



the **Church**
of **St Peter** and
St Simon-the-Apostle

JUBILATE!

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From the Rector

The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

It was a very hot day in August when I came to the church to catch up on some work. Yes, it was my holiday, but I was in town and thought that taking the time in the peace and quiet of a summer day would be a good chance to do things that tend to get pushed to one side. I confess to being good at saying, "I'll get to it tomorrow" ...the trouble is, so often tomorrow never comes!

Upon arrival, I met the children and staff of the St. James Town Community Arts Camp, formerly Reaching Out Through Music. They were meeting at St. Peter and St. Simon's for two weeks, mostly outside, but also using the classrooms on rainy days, and days of extreme heat. Seeing the children busy with crafts, drama, and hearing them prepare for their drumming concert was a real delight, something we have not seen here in the parish for a very long time due to the pandemic.

The camp was made possible due to our partnership with the local community arts group (which had its genesis here at our parish) and the

Fr. Geoffrey



St. James Town Community Arts Summer Camp on the Howard Street Lawn Photo: Sandra Trehub

generous financial support of numerous parishioners. The children, all from our local community, have of course been staying at home during the lockdown period, adjusting to on-line school and a whole new way of being socially distanced. This has been hard on them, so it was especially

Michaelmas 2021

wonderful to see them as a group observing all the protocols, having what seemed to be the time of their life. My observations are that between the children and the camp staff, every part of the globe was represented, a visible reminder that we are the body of Christ amid an incredibly rich tapestry of people and cultures.



The late William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1942 – 1944, is famous for saying that “the church is the only organization that exists for those who do not belong to it.” One way of interpreting this is to recognize not so much that the Church of God has a mission, but the God of mission has a Church. As the body of Christ, we have the responsibility and the gift to open our doors of welcome and thus to proclaim the radical hospitality that is at the heart of the Gospel, emulated perfectly by the Lord Jesus himself.

Our focus as a community of faith is always worship; but it is important to remember that there is an open flow of grace that begins at the altar and goes out into the world around us. As we emerge into a new normal, we are being urged to take a good look at our ministry and to find ways in which we can open our doors to others. In some cases, this will mean re-starting ministries such as the weekday afternoon Homework club, a ministry we host in partnership with the St. James Town Coalition of Churches. We are moving very carefully while looking at the possibility of beginning this after Thanksgiving. In other cases, it will be a chance to look at new ways to serve God’s people around us. There is for example

much need for a local food bank; we are situated well to help with that.

As we move into the autumn, we look forward to resuming in- person worship and restarting our various groups where ideas can be explored, and new ministry opportunities come to life. We need to do all this observing the protocols for gatherings and worship, though it is best for us to see the opportunities and not focus on the limitations. We are going to return to Church carefully and it is expected that we will be in a kind of hybrid situation, meeting at times in person, and at other times by Zoom. I hope to restart a program of spiritual development such

as scripture studies, and we look forward to welcoming our student, Jillian Ruch, a postulant with the diocese who will be with us 10 hours per week. Sileen Phillips has been working on a program for our children. Backpacks are being put together for their return to school and we will have a blessing of them on

Sunday, September 5th.

It was well worth coming to the office on that hot day in August, yes, to catch up on a bit of work, but also to see the children, and to be reminded

that we have a crucial role to play in this community. May the God of grace continue to walk with us as we witness to him in faith, hope and love.

Geoffrey+



Joy, Cynthia, Ena and Betty polishing the brasses
Photos: Fr. Geoffrey

Wardens' Report

Laurie Sanderson for the SPSS Wardens' Team



*With in-person Sunday services resuming, expect to check-in at the Welcome Station
Photo: SPSS collection*

Spread the good news! The doors of St. Peter and St. Simon's are open for in-person worship on Wednesdays and will be open on Sundays come September. Good things come to those who wait. The Health and Safety Committee decided to take the cautious approach to reopening in-person services so that when we go back to our beautiful church to worship together, we will not have to close the place down again. We have assigned seating, social distancing, hand-sanitizing, high-touch cleaning and contact tracing sign-in in place



Joy and David demonstrate hand sanitizing on entering the church Photo: SPSS collection

for everybody's safety; and we continue to follow all provincial health safety protocols. If you are not fully vaccinated, we do recommend you do so. Being vaccinated makes everyone safe. For those of you who are not comfortable or able to worship in-person, Sunday services will continue to be streamed on Zoom so you can still participate while at home.

