



the Parish of St. Dunstan

On the traditional lands of the Sto:lo Nation

November 10, 2019

All Souls & Remembrance



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Welcome!

This is a diverse & safe congregation for people wherever they are on their journey with Christ. We are an inclusive church which means we celebrate women in leadership, children at the Eucharist & welcome LGBTQ+ people to participate fully in the community.

W O R S H I P

This is the Fall of Feasts. For the next few months we will focus on our priorities as Christians & learn how to celebrate them.

For Children

The **Nursery** is staffed & open for children ages 0 to 4.

There is Sunday School this morning for children ages 5 to 12.

Activity bags are available in the entry near the colouring table.

All our volunteers & staff have a criminal record check.

Taking Communion

Everyone is welcome to receive bread & wine as a sign of our commitment to Christ & Christ's commitment to us.

There are **gluten-free wafers** for those who need it & **juice** for those who prefer.

Prayers for healing with the anointing of oil is offered beneath the cross during Communion. Please **light a candle** as a sign of your prayers.

Today's Scripture

Introductions to the Lessons by Bill Bennett

Job 19: The suffering Job recognises that his 'redeemer,' his 'vindicator,' will enable him to have audience with God.

Thessalonians 2: The young church has suffered opposition from the local synagogue. Paul sends a message of encouragement.

Luke 20: The Sadducees wanted to discredit Jesus with an apparently innocent question on marriage.

Sermon Notes

Today's Christian Priority: Visiting

In 2017 the British government set up the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness to become aware of and strategize about widespread loneliness. Here are some of their findings.

- ☞ Over 9 million adults are often or always lonely according to the British Red Cross.
- ☞ 43% of 17-25 year olds experience loneliness.
- ☞ 50% of disabled people are lonely on any given day.
- ☞ 52% of parents have had problems of loneliness.
- ☞ 1 in 3 people aged 75 and over say that feelings of loneliness are out of their control.
- ☞ 8 out of 10 carers have felt isolated as a result of looking after a loved one.

In Canada, according to the CBC, 1 in 5 of Canadians are lonely.

Why are we so lonely? What can we do about it? What is the Christian response?

- ☞ A lesson from Job's friends – What NOT to do when someone is lonely.

- ☞ A cry from Job – How we can respond to loneliness.

The liturgy is taken from the Book of Alternative Services of the Anglican Church of Canada. Hymns numbers are indicated after the hymn title & found in the blue Common Praise hymn book. The readings are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary. The entire service is projected on the wall.

Gathering the Community

the Greeting, Announcements & the Collect for Purity

Dona Nobis

O God We Call

O Day of Peace, 573

the Prayer of the Day

Proclaiming the Word

The Book of Job (19:23-27a)

Rest in Peace

Paul's Second Letter to the Thessalonians (2:1-5, 13-17)

Long Before the Night

the Gospel according to Luke (20:27-38) & the Sermon

the Nicene Creed, the Prayers of the People (with the naming of those who have died)

the Confession & Absolution, the Peace & the Offering

Love is the Touch

Holy Communion

All are welcome to receive bread & wine (or juice) at Communion.

Don't Be Afraid

All Who Are Thirsty

O Healing River, 578

Sending the Community

the Blessing

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

Coffee & refreshments are served in the hall following the service.

Please visit the Welcome Table in the hall or the Information Table in the entry if you have any questions.

OUTREACH

Monday

Fraser River Counselling at St. Dunstan's

Low cost counselling is provided by supervised counselling students from Trinity Western University. For more information, please connect with an intake worker at 604-513-2113.

Tuesday

Aldergrove Food Bank Soup Kitchen

The Parish of St. Dunstan's has committed to cooking & serving soup on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month. Please connect with Ann Embra at 604-534-9292 or ann_embra@telus.net to learn how you can get involved.

ESL

Classes are at 7pm. All are welcome. For more information please connect the church office.

Thursday

Community Meal

Each Thursday at 4:30pm.

Want to help create this amazing meal? Please sign up on the poster at the entrance to the Worship Space. For more information on what volunteering involves, please connect with Laura Wallace at 604-856-6463, 604-807-3524 or laura_w@telus.net

Stewardship

*Have you considered signing up for **pre-authorised debit (PAD)**? It is easy & a good way to support the church even when you cannot be present for a service. Please connect with David or one of the other parish leaders for more information.*



PWRDF

The Primate's World Relief
and Development Fund

For more information, please visit PWRDF.ORG. There you can read all about the good work it does, current areas of need & how you can participate.

