



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

JUBILATE!

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Photo by: Vanessa Scott

From the Rector

The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine

From the Rector – Pentecost: The Spirit of Thanksgiving

Pentecost was one of the festivals that marked the religious year. Coming fifty days after the Passover it was a celebration of thanksgiving for the first harvest of the year. Our climate limits us to planting crops in May - it is a different matter in the Middle East when spring begins in February!

We can try to picture the scene: people gathered in Jerusalem in joy and celebration with their symbolic offering of thanksgiving to Yahweh for the fruits of the earth. Into this experience St. Luke writes in the Book of Acts, "When the Day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all together in one place." They were all together – in celebration and thanksgiving. That was the environment into which God the Holy Spirit came upon them as the sound of a mighty wind; that was the environment in which they all were together and understood all the babel of language that was spoken.

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Two things stand out about this Pentecostal experience: gratitude and understanding...thanksgiving and unity. Perhaps there is a connection one to the other.

In a world of scepticism, anger and pain, thanksgiving often gets shortchanged. I am a culprit, so often grumbling and whinging, to the risk of missing the blessings before me. We are so busy worrying, critiquing, complaining, that we forget to see the gifts, the blessings that surround us, be it the bounty of the earth, the relatively good and stable lives we lead, the land of peace and plenty that is our inheritance and of which we are the stewards. Don't get me wrong. We must be careful and discerning critics of our past, present and future, but it is also important to find a healthy balance. There is so much for us be thankful for – do we look for the good in society? Do we look for the good in each other? Do we stop and pay attention?

When we fail in our ability to be thankful for the great benefits we have received, things can come a bit undone. The tendency to seek blame, to look for difference, to pull things apart, well, I feel this can leave us scrambling, confused, looking angrily



Photo: Nancy Nourse



Photo: Nancy Nourse

at the past and despairingly at the future. This is a long way from the Pentecostal unity that was the gift of the Spirit, a gift that came in a celebration of gratitude for the simple gifts of creation.

At Pentecost we are invited once again to pause and give thanks for all the blessings around us. That, it seems to me, is one way to be an open path for the Holy Spirit to come and work his healing grace among us.

Gratitude is a theme surrounding us in this season. We are finally open again, open for worship and fellowship, and what a great gift that is, especially to have coffee hour once more, albeit in a slightly different format for safety reasons.

Looking ahead there are some events of gratitude to note. On Sunday June 5th we are celebrating the Feast of Pentecost. At four o'clock that day we will have a special Evensong of Thanksgiving for Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Queen is an extraordinary example of duty and service - her seventy-year reign is a sign of this in so many ways. She is a faithful Christian and has in her years and dedication shown discipleship to us

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and to the world. With deep gratitude for Queen Elizabeth, and for our nation which is so blessed with freedom and peace, we offer this service of worship and praise to Almighty God who is at the centre of her life and service.

On Saturday, June 18th we will enjoy our parish Festival on the Green. This is a chance to come together after over two years of covid hibernation to celebrate our faith life together and to open our doors to the wider community.

We will be having two celebrations of Holy Baptism in June, one on Saturday June 11th and one on Sunday, June 26th during the main service. This is a chance for us to welcome new families and new Christians in our midst. We remember, Baptism is God's pledge of loving-kindness and mercy, and God's promise to bestow upon us new life in Jesus Christ. Nothing that the world throws our way can take that from us.

Pentecost reminds us once again that God the Holy Spirit pours abundant blessings upon us, individually, as a nation, and as a community of faith. In this season, let us pause and remember before God those who are less fortunate, those in conflicts and strife. Let us give thanks for all we have been given, and in giving thanks, to understand more clearly God's grace, God's mercy which can lead us to be a more united, more understanding, more caring community, who in Christ's name, can bear his good fruit of peace and plenty.

Peace and blessings to you in this season of the Spirit.