Our walls will house music once again! Although we have been blessed with recorded music sung by the choir throughout the closure, now we can have choral music in rehearsal mode that is being recorded for our services. Robin and the choir are hard at work making beautiful music for us while following all the safety protocols put in place by Toronto Public Health and the Diocese. We look forward to the day we can hear the choir in-



Fran, Ena, Joy and Ted clean high-touch areas after a service Photo: SPSS collection

person and sing hymns with them. Joyful, joyful, we adore music and will wait patiently for the choir's return.

Over the time we have been at home, many corners of the church have seen a little love. Floors, walls, ironwork, windows... See if you can spot the improvements. A big thanks to Daiv and Lewis for their work. We are also going ahead with the repair of the floor in what was the Shelter for so many years. It is a big job but very necessary.



Vanessa and Ted present Fr. Michael with a print while Yvonne looks on. Photo: SPSS YouTube

Father Michael Perry has left us (So sad for us!) for the Church of the Transfiguration (Their good luck!) Congratulations to Father Michael on his new job and parish. We will miss him, but he is just up the street and if you walk in the Don Valley, look for the curly headed guy whizzing by on his bike and looking for birds. Gone but not lost to us!

The Gardening Guild has been hard at work for months maintaining, improving and making changes to our garden. If you have not been to the church in a while, walk by and take a look. A big thank-you to Carol Peck and all the members of the Garden Guild for their dedication and hard work. If you would like to join this stewardship group, just give Carol the heads up. As you know the wider society is slowly opening up and so is SPSS. Many of our renters are

starting to think about September and getting back to "normal." St. Simon's Shelter has moved across Sherbourne to the Hotel Isabella where the guests can be housed in COVID-friendly rooms for a safe and healthy lifestyle. We are actively looking for new tenants to replace the Shelter. This is of great import as the rental income is essential to our financial health and wellbeing. We could use some prayer in this direction!

The church office is being expertly managed by Rosemary Hendra. She keeps us all on our toes with up-to-date financials, efficient management and friendly competence. Thank you to Rosemary from us all.

From the Organ Bench

Robin Davis

I hope you are all keeping well and looking forward to the gradual lifting of the Covid Veil. It has been a very rough time for many folks and not the least, our choir members. I am enormously proud of our choir members who have (from the words of the Te Deum) "let me not be confounded." We have managed to keep the choral music component of our worship services going throughout the various stages of the shutdown through a combination of prerecording, singing from home and computer compiling, and use of recorded anthems from years past.



Spaced 3 metres apart, the Choir gathers in person Photo: submitted by Robin Davis

Our choir members and I are THRILLED that we have been given the go-ahead to resume in-person pre-recording once again. You may have noticed the change in the inserted music videos for our services beginning August 1. Our choir members have resumed rehearsing and recording on Thursday evenings to produce videos for the upcoming Sunday's service. I owe a great debt of gratitude to Fr. Geoff, our wardens and Bishop Kevin for their support in this. The Health and Safety Committee and the Diocese have set out a comprehensive set of protocols for the choir gatherings including masking, 3 metre spacing, double vaccination + 2 weeks, cleaning, and other measures. Information from Choral Canada's Webinar titled "We can Sing Safely" was very helpful in informing the adopted protocols. While some of these measures can be challenging for any singer, the joy to be back doing what we love to do, is universal.

When we resume in-person services in September, if you are attending in church, you will hear the choir's pre-recorded singing played through the church PA system. If you are viewing at home, you will see the pre-recorded video with text added as has been the norm. Choir-led hymns and choral service music will be done in the same way. While this is only a temporary step on the way back to full choral in person singing on Sunday mornings, it is a really significant one for our choir community. Thank you to David Smith



Robin and his wife Linda Photo: Mary Anderson

for generously accompanying on piano and organ for these rehearsal recordings.

Under the current diocesan guidelines for worship services, only one cantor is allowed and congregational singing is not. I am hopeful that this will be expanded in the near future. With Fr. Geoff's encouragement, I have become involved in communications with the diocese and some of my fellow music directors on this subject. We all want to return to as normal as possible; however the process to get there needs to be carefully considered and implemented. It is encouraging to me that there is now a dialogue.