COMMUNITY CARE

- Reconciliation** *The priest is available to hear confession by appointment.*
- Listening Prayer** *Prayer for those in crisis or need. For more information please connect with Katherine Murray at katherine.murray22@gmail.com.*
- Spiritual Direction** *Trained Spiritual Directors are available. To arrange please email StDunstansCentre@gmail.com*
- Ride Sharing** *If you need a ride, or can offer one, please let someone at the Information Booth know.*
- Visiting** *If you need a visit, please call the office to arrange. If you would like to become a pastoral visitor, please connect with the priest.*
- Prayer Chain** *If you wish someone to be remembered in our Prayer Chain Ministry, please email the office.*
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Men's Coffee

Wednesdays at 9am

Men's Breakfast

the 2nd Sunday of the month in the hall

Women's Coffee & Crafts

Fridays at 10am

Women's Breakfast

the 2nd Sunday of the month at McDonald's

Advent Challenge

This Advent we will collect money for the Diocesan care+share program. All monies collected will go to the Urban Aboriginal Ministry of the Diocese of New Westminster. St. Dunstan's has been a recipient of funds from care+share in the past for our Thursday Meal program.

Let's give back! For more information, visit VANCOUVER.ANGLICAN.CA.

Please identify all gifts to care+share on the offering envelope.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Children

Messy Church every 3rd Friday of each month (September to May) at 4:30pm. Messy Church includes stories, crafts, dinner & Holy Communion. It is planned with the whole family in mind. All are welcome. Please connect with Carol Tindall at 604-866-6125 for more information & how to volunteer.

St. Dunstan's & St. Andrew's Youth

This week we meet at St. Dunstan's at 4:30 to help with Messy Church & build Advent Calendars.

We will have opportunities to lead games & crafts as well as spend time together for a Bible Study.



ST DUNSTAN'S CENTRE FOR
SPIRITUAL
RENEWAL

The Centre for Spiritual Renewal is the name we give to our Adult Christian Formation programs at St. Dunstan's. Please pick up the most recent program guide & check our website regularly for more information on coming events.

Centering Prayer

Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Fridays at 11:30am
20 minutes of silence & connection with God.

Study Group


Wednesday at 7pm
A drop-in series of studies meant to inspire your faith. This group is a great way to meet members and ask important questions.

November & December the Women around Jesus
This Wednesday we welcome **Caitlin Reilley Beck**. Caitlin will lead us in a reflection of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**.

Lectio & Labyrinth

Fridays, from Noon to 1pm
A chance to practice our journeying & listening together. Indoor labyrinth practices are available.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Events marked with  are through the Centre for Spiritual Renewal.

Interfaith Labyrinth Walk



Today, November 10th from 2 to 3pm

More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual Renewal program

Spiritual Practice Series



Tonight, November 10th from 7 to 8:30pm

*Lingering in the Eucharist with the Reverend Helen Tervo
More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual Renewal program*

Messy Church

Friday, November 15th from 4:30 to 6:30pm

Sung Evening Prayer



Sunday, November 17th from 7:30 to 8:30pm

With Cathy Hardy & Friends

Women in Leadership



Saturday, November 23th from 9am to 4pm

*Facilitated by Eden Jersak & Lorie Martin
More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual Renewal program*

Advent Quiet Day



Saturday, November 30th from 9am to 12pm

*With the Reverend Helen Tervo & Lorie Martin
More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual Renewal program*

Christmas Craft Sale

Saturday, December 7th from 1 to 4pm

Spiritual Practice Series



Sunday, December 8th from 7 to 8:30pm

*Time with Mary with David Taylor & Lorie Martin
More information can be found in the Centre for Spiritual Renewal program*

WEEKLY PRAYER

The following is a resource to help you connect with Sunday's theme & continue your prayers through the week. This can be done on your own or in the family group. This liturgy is based on Home Prayers found in the Book of Alternative Services (p. 687). **If you do not have a prayer book, please take & keep one for your use.**

The Christian Priority of **Visiting** has been from the beginning as seen in the life & ministry of Jesus. One of his first acts of ministry was to visit Peter's sick mother-in-law & offer healing (Mark 1:29-31). Again & again Jesus was invited into people's homes to help them in their need, or to give people opportunity to show hospitality. Studies suggest that people are growing more lonely & isolated. What can Followers of Jesus do to respond? How can we learn to notice those who are lonely & be present to them?

1. The Preparation

A candle is lit as someone prays,

*O God, teach us to remember those who go without companionship this week & call us into friendship with those who are alone, in the name of Jesus. **Amen.***

2. The Reading & Reflection

Read the passage from Scripture then reflect using the wonder questions as your guide. This guide uses the New Revised Standard Version.

This week we will tip-toe through Scripture & reflect on some stories where God visited God's people. God is a visiting God, not a distant puppet master, but an engaged presence of love & support. From the great visit to Abraham in Genesis to the image of the final visit of God to this world at the end of time as shared by Matthew, God is intent on reminding us that we are not alone & that we are called to share in the divine work of visitation ourselves.

