



THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

White Rock, British Columbia

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Parish News & Upcoming Events

July 18, 2025

In Christ we are a caring community seeking and welcoming others to join us on our faith journey.

SUMMER SABBATH by The Rev. Joseph Dirbas

I am preparing to take some time away from church and spend a couple of weeks with my family. My vacation will begin on Wednesday, July 23. Summer seems an appropriate time for a break. After all, things are quieter. Or so they say.



I was just speaking with a clergy colleague today and we were discussing how we are both really busy right now. In these months when things quiet down in the church, you would think there would be time for church leadership to rest. In actuality, the summer months are an incredibly fertile time of planning and preparing for the coming church year. It is a time when I, with the wardens and other members of the parish council, begin to think about implementing programs and ministries in the fall and beyond. Is it a lot of work? Yes! And it is full of joy and anticipation as we look to the possibilities ahead.

It would be easy to ignore taking a break. After all, it seems that no time is a good time to take time off. What's more, the work we are doing is enriching and life giving, so why not just keep doing it? The temptation is there, the urge to just keep working, keep dreaming, keep giving of yourself. But doing so will likely result in burnout in which we might crash and burn and, in the worst of circumstances, take the church with us. That is why honouring and respecting the sabbath is so important.

We must heed our call for sabbath, for rest and time away. Rest is necessary. Time away from the ministries, from the ideas, from the tasks that seem to never end is necessary. It is in these times of rest and quietness that we can begin to see more clearly where God is leading us next. So, we must find times when we can rest and be restored, rejuvenated for what lies ahead. Times when we can let our mind wander, read a good book, play with the kids, or simply watch a baseball game. In these moments, even while we are not at work for the church, the Spirit is at work in us. Reorienting our intentions to the will of God and those things which bring us health

and wholeness and life and joy.

I don't have any specific plans for my time away other than to simply rest. (As much as one can with five kids 13 and under) and having a chance to explore new things and new places with my family. I am thankful for the support of the wardens, Fr. Paul, and office staff who will fill in in my absence. I am thankful for the love and prayers of this amazing parish family. I am thankful that God has plans for us and is calling us into a new future. And I am eager to return, refreshed and renewed, to continue the work at hand and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.

UPCOMING SERVICE LIVESTREAM LINKS



For those who may not be able to join us in church for our Sunday services, the links to the live streams and the service bulletins are below.

The Sixth Sunday After Pentecost, Proper 16, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, July 20, 2025

[Livestream](#)

[Bulletin](#)

HYMNS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 20

The hymns for Sunday, July 20, at 10:00 a.m. are as follows.
The links will allow you to hear the setting.

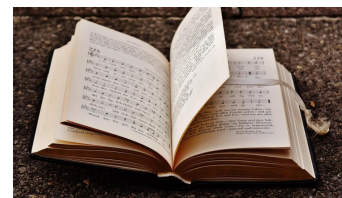
Procession - **Common Praise #306** - *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Gospel - **Common Praise #505** - *Be Thou My Vision*

Offertory - **Common Praise #525** - *The Church's One Foundation*

Communion - **Common Praise #56** - *I Am the Bread of Life*

Closing - **Common Praise #577** - *God of Grace and God of Glory*



PASSING THE PLATE



Don't be shy! Throw in a few nickels. All loose change collected on Sundays goes to support the Food Bank.

WHITE ROCK FAMILY PRIDE DAY - JULY 19

We hope you will come out and see us at the annual White Rock Family Pride Day.

We will be in a booth just across from the community center. All parishioners are welcome to join us at our table as we say hello to friends and neighbours, show our support for the local LGBTQ+ community, and share the love of God with all who come by. We will have some goodies to give away to young and old.

We hope to see you there!



THANK YOU FROM THE SEAFARERS!

The Rev. Peter Smyth, Mission to Seafarers Senior Chaplain, sent along this photo of a couple of Filipino Seafarers holding toques made by our knitting group. He also sent a note of thanks for the generous donations provided by the Church of the Holy Trinity. Fr. Smyth writes, “It was wonderful to see your compassion for the seafarers and trust in the Mission to convey that to the seafarers in word and in the donations. Such support enables us to continue to be there for the seafarers and respond as needed.”



Thank you so much for your generous donations.