Choir Cottage Weekend

Mary Anderson

Getting together with choir members felt quite novel after having been apart for 18 months. Being double vaccinated meant that a small group of the choir had the opportunity to spend the weekend at Johan's cottage. We were treated to beautiful views of the lake and white pines and swimming in pristine water. Adventurous choir members tried jet skiing. At night we saw a meteor shower, shooting stars and many constellations, as we coasted on a serene boat ride. The food was delicious, but the most important aspect of the weekend was the chance to rekindle friendships once more. A big thanks to Johan for his hospitality, and all the great choir chefs who provided some delicious meals.



*The Choir enjoyed beautiful views such as these on their weekend at Johan's cottage
Photo: Mary Anderson*

Kids Corner

Sileen Phillips (Photos: Sileen Phillips)



Sunday School Picnic

On Sunday, July 31, the Children's Ministry held a Sunday School picnic at Toronto's sandy getaway, Kew-Balmy Beach. The event marked the end of another Sunday School year with awards and prizes given to the little ones for their faithfulness in attendance and participation in Sunday School.



Prizes ranged from electronic racing cars to archery sets. Every child received a book according to their preferred genre in addition to their prize. We had a wonderful time in the sun (and in the water). It was a time of food and friendship. The invitation was extended to the under 12 year olds only, but we look forward to a future event where both under and over 12's will enjoy sharing in the same event. Congratulations



to all of the children and many thanks to all of the parents who made this possible!

An Example of Refugee Contribution to Canada

Peggy Needham

On July 8, I wrote the following email to people at the former St. Peter's Church who had played a part in helping refugees come to Canada:

Dear friends from "Old" St. Peter's,

In today's Toronto Star on page 1 and continued inside the paper is a sad and extraordinarily beautiful Christian story. It is about an old dying woman, her daughter who could not be with her and a very special Ugandan refugee in Canada. Maybe some of you have already seen and read the story. How the Ugandan refugee, a hospital orderly, held her hand and said prayers with her. The dying woman told her daughter on the phone about this wonderful sharing. I just want everyone to know about the article and find it.

Thinking of you all and sending love ,

As it turned out only Fran Brown and Marjorie Philip had seen the article. After failed efforts to send it to the others, I took the article to Mary Martin who scanned it and sent it to the recipients of my email.

Following are two responses that came, the first from Mary Wangalwa and the second from Diane Marshall. Mary Martin suggested they be included in **Jubilate!**, and the writers agreed to that plan:

Hello St. Peter's Church family,

It's always a pleasure hearing from you all. I miss you so very much. I hope the Good Lord has kept everyone safe.

Thank you, Peggy, for sharing this information with us, unfortunately I couldn't get the paper but reading what you and Marjorie wrote, I am happy that someone was able to help that lady.

It has been an extremely tough time for each one of us and especially for those immigrants who have no family here. Some of us are lucky that we have our family close by, a blessing that at times I take for granted.

It's on that note that I want to thank you all again for the support you rendered to my family ten years ago to reunite my family. David was at one time in that same situation the lady was in, lonely, desperate, and confused, but you all worked and prayed tirelessly to reunite us. You are the true example that Jesus talked about " I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." We always pray that our Lord continues blessing each one of you.

I look forward to when we can come together as St. Peter's Anglican Church family again just to chat and share our home cooked meals.

Take care and blessings,

*Sincerely,
Mary Wangalwa*

Dear Mary,

How excited we all were after committee members visited the office of the honorable Bill Graham, and it looked like people there would help you and your children to be accepted through the "family reconciliation" program to come to Canada! David was beaming with excitement!

And then you and the children actually arrived and everyone at St. Peter's looked forward to welcoming you. And David and his youngest son met in person for the first time!

Your family has been an inspiration for us all, of grace and resilient faith. Thank you for your shared wisdom and the guidance given your beautiful children in a new country with new schools, new friends, new foods.

*Warmest love to you all,
Diane*



*Joy and Sheila gather flowers from the garden
Photo: submitted by Nancy Nourse*

The Garden Guild

Mary Martin

"When Two or Three are gathered together..."

When we are allowed to physically come back to St. Peter and St. Simon's, please take time to look at the gardens.

There are 15 garden beds, 8 on the Bloor Street side and 7 on the Howard Street side (maps are



Carol and day lilies Photo: Fr. Geoffrey

available), all of which have received tender love and care since the late spring by the Garden Guild under the leadership of Carol Peck. Carol is an amateur gardener in the best sense of “amateur”- one who does something out of love and passion. Carol has only two rules – 1. Do not touch the raspberry bushes!! 2. Plant anything yellow



*Mary Martin and Linda Gordon
Photo: submitted by Carol Peck*

(forsythia and daffodils are among her favourites)!!