GOD VISITS & BRINGS GIFTS – GENESIS 12:1-9

Notes on the reading:

- o Genesis 12 is a shift in the Book of Genesis from the mythological stories of origins to the stories of the founder of the children of Israel.
- o God initiates the relationship & visit with Abram (who will later be called Abraham).
- o This is the first of many visitations God has with Abram. God does not visit only once.
- o God offers a gift of land to Abram freely & unsolicited.

I wonder how God has visited you in your life.

I wonder what gifts God gives you when God visited you.

I wonder if you have ever dropped in on someone to visit them without being asked.

Monday

GOD VISITS US & BRINGS HOPE – GENESIS 18:1-15

Notes on the reading:

- God has already promised that Sarai & Abram will be the ancestors to many, though they have no children.
- The visit of the Lord in this story has been used by Christians to prove the theology of the Trinity existed in the Hebrew Scriptures. Many who hold to this position also say that the theology was hidden from the Jewish people due to their lack of faith. This is not the case. Good Christian theologians are able to reflect on the Trinity using this story without imposing the theology on this Hebrew text & without putting down the theology & religion of Jews.
- Abram & Sarai are good hosts to the three persons who drop by. They offer food, water, & rest.
- God promises new life in the form of a child despite the advanced age of both Sarai & Abraham.

I wonder what it is like to receive an unsolicited visitor.

I wonder what kind of host we are when people come across our path.

I wonder if you have ever brought hope to someone you visited.

GOD VISITS US & BRINGS PEACE – LUKE 1:26-38

Notes on the reading:

- This great story which is read around Christmas time is called the Annunciation. The feast of the Annunciation is March 25th (9 months before Christmas).
- Again, God seems to visit unannounced.
- Being visited by God or by others can be scary or intimidating. The angel immediately puts Mary at ease with one of the most common things God says to God's people, "Do not be afraid" (v. 30).
- Whenever God visits us God brings Jesus (quite literally in this particular story). So, too, we bring Jesus whenever we visit someone.

I wonder how it makes you feel to be visited by someone.

I wonder how you bring Jesus to the people you visit.

WE IMITATE GOD BY VISITING OTHERS & BRINGING GIFTS – LUKE 1:39-56

Notes on the reading:

- This story is traditionally called the Visitation. The Feast of the Visitation is celebrated on May 31st.
- Just as Mary was visited by God, so she now goes out to visit. She starts her ministry of visitation by first going to her family. Visiting does not have to be scary!
- When Mary visits Elizabeth she brings the Holy Spirit (the same Holy Spirit she was given by God), joy, & her own particular gifts (hers being a song).
- Elizabeth's response to Mary's visit is surprise & renewed prayer.

I wonder who you might visit this week who you already know.

I wonder what gifts you have that can benefit someone who is lonely or in need.

I wonder how your presence to someone might inspire their connection to God.

LIKE GOD, WE VISIT TO BRING HOPE & PEACE – MATTHEW 25:31-46

Notes on the reading:

- This story has been used to scare people into believing in Jesus. Using the story in this way misses the point. God is not here to scare us (remember, “Do not be afraid.”), but to inspire us to become more like God in how we treat others.
- No one is off the hook when it comes to caring for people in need. This is a group activity.

I wonder who you might visit who you don’t already know.

I wonder how God feels when God’s children are cared for.

3. Prayers & the Lord’s Prayer

Choose a litany from the Book of Alternative Services (beginning on page 110).

The liturgy concludes with the Lord’s Prayer.

the Fall of Feasts continues...

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH – THE PRIORITY OF COMMUNITY CARE: SPIRITUAL FRIENDSHIP

St. Hugh. *Who is St. Hugh? I don’t have a clue.*

Readings: Malachi 4:1-2a, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH – THE PRIORITY OF CHRIST

The Reign of Christ. *We will celebrate the end of the Christian year by looking once again to Jesus & his cross. The Reverend Helen Tervo will preach & preside. The Reverend David will play the piano.*

Readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6, Colossians 1:11-20, Luke 23:33-43

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST – ADVENT 1

The First Sunday of Advent begins a new year in the Christian calendar. Our theme for the year is **gratitude**. Our theme for Advent is **simplicity**.

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH – ADVENT 2

The Second Sunday of Advent. Our theme for Advent is **simplicity**.

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12



The Parish of St. Dunstan

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ST-DUNSTANS.CA



The Parish of St. Dunstan, Aldergrove



Office hours

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 – 12:00 pm

Wardens

Theresa Tancock 604-614-7145
Lois Curtis 778-347-0817

Music Director

Carol Tindall 604-856-4695

Archbishop

the Most Reverend Melissa Skelton
vancouver.anglican.ca

Priest

the Reverend David Taylor
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