BABY CAFÉ - INFORMATION SESSION by Sheila Johnston



The more I thought about Holy Trinity introducing the Baby Café project to the Parish and to our community, I realized I needed more information, so I reached out to the Reverend Cameron Gutjahr, at St. John the Divine in Squamish. He runs “Tot Time” (aka Baby Café) and when I asked if I could observe his program he enthusiastically invited me to visit on May 20. I observed and took notes as Cameron and two volunteers set up the Café. Soon tots and their caregivers began to arrive. There was such a sense of community. There was such an atmosphere of joy. Again I filled pages with ideas, advice, and insights.

At Holy Trinity work continues on preparing for the

September 5 launch of our Baby Café. I invite anyone who is interested in this project to join me in Griffith's Hall for an

**Information Session at
9:30 a.m. on Monday, July 21.**

Also, in August, we will be asking parishioners to help us promote the project by handing out postcards about the Baby Café to anyone you know who is a caregivers for children aged 0 to 4 years old. Word-of-mouth is a very powerful way to promote this project.



PARISH COUNCIL RETREAT - THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Last Friday members of Parish Council gathered to reflect, dream, plan and create action items to consolidate our identity as Church of the Holy Trinity.

Jacqueline led us in morning prayer, and once refreshed spiritually we filled our mugs and spent time getting to know each other better as we shared stories of our own faith journeys.

As it was the feast of St. Benedict, our day was perfectly formed around the Benedictine practices of Prayer, Work, Study, Hospitality and Renewal.



We worked in groups to answer 4 key questions that generated discussion, and helped us hone our understanding of who we are and what are we called to be.

Q1 – What are we uniquely good at? What gives lots of energy? What makes us different? What builds connection.

Q2 - What are we less good at?

Q3 – What does the community outside need? What shows up at our door?

Q4 – What are you afraid of?

We prayed for courage and honesty to be able to answer the questions with an open heart and to listen discerningly to what was being said and what was left unsaid. We missed our colleagues who could not be with us, but their contributions and submissions were recorded in their absence. We are collating the responses and will create an opportunity in the fall to share our musings and our learning.

Fr. Joe led us spiritually and it was truly a remarkable day filled with joy laughter and the Holy Spirit, who has a wonderful sense of humour.

Thank you again for your prayers,
Fran Fagan

Following are reflections from others:

From Helen Brown:

...the way we ended the day with an action rather than a nebulous “oh we must do that” was for me the most positive outcome of the day. I was struck by the positive energy from everyone participating. There really was a sense of unity and a desire to put into action the responses to the questions we were given both in our small groups and when we met as a whole council. This gave us a motivation to make meaningful suggestions that will help us in moving forward with our ministries as a parish, both internally and to the wider community.

From Sean Latimer:

I enjoyed the process connection with each other. I missed those absent because they would have added to the people processing aspect. The people process is the river and the content are the leaves floating by. I appreciated the “getting to know one-another” and would like that once more fairly soon. Parish Council meetings are very scripted and formal and, apart from a Ministry Leader presenter, are business-centred. The openness, honesty and vulnerability from all created a safe place for the Holy Spirit to flow.

I liked the personal time together more than the content on the posters, although the questions reframing SWOT analysis were very helpful.

I would like this event twice a year!!

From John Davison:

What a great idea that was to be able to gather, undisturbed to focus on where we are as a church and where the future might take us. A chance to get to know one another better. Thank you to those who put in the time and effort to make it run so smoothly and successfully.

From Jacqueline Sephton:

The Parish Council retreat was many things to me: a time of quiet and prayer and also of laughter and smiles, a time to listen and also to speak and be heard, a time of reflection and a time to plan and assess. The setting was perfect and graciously presented to us by John and Helen Davison. With ample space, comfortable chairs and even a small kitchen we were prepared for the day. And armed with an inspiring quote from the Dioceses “Ministry Action Plan” we were well on our way to a productive and successful time together:

“At its heart, this Ministry Planning Process is about identity renewal. It is not just about what a parish is called to do, but about who a parish is called to be. When a community becomes clear about its identity—who it is in God—its ministries, decisions, and energy flow from that centre with greater clarity, peace and purpose.” MPP, Diocese of New Westminster

Beyond that though, I truly appreciated the opportunity to get to know my fellow parish council members a bit more and to feel that sense of camaraderie that comes from spending concentrated time together. As a cradle Anglican, I also enjoyed hearing about the faith journeys of others. Father Joe and Fran kept us on time and on track for which I was thankful. I was honoured to lead the Morning Prayer and grateful to share Eucharist with our group. It was a marvelous day and one I look forward to experiencing again. Thank you.