Carol brought together a hard-working, knowledgeable and dedicated group on the hottest Saturdays in June, July and August to design and dream as they pulled weeds and grass. Carol enticed and cajoled choir members, wardens past and present, hospitality mavens, members of CREW from St. Jamestown, a couple from San Lorenzo, and some very welcome brawn in Takoda Kemp, Jerod Bertram, and Kevin Sinclair.



Takoda Photo: submitted by Carol Peck

As vaccinations increased and lockdown eased, one started to look forward to the Friday afternoon email from Carol that announced, weather permitting, we should be at the church from 10 until 12 on Saturday. Carol herself was always on hand with an enthusiastic greeting, checking what you need in terms of water, tools and supplies, encouraging everyone’s “green dreams.” Many in the group – Marina Caytap, Nancy Nourse, Isabelle Robinson, Diane Way and Brooke Sales-Lee - brought plants from home to fill in blank spots and to create holding beds for next year’s planning and planting. Jerod Bertram brought some plants from the former St. Peter’s on Carlton Street. With the benefit of “apps” on



*Takoda, Betty, Kevin, Fran and Carol
Photo submitted by Carol Peck*

Nancy Nourse's or Linda Gordon's phone, any mystery plant was lovingly saved. The original good bones of the neglected gardens quickly re-emerged.

On one memorable Saturday morning, I pulled weeds from, Garden #3 (the big garden along Bloor Street) with Stephanie Woodside and Daphne Harris – “dig”, “pull”, “shake” and “bag”. We didn't speak much, just grumbled about the secret lives of weeds. I excused myself early, having succumbed to the heat and physical exertion. The parting comment from Stephanie



Marina Photo: submitted by Carol Peck

said it all – “it was so nice just being together today.” That farewell captured for me what is so very special about being part of the garden crew: hard work for a common purpose, camaraderie, and knowing that you have made even the smallest difference.

The Garden Guild will keep you posted: we may want some bulbs and seeds to plant in the fall for glory in the spring. Please speak to Carol Peck if you would like to make a donation. A planning session is in the works for the winter months.

We speak of stewardship in terms of time, talent and treasure. I salute the members of the Garden Guild and its wonderful leader as embodying all three aspects of stewardship.



Nancy Photo: Fr. Geoffrey

Members of the Garden Guild:

Carol Peck	Alison Jane
Jerod Bertram	Takoda Kemp
Fran Brown	Mary Martin
Mr. and Mrs. Bucat (San Lorenzo)	Nancy Nourse
Marina Caytap	Isabelle Robinson
Lidia Ferreira (CREW)	Brooke Sales-Lee
Sarah Gale	Vanessa Scott
Linda Gordon	Kevin Sinclair
Daphne Harris	Diane Way
	Stephanie Woodside

See page 15 & 16 for more gardening photos!

Ella the Anglicat

Carol Peck

(Photos: Carol Peck)

During the summer of 2020, we discovered a sizeable population of mice in the church. Suggestions were made that we adopt a feral cat to deal with them, but no one offered to clean the litter box. Serendipitously, my late mother's cat needed re-housing and immigrated to Canada. After two weeks quarantine, (Well, I had to go to New York to fetch her, so we were both stuck in a tiny apartment.), she was more than ready to take on her new duties.



First, I introduced her to the courtyard; outdoors, but contained so she couldn't get lost. My mother had hydrangeas, so I thought she might feel at home. She loved it and the mice disappeared.



Next, she tackled the Office. Her scent once established seemed to deter the mice.



She made herself comfortable in Father Geoff's Office. It was nice that she matched the décor.

It was the sanctuary, however, that gave her the most joy. It was huge, it smelt interesting, and it was a wonderful adventure to explore. She took her duties very seriously.



Protecting the Holy Family [no crèche is complete without a cat].



She was deaf as a doorpost, but she took church music very seriously and she loved the organ (see below!).



Guarding the children's area/Lady Chapel.



The congregation was also due protection so there would be no surprises when they returned to church.



Having a quiet word with The Boss.