Geoffrey+

Collect for Pentecost

O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples in Jerusalem; grant that we who celebrate this feast of Pentecost may continue yours forever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit, until

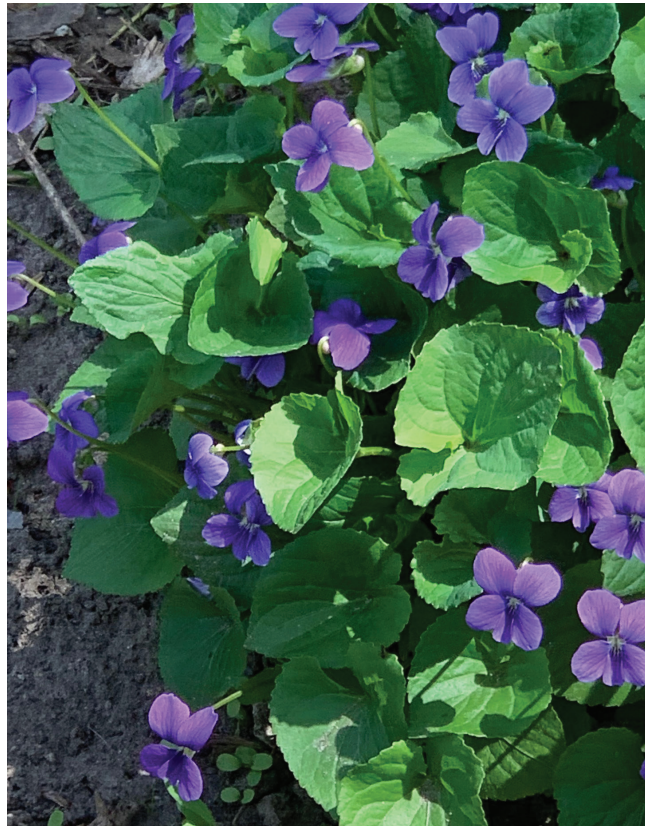


Photo: Nancy Nourse

we come to your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us.

Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Photo submitted by Colin Bird.

SPRING REFLECTIONS FROM THE SUNSHINE COAST

May 24, 2022

Diane Marshall

Greetings to SPSS friends! I hope this finds you well, personally and as a community. Spring here has been magnificent, with so many blossoms and flowering dogwood, and vegetables for sale at the little organic farm I walk past on my daily walks. I have been so privileged to be able to walk daily (with my two poles) up hill and down dale all through the pandemic – of which the Omicron variant is still widely circulating on the Coast, and in the high schools (my 17-year-old grandson and his A level soccer team friends all came down with it and needed to isolate for 10 days recently, following a final game in Vancouver). Fortunately, there have been few recent hospitalizations at the Sechelt Hospital, and no longer the serious drone of the helicopters taking off to fly down to Vancouver the seriously ill patients requiring intensive care.

Our St. Hilda's parish has been gifted with a grant to "green" our church structure, and we now have a large outside water tank collecting rain water (of which we've had a good dose this spring!) and

which is attached to the plumbing system of the church. In addition, we are looking into installing heat pumps soon which will heat the buildings more economically and cool them when this year's expected (and dreaded) "heat dome" comes again on the west coast. As I may have mentioned last year when I reported on the fires and the smoke and heat out here, no one that I have met (my family and friends or members of the parish) has air conditioners, as this is normally a temperate rain forest zone. Unbeknownst to me, my colleagues in Toronto sent me a portable one, arriving at my front door by Purolator! Now I just need help to set it up.

An orange & feathers crosswalk is being planned as project of the Siyaya Reconciliation movement with the District of Sechelt, and will be ready by orange shirt Indigenous reconciliation day on June 30th. "Siyaya Days" from June 21st to July 1st (with support of the District of Sechelt) will have one new event each day, and they will lead the walk from the Nation through Sechelt as walking together is a response to the Truth and Reconciliation report. This is a very difficult time for the Shishalh First Nation elders, as the ground penetrating radar is currently underway on the large part of their land that was occupied by St. Augustine's (Roman Catholic) Residential School.

Many, many children did not return home and it



Photo: Diane Marshall

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was told by the children who witnessed that bodies were buried, and (horrifically) disposed of in the large furnace in the basement of the school. Some older children were forced by the brothers to clean up areas in rooms where violence was perpetrated. The memories of these traumatic events are being resurfaced in the surviving elders who attended this school, and in spite of the pain and grief, they want to pursue the ground penetrating radar and support and are part of the Siyaya walking together movement.