SUPPORT FOR ST. JOHN'S EYE HOSPITAL



We continue to encourage donations in support of the work of the Saint John Eye Hospital Group (SJEHG) (<https://www.stjohnseyehospital.org/>). St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group (SJEHG) is the only charitable provider of expert eye care in East Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza, treating patients regardless of ethnicity, religion or ability to pay. SJEHG treats over 135,000 patients annually.

The goal of our campaign is to support the sponsorship of one (1) student to train as an ophthalmic nurse with SJEHG at the Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing. The fundraising goal from all sources of \$13,000 USD (\$18,000 CAD). All donated funds will be transferred to SJEHG.

Please make your donation, by check or e-transfer, to the Church of the Holy Trinity White Rock and note "Eye Hospital" on the donation. Thank you for your generosity.

EAGLES NEST LABYRINTH WALK - JULY 25

Eagles Nest Labyrinth Walk - Kwomais Point Park (1367 128th St, Surrey)

If you are interested in walking the labyrinth at Kwomais Point Park on **Friday July 25 at 10:30 a.m. (weather permitting)** please sign up on the bulletin board in the parish office. We'll arrange a ride for people who need it.



Bring your own coffee and donut / breakfast treat to enjoy before the walk. There are benches on site but you might want to bring a chair if that is more comfortable for you.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTER

SPREAD THE WORD!



Our Church is growing and we are ready to invest in our Children, Youth, and Family programs.

We are looking for a part-time staff member to lead this ministry in coordination with the rector. **Please share this opportunity** with those who you think may be interested.

Visit holytrinitywhiterock.ca/cyf-position for more information.

COMMUNION AT HOME

If you're unable to attend church in person, we would be honoured to bring Holy Communion to you. As members of the Body of Christ, we remain connected through prayer, presence, and the sacrament we share. Our growing team of Lay Eucharistic Visitors is ready to bring the sacrament and a time of prayer to your home.

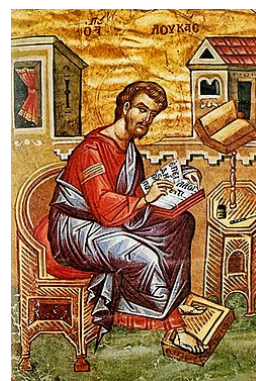


To schedule a visit, please contact the church office or speak with a member of the clergy. Don't be shy. It is a blessing to offer this ministry to you.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We continue our journey through the Gospel according to Luke. Our time together is enlightening (let your light shine!) and fun! We continue to learn and invite you to join us.

There are no prerequisites and no barriers. All we ask is that you come with an open mind and open heart to meet Jesus in the scripture. We meet on Tuesday mornings in the library at 10:00 a.m. We look forward to seeing you!



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The women's fellowship group meets every Monday at 10:30 a.m. This is a wonderful opportunity for community and conversation. All are welcome.



FR. JOE ON VACATION

Please note,
Fr. Joe will be away from Wednesday, July 23
through Wednesday, August 6.
The office will remain open, as usual.

Any church related questions can be addressed to
the wardens. If you have pastoral concerns, please
contact Fr. Paul, prichards@holytrinitywhiterock.ca



WEEKDAY WORSHIP



Join our Weekday Worship services

Tuesdays - 9:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer (BCP)

Thursdays - 9:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CHURCH

**July 19, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - White Rock Family
Pride Day**

**July 20, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. - 6th Sunday after
Pentecost, Proper 16**

**July 25, 10:30 a.m. - Labyrinth Walk at Kwomais
Point Park**

**July 27, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. - 7th Sunday after
Pentecost, Proper 17**

August 3, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. - 8th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18

August 10, 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. - 9th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19

August 15, 7:00 p.m. - Solemn Mass for the Feast of St. Mary (smells and bells)

EVENTS at THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		CANADA DAY OFFICE CLOSED		Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church		Funeral 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Church and Parish Hall
6th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 16 8 and 10 a.m.	Proper 16 Kelters 10:00 a.m. - Library Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library		Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church	Parish Council Meeting 10:00 a.m.	
7th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17 8 and 10 a.m. Food Bank Sunday Evening 7 p.m.	Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library		Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church		White Rock Family Prize Day 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Museum Plaza
8th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18 8 and 10 a.m.	Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library Finance Committee 10:30 a.m. - Library		Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church Trustees Meeting 10:15 a.m.		
9th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19 8 and 10 a.m.	Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library		Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church		

AROUND THE DIOCESE

RESHARING A NOTE FROM ARCHBISHOP STEPHENS

As the situation in the West Bank and Gaza continue to deteriorate, we thought to share this message from Archbishop Stephens originally sent in May 2025.