She also was a therapy cat

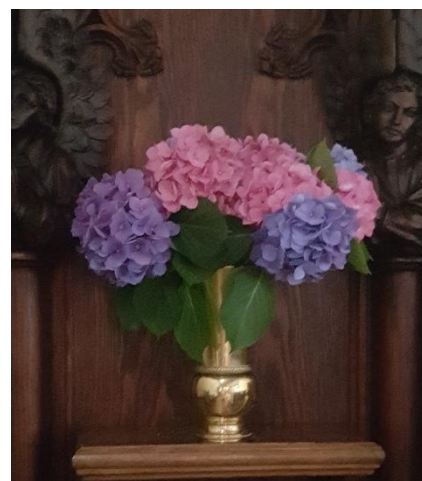
Ella had a wonderful year. In the middle of July, she visited the church several times to perform her final duties.



She watched David coach Alison at the organ and, although she could hear nothing, she was fascinated. She sat quietly for a long time, watching and feeling the vibrations.



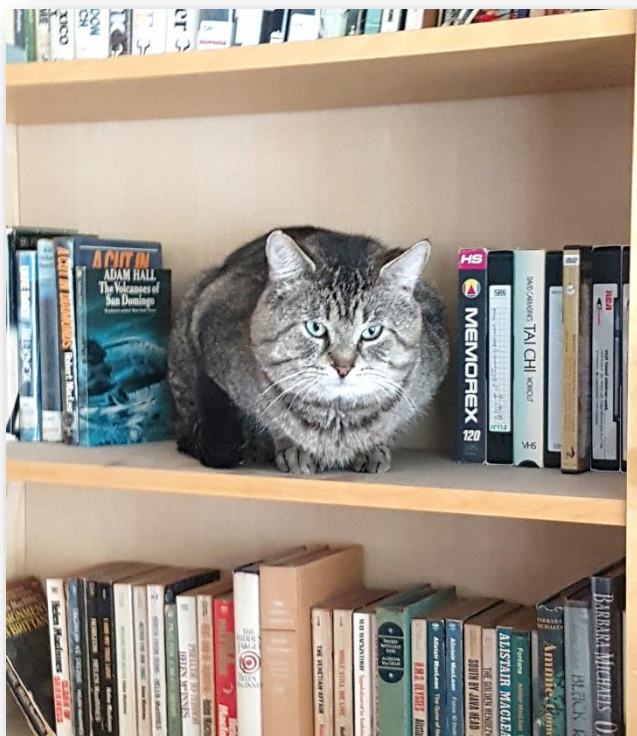
Fr. Geoff gave her a small prayer shawl. [Thank you, Nancy Nourse for making one cat-sized!]



On Friday, July 23rd, I put the cat carrier on the floor & Ella scooted into it, as was her wont. In the subway, I heard a pathetic cry that seemed to say "I thought we were going to the church!" I came home from the Vet alone.

On Saturday, the hydrangeas in the courtyard were perfect for cutting and the Altar Guild took them for Sunday's service. They lasted several weeks. Forever linked in my mind with Ella the Anglicat.

...continued on next page



Magnificat - watch out mice! Photo: Carol Peck

Postscript

On the Sunday afternoon after Ella died, I was out in the courtyard, gardening with Jerod Bertram, when a mouse streaked across the courtyard. Meet Magnificat, my feline inheritance of 2021. So far this summer, he has brought home 4 mice (one still alive!), a very young rabbit, and 4 cicadas (which he ate). The mice should not get comfortable.

SJTCA Summer Camp Fun at SPSS

Sandra Trehub

From August 9 until August 20, St. James Town Community Arts (formerly Reaching Out Through Music) returned to SPSS to hold its first-ever summer arts camp. The camp, offered free to the children of St. James Town, featured fun-filled days of music, drama, dance, and visual arts taught by professional artists to 24 children 7 to 14 years of age. Counsellors were also on hand to manage the Covid-19 protocols, attend to children's

social/emotional needs, and ensure that all children had the best possible time. And they did!

Every morning featured separate music and drama sessions for the younger and older children. Much as the children of St. James Town love to sing, singing activities were off limits because of pandemic restrictions. Mackenzie Read, camp music instructor, conducted percussion sessions on the rear lawn, which included djembe drums, *boomwhackers* (coloured tubes of different lengths that make different pitched sounds when struck), African shakers, and bells. Children in the drum circle learned to produce various rhythms, and they also had improvisational opportunities. It was a joyful experience for all, including passersby on Howard Street.

Drama classes conducted by Phoebe Hu engaged children in various imaginative and role-play games that enhanced their confidence as well as their teamwork skills. The shyness that was evident on the first day of camp disappeared quickly under Phoebe's expert guidance. Eventually, every child was not only ready but also eager to perform for others, including their parents at the Showcase on the last day of camp.





