



Situated on the ancestral and unceded land  
of our brothers and sisters of the Semiahmoo First Nation



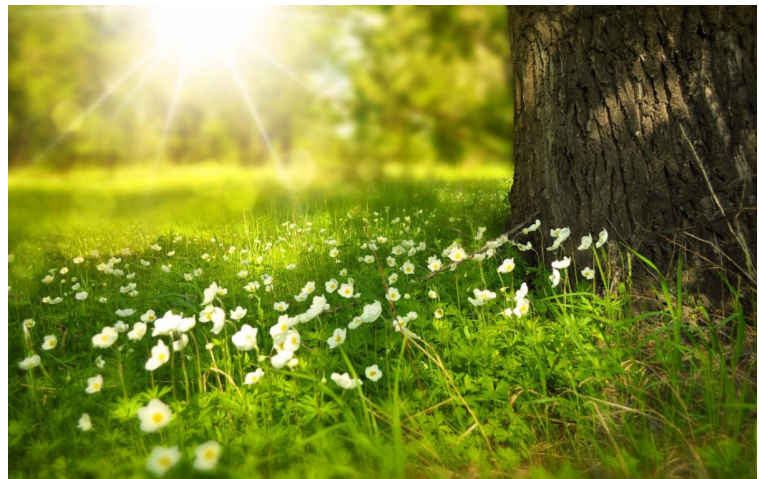
# Parish News & Upcoming Events

September 6, 2024

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

## SEASON OF CREATION by The Rev. Joseph Dirbas

From September 1st to October 4th every year, Christians around the world are invited to devote special attention to praying and caring for God's creation. In 2019, the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada passed a resolution adopting this season as a time of prayer, education, and action. The General Synod also encouraged dioceses and parishes to participate in the season of creation on a yearly basis.



It should be noted that the Season of Creation is not a liturgical season as are Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and the season after Pentecost (or the season following Trinity Sunday). The Season of Creation is a time set aside for intentional prayer and reflection on our relationship with the world and our stewardship of our planet.

While we haven't made any significant changes to our liturgy for this season, I would like to call our attention to current activities, upcoming opportunities, and resources available for you to participate in this Season of prayer and action. First, I would like to call your attention to the wonderful work of our parish gardeners who devote their time and attention to our church grounds, from the plants at the entrance to the church, the beautiful memorial garden, the greenery along the laneway behind the church, and the gardens and plants shared by the daycare. These dedicated volunteers include Herb Smart, Ruth Dean, Frieda Maloney, Gerard Ponsford, Carol De Boeck, Barb Cederlund, Audrey Mistiades, and others. Not to mention the many parishioners who tend to their own gardens and plants. As we do this work together, we connect with creation and thank God for the beautiful world we live in.

Second, every year at or near the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we offer a blessing of the

animals. This year we will offer the animal blessing at **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 29th.** (See below for more details.) This is an opportunity for us to gather at church with our animal companions and give God thanks and praise for their presence in our lives. It is an opportunity for us to recognize how we interact with creation daily and the importance and beauty of the natural order in our lives. It is also a way for us to recognize how the love of God is made manifest through the love we share with our pets.

Third, we have the wonderful gift of beautiful greenspace in and surrounding our community. On Friday, September 20, you are invited to join members of our congregation for a labyrinth walk at Eagles Nest Labyrinth at Kwomais Point Park. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time in nature and in prayer. You can find more later in this newsletter.

Fourth, You can register to join us on September 28 as we participate in the PWRDF mapping exercise. Together we will learn about the lands we have come from and the First Nations who's land we live and worship on today. You can register to participate in this event **on our website.**

Finally, you will notice in the bulletin every week there is a meditation on creation offered by the Scottish Episcopal Church and other sources. I encourage you to take your bulletins home (or download them from the website or **at this link**) and read this mediation throughout the week.

As we celebrate this Homecoming Sunday, giving thanks for our community, our parish, and our friends and families, may we also take time to give thanks to God for the many blessings we receive in this life including this beautiful, bountiful earth. I pray that we all may continue to respect our planet, use its resources wisely, and be aware of our impact on this fragile earth, our island home.

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## UPCOMING SERVICE LIVESTREAM LINKS



For those who are unable to be with us in church, the links for the livestream and the service bulletin for Holy Eucharist on Sunday, September 8 are below.

The Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost, Proper 23  
Homecoming Sunday  
September 8, 10:00 a.m.

Livestream

Bulletin

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## HOMEcomingsunday - SEPTEMBER 8

Be sure to mark your calendars and plan on

being with us on **Homecoming Sunday, September 8, 2024.**



HOMECOMING SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Homecoming Sunday is a time to welcome our parish family back from our various summer trips and activities. Homecoming Sunday also marks the beginning of the church program year as programs and activities around the parish re-engage after their summer breaks.

We will celebrate our Homecoming with a festive coffee hour after the 10:00 a.m. service. Come and celebrate with us as we give thanks to God for God's blessings and as we continue to grow into God's call for us.