May 2025

To the People of the Diocese of New Westminster

The situation in Gaza continues to be deeply troubling and is very much on my mind. I write this letter to you to name my concerns and invite your prayers.

On May 12, the United Nations published a news release stating that about one in five people in Gaza, about 500,000 people, are facing imminent starvation. To be clear, this is not due to a lack of food but a blockade that does not allow the supplies that are waiting to reach those in greatest need. This is intentional starvation and another step in the genocide of the people of Gaza. This is outrageous. There needs to be an immediate cease-fire and a quick shift to allow food, water, shelter, health care and other necessary supplies to enter Gaza. This intentional blockade goes beyond the acts of war to premeditated acts designed to decimate innocent people caught with no safe place to hide. A change must come immediately.

UNICEF's Executive Director, Catherine Russell, recently said, "The risk of famine does not arrive suddenly. It unfolds in places where access to food is blocked, where health systems are decimated, and where children are left without the bare minimum to survive. Hunger and acute malnutrition are a daily reality for children across the Gaza Strip. We have repeatedly warned of this trajectory and call again on all parties to prevent a catastrophe."

In our Diocese, we join with our Acting-Primate, Archbishop Anne Germond, and many others who have been calling for a cease-fire for many months. We join with Anglican Archbishop Hosam Naoum, of the Diocese of Jerusalem, who said recently: "As Anglicans living in the

Lands of the Holy One, and amid the many challenges we face, we share in Pope Leo XIV's call for the Church to bear witness to God's love and to be a voice for justice and peace. We also stand in solidarity with all who suffer, seeking to empower and support them."

In this Season of Easter, the Season of the Resurrection, we pray that light will shine in the darkness, that new life will be seen and known, that love will conquer hate, that God's grace would be seen, known and lived. I invite you to join me in praying for the people of Gaza and for all in power and authority in this region. May the Holy Spirit's wisdom be known. I encourage you to write to political leaders to join in urging for a cease-fire and the free-flowing of aid into Gaza.

O God of peace, be with those who suffer in the Gaza Strip. Be their source of strength and hope. Bring justice and peace to a region torn by war and violence. May compassion and mercy be known. May Jesus' words of 'Love one Another' be transformative and life-changing. We pray your light to shine now and always. Amen

Grace and Peace,

+John Stephens

Archbishop of the Diocese of New Westminster

AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

LOCAL WRITING CONTEST

Cecilia Lamont Literary Contest
Now open for submissions!
Contest closes
October 31, 2025

Enter your original prose and poetry

You choose: Prose (maximum 1200 words, any genre) or Poetry (up to 3 poems maximum 30 lines each; or one poem 31-75 lines). Your entry must not have been previously published or won placement in any other contest. **Your entry cannot include any AI generated content.**

Entries must be typed, double-spaced (for prose only), in Times New Roman 12 point font, or a similar size of another font.

Provide your personal details on a **separate document**: name, title of work, address, email, phone number and a short bio.

Do not have any identifying information on your entry/manuscript.
Enter as often as you wish.
Fee per entry: **\$10**

Electronic submissions:

Email entry, plus a separate **document** with your personal details, both in pdf format, to writeclcontest@gmail.com

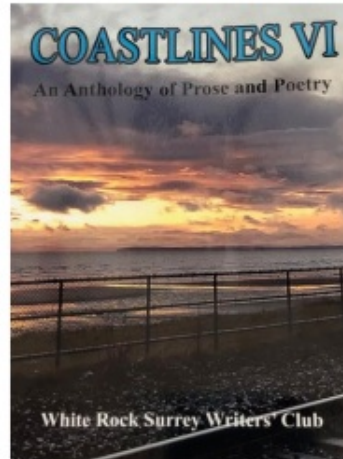
Type "Contest Entry" in the subject line of your email.

Pay by e-transfer to wrswc2@gmail.com
Auto-deposit is in place. Entries will be acknowledged by the Club.

Printed submissions:

Mail three (3) paper copies of your entry, plus your personal details on a separate page to:
Cecilia Lamont Literary Contest
c/o: Mr. Les Johnson
#217 – 15020 North Bluff Road
White Rock, BC V4B 5A4

Pay by cheque, payable to WRSWC. Entries will be acknowledged by the Club.



Winners will be announced
November 30, 2025

Winners and Awards

Awards in both categories (poetry and prose) will be presented at a special presentation on a date to be determined.