Gathering on the Howard St lawn

Photo: Sandra Trehub

For most children, dance classes, also taught by Phoebe, were the highlight of each day. Dance brought out children's exuberance as they moved, hopped and swayed in synchrony with the music and each other. It was also the highlight of the Showcase.

Yasaman Mehrsa, Toronto muralist and camp art instructor, arranged uniquely creative arts activities for the children, many of whom developed a new affinity for drawing, painting and design.

Parents were invited to a Showcase on the Howard Street lawn on Friday afternoon, August



Children at SJCTA Camp display their artwork

Photo: Sandra Trehub

20, the last day of camp. It featured an art gallery with children's paintings as well as drumming, dance, and drama performances. The afternoon concluded with a lively performance by camp staff. As the families departed for home, several parents remarked that their children talk endlessly about camp, and they keep asking when they can sign up for next summer.

This link captures the flavour of the children's camp experience: <https://youtu.be/hF82JZwtSV8>



The children's artwork reflects real life in SPSS gardens.

Photos: Sandra Trehub & Nancy Nourse



Yarns from the SPSS Prayer Shawl Group

Nancy Nourse

While the months of COVID-19 lockdown may have caused widespread isolation, they have also offered us additional time for contemplative knitting. This year, we have seen new knitters join the ministry and the coffers of our parish's collection of new prayer shawls have certainly benefitted. We are so pleased that a number of prayer shawls have already been given to parishioners experiencing challenging circumstances. We are also most grateful for Moveta Nanton's most generous contribution of yarn—bags of excellent quality wools and blends of multiple colours and in dye-lot quantities large enough to fashion many, lovely, single colour shawls. Thank you, Moveta!

Recently, shawls have been submitted by Rosemary Hendra, Elizabeth Alberti, and Nancy Nourse, while currently there are several others in progress. Please do contact us if you are interested in trying out this most rewarding ministry. New knitters and crocheters are always welcome!

For newcomers to knitting, there are many, very helpful websites to visit that demonstrate casting on and off and all the basic knitting and purling stitches right through to the most complicated of instructions.

For just one example, see:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWIR1laN8BM>

Here is the basic pattern for the standard knitted prayer shawl:

- Choose knitting needles 8 or 9 mm. (U.S. size 11 or 13, U.K. size 0 or 00)
- You will need approximately 525 metres (570 yards) of a double knitting (dk), chunky, bulky, or worsted yarn. Choosing something that can be easily washed is recommended.
- Cast on 57 stitches. (For smaller sized needles and a finer yarn, 63 stitches may be preferable to make a wider shawl.)
- First Row: Knit 3, Purl 3 and continue this pattern to the end of the row. The final 3 stitches should be knitted ones.
- Second Row and all subsequent rows are the repeated pattern of the first row. Be sure that you are always knitting the knitted stitches and purling the purled ones. The pattern will begin to appear as shown below in Elizabeth Alberti's example:



*Example of K3, P3 knitting pattern
Photo: Nancy Nourse*

(This pattern of K3, P3 symbolizes the Christian Trinity in our meditative knitting—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.)

- Since the edges are exposed and not used as seams, it is best to tie on the next ball of yarn mid row, rather than at the end. If you are using a multi-coloured yarn, it is best to check that the colour sequence will continue in the same manner when you join on the new ball.
- Continue knitting until the shawl measures approximately 1.45 metres (58 inches) or the length from wrist to wrist of your outstretched arms.
- Cast (bind) off, and finish by sewing in the dangling ends.
- Adding fringe is optional.

During SPSS's Choral Matins on June 6, 2021,
Mother Jennifer blessed our handiwork saying:

"We ask God's blessing upon these prayer shawls
that they may be a comfort to all those who use
them and a reminder of God's ever-loving and
abiding presence. We ask this in the name of the
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen."

Finally, a special thank you to our cantors and
organists Johan van't Hof, David Smith, Alison Jane
and Maurice White for covering services in July.

Looking forward to seeing you all live in person as
soon as possible.



*Mother Jennifer blesses the shawls
Photo: SPSS YouTube*

Additional Gardening Photographs

*Photos: Fr. Geoffrey, Nancy Nourse, Carol Peck, Mary
Anderson, Mary Martin and others*



Can you guess who the masked gardeners are?



Jubilate! Is a newsletter for the parishioners and friends of
The Church of St. Peter and St. Simon-the-Apostle

Next Jubilate! When will the next **Jubilate!** be published? Watch for the announcement in the church bulletin....

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