consultation with the congregation the Parish Council has agreed that the Totem Room will now be renamed as the Garden Room.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Advent Lessons & Carols

A beautiful candlelit service of readings, anthems and carols on Sunday, December 1 at 4 pm. Please join us for bishop's posset (mulled wine) or apple cider after the service.

Abendmusik Advent Vespers

7:30 pm on Sunday, December 8. Under the direction of Michael Murray. Admission is by donation, with offerings going to the Menno Simons Centre.

Christmas Carol Sing-Along

"O come all ye faithful" ...to this fantastic Christmas Carol Sing-along that will really get you in the mood for Christmas. Ho, ho, hosted by St Philip's, sing your Christmas stockings off as we join together to belt out your favourite Carols on Sunday, December 15 at 7:30 pm! Candlelit fun for all, plus cocoa and mincemeat pies afterwards! Bring along all your friends and make Christmas a real cracker!

A Christmas Carol Dramatic Reading

St Philip's and friends from CBC are proud to invite you to a classic Christmas experience: a dramatic reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". Come along to enjoy this dramatic reading featuring special guests from the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation such as Ian Hanomansing, Sheryl MacKay and others on Sunday, December 22 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$25 and selling fast!