FIRST PRIZE: \$100

SECOND PRIZE: \$75

THIRD PRIZE: \$50

HONOURABLE MENTION: Certificate

The White Rock and Surrey Writers' Club is
a member of the Arts Council of
Surrey

EXTREME HEAT SUPPLIES NEEDED

DONATIONS NEEDED

Extreme Heat Supplies

- Sunscreen (small bottles)
- Bottled Water
- Reusable Water Bottles
- Single-Use Cooling Packs
- Gatorade
- Reflective Tent Tarps
- Hats & Spray Bottles
- Battery Operated Handheld Fans
- Coolers
- Granola Bars & Juice Boxes
- Freezies
- Gift Cards

All donations will support unhoused and vulnerable community members during heat events in Surrey-White Rock this summer.

Drop Off Locations:

SOURCES - Newton

Resource Centre

Newton - Surrey
#102 - 13771 72A Avenue
Monday - Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm
778-617-2222



SOURCES - Food Bank

South Surrey
2343 156th Street
Monday, Thursday, or
Friday
9am - 4pm
604-531-8168

NightShift Ministries

Whalley - Surrey
10635 King George Blvd
Monday - Friday
9:00am - 5:00pm
604-953-1114



Surrey Alliance Church (East Building)

13474 96th Ave
Monday - Thursday
10:00am - 4:00pm
604-584-7617

AROUND THE WORLD

ALONGSIDE HOPE - SOLAR SUITCASE

The Resilience Fund met the goal of donations greater than \$250,000 which resulted in a \$250,000 match! This will go in supporting communities in need around the globe. Thank you to all who contributed to Alongside Hope in support of this campaign

Alongside Hope does amazing work throughout the world. One of their more creative projects is the

development of a Solar Suitcase to be used by midwives in developing countries where electricity is not always available. Many times, children are born with only the aid of cell phone flashlight or kerosene lamps.

The Solar Suitcase is a bright yellow, solar-powered kit filled with light and lifesaving tools. It includes LED lights, a fetal Doppler, headlamps, and phone charging ports, everything needed to safely deliver a baby in a clinic that is not connected to the power grid. The Solar Suitcase is the 2025 Wild Ride fundraising project.. You can learn more about this program at the [Alongside Hope website](#). And, if you'd like to make a donation, you can do so [here](#).



TRUSTEES AND PARISH COUNCIL

Below is the list of elected and appointed positions through the 2025 vestry meeting:

Trustees

Father Joseph Dirbas (Rector)
Frances Fagan (Rector's Warden)
Sean Latimer (Associate Rector's Warden - Finance)
Jacqueline Sephton (People's Warden)
Erin Hallenburg (Property)
John Davison (Property)

Parish Council

Helen Brown (Stewardship / Service Ministry / Altar Guild)
Joan Dietrich (Stewardship)
Lyle Faulks (Finance / Treasurer)
Elizabeth Gaines (Pastoral Care / Altar Guild)
Kaye Kerlande (Hospitality & Synod Delegate)
Sean Latimer (Worship)
Charlotte O'Rielly (Youth Synod Delegate)
The Rev. Paul Richards (Screening in Faith Administrator)
Cindy Thornton-Veltri (Children/Youth/Family, Formation)
Veronica Wright (Community Services & Alternate Synod Delegate)

Secretary of the Corporation

Bonnie Gosselin (*pro tem*)

CONTACT US

Feel free to contact your church staff and lay leaders if you have any questions!

Staff

The Reverend Joseph Dirbas, Rector - jdirbas@holytrinitywhiterock.ca
The Reverend Paul Richards, Assistant to the Rector- prichards@holytrinitywhiterock.ca
Maria Golas, Music Director - mgolas@holytrinitywhiterock.ca
Bonnie Gosselin, Parish Administrator - bgosselin@holytrinitywhiterock.ca

Lay Leaders

Frances Fagan - rectors.warden@holytrinitywhiterock.ca
Jacqueline Sephton - peoples.warden@holytrinitywhiterock.ca
Sean Latimer - trustee.finance@holytrinitywhiterock.ca
Helen Davison - envelopes@holytrinitywhiterock.ca

General Info
office@holytrinitywhiterock.ca

Questions about Church or Liturgy
abbey@holytrinitywhiterock.ca

Find and follow us on Instagram: [htcwhiterock](https://www.instagram.com/htcwhiterock)
Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinitywhiterock



Visit our website

Church of the Holy Trinity | 15115 Roper Ave | White Rock, BC V4B 2E8 CA

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