I have become friends with a hereditary chief, Hiwus who attended that school, and he has told me of how later many of the young men in the community, when the school was closed in 1975, burned it to the ground. For your interest, over the century children from more than 48 First Nations across B.C. and some from Alberta were legally required to attend the school, some coming across from northern Vancouver Island in canoes.

So many children died or became seriously ill due to documented poor nutrition, loneliness, and abuse. It breaks my heart to read the comprehensive University of Victoria (Department of Indigenous Governance) graduate research study entitled "Shishalh Truth-Telling Initiative" which gives this history, interspersed with the accounts of several survivors who were able to share their experiences and what they witnessed. Many members of St. Hilda's are active in Siyaya, and also in our Indigenous books study, so I am grateful to be part of this learning and walking together journey. For me, living here now, it is so much part of the resurrection call in Christ, as Corinthians 5:17-19 enjoins us all:

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: the old has passed away, everything has become new! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting our sins against us, and has trusted to us the ministry of reconciliation."

May we each come to understand this call wherever we find ourselves.

Blessings and peace, Diane



Colin and Susan Bird with Diane Marshall in B.C.
Photo submitted by Colin Bird.

SPSS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT RECEIVES VISIT FROM HEADQUARTERS

Colin Bird

To her delight, our west coast correspondent, Diane Marshall, was visited on May 25 by Colin and Susan Bird. Her reaction: "OMG, you are the first visitors I have had in about three years!"

And we are happy to report that Diane is looking very well and obviously enjoying life on the "Sunshine Coast." Indeed, with views of the mountains from her back patio and daily sightings of wildlife as well as "going to church" in old growth forests all around her, she has much to enjoy and give thanks for in her present location in Sechelt, B.C. She is involved with her new parish of St. Hilda's by the Sea, which is tucked away in a quiet corner of Sechelt, situated on the unceded territory of the Shishalh Nation. There, they share many programs with Indigenous local people who teach us to cherish creation.

Diane sends her best to everyone back in Toronto and looks forward to another visit from anyone connected to "headquarters", whenever that may be!

DOORS OPEN AT SPSS

Larry Krotz



This is a picture of **SOME** of the many volunteers who made **Doors Open** a success at SPSS on the weekend of May 28 and 29. We had four teams of volunteers working as greeters and hosts and in all had somewhere between 250 and 280 guests drop by to enjoy our lovely church. I'd call that a success! (Photo: Larry Krotz)

THE CHOIR LEADS OF ST. PETER & ST SIMONS ANGLICAN CHURCH PRESENT



Coffee House

Fundraiser in support of
Parish Daycare Renovation Project

SAT JUNE 11 @ 7:30 PM

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF VOCAL
PERFORMANCES AND TASTY TREATS**
525 BLOOR ST E, TORONTO
\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION

also Featuring
Katherine Jones-Soprano
Ian Corlett-Tenor
Nancy Nourse-Flute

Accompanists
Alison Jane
David Smith
Robin Davis

Choir Members:
Kieran Kane - Bass
James Coole-Stevenson - Baritone
Mekhriban Mamedova - Alto/piano
Maria Milenic - Alto
Sophie Knowles - Soprano
Ian Speck - Tenor

Come meet your community at

**FESTIVAL
ON THE GREEN**



SATURDAY JUNE 18

**LIVE MUSIC FOOD VENDORS
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

**The Church of St Peter &
St Simon the Apostle**
40 Howard St.
South lawn of the church

SERVICES OF WORSHIP AT SPSS

Sundays

9:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Chancel
10:30 a.m. 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the Month — Choral Eucharist
2nd Sunday of the month — Choral Matins

Wednesdays

11:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

DATES OF NOTE IN THE SUMMER LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday, June 12 – Trinity Sunday

Wednesday, June 15 – Corpus Christi

Sunday, June 26 – 3rd Sunday After Pentecost

Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at the 10:30 a.m. service.

Sunday, August 7 – Transfiguration of the Lord

Sunday August 14 – Feast of St Mary the Virgin

Wednesday, August 24 – St Bartholomew, Apostle

Wednesday, September 14 – Holy Cross Day

The next **Jubilate!** will be called the **Thanksgiving Jubilate!** Please submit articles, announcements, and pictures on or before September 15. Share about what has happened since the beginning of June and during the summer. Tell us about what is happening everywhere in our church community. Let us know what to expect in the fall season.

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

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