### Worship Changes for Homecoming Sunday

Homecoming Sunday will also bring with it some changes to our worship. Our service music will change as we will use the Rutter *Gloria* and the Schubert *Sanctus* and *Agnus Dei*. We will also return to using Eucharistic Prayer 3 from the Book of Alternative Services and the traditional form of the Lord's prayer.

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## WELCOME OUR NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR

Please join our music director search committee and Fr. Joe in welcoming Maria Golas, our new Music Director. Maria's first day will be next week and she'll be with us on Sunday, September 15. Please be sure to introduce yourself and get to know this amazingly talented individual!



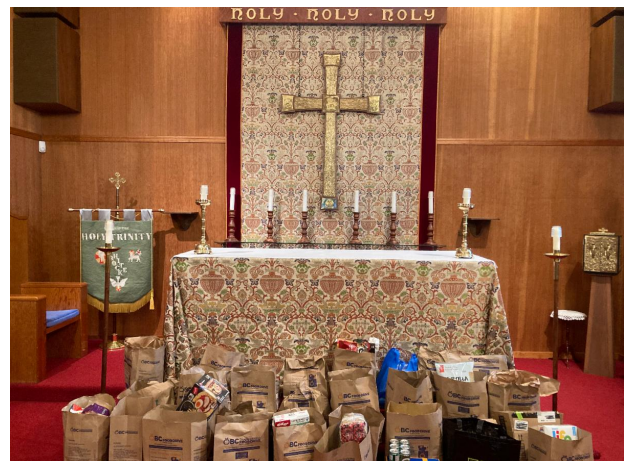
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## BC THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

On Sunday, September 8, paper bags for the BC thanksgiving Food Drive will be available. We invite you to take a bag home and fill it up with groceries to be returned on Sunday, September 15 or to the church office by September 19.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting this province-wide initiative!

Our own Food Bank Sunday, when fruit and vegetables are collected for Thanksgiving, will



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## PRAYER SHAWLS PLUS



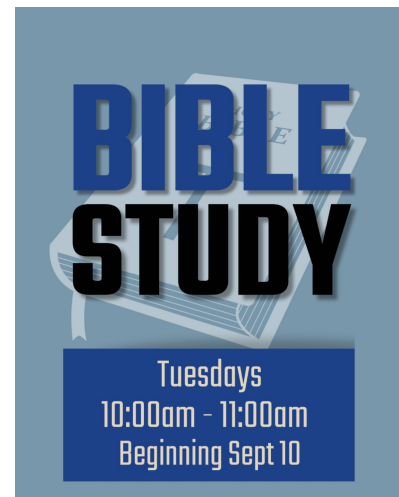
Our prayer shawl knitters will meet on Monday, **September 9 at 10:00 a.m.** in the library. Come and join us as we work together to produce knit items for those in our community and those in Norther BC and the Yukon.

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## TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our Tuesday morning bible study will reconvene after our summer break beginning on **September 10 at 10:00 a.m.** in the library. We'll continue exploring the epistles to the early church and discover their relevance in the current day.

All are invited to join us. There are no prerequisites and no barriers just come and be in conversation with us as we explore the scriptures.



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## CHRISTMAS CRAFTS AND CREATIONS

### Join us for “Thank You Thursdays!”

The Christmas Marketplace Committee is inviting you to show off your crafting skills on **Thursday afternoons**, Beginning **September 12**, from **1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** We'll gather in the library and work together to make beautiful crafts to be sold at our Christmas Marketplace on November 30.



Here is the schedule of upcoming craft sessions. All are invited to participate:

**September 12** - Gay Hallenburg and Cindy Thornton-Veltri will offer a felt holly garland workshop (bring a glue gun if you have one)

**September 19** - Susanna Hampson-Thorpe will lead us in a wooden Christmas craft

**September 26** - Joan Dietrich will help us with a Christmas wreath ornament

**October 3** - Cindy will lead us in sewing “warm hugs”

Come and join the fun. Materials will be supplied. If you are interested in participating, please sign up on the bulletin board in the library. See Susanna Hampson-Thorpe with questions.

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## SENIOR'S LUNCH - SEPT 19 at NOON



Our next Senior's Lunch is on Thursday, September 19, at noon in the parish hall. This lunch is a free offering from the church and all Seniors in our community and neighbourhood are invited to attend. We hope you will share this news with

your friends and neighbours. And, if you are planning to attend, please register on our website: [www.holytrinitywhiterock.ca/seniors-lunch](http://www.holytrinitywhiterock.ca/seniors-lunch)

RSVP to the Senior's Lunch

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## LABYRINTH WALK AT KWOMAIS POINT PARK

**Eagles Nest Labyrinth  
at Kwomais Point Park**  
(1367 128th St, Surrey)

If you are interested in walking the labyrinth at Kwomais Point Park on **Friday, September 20th at 10 a.m.** please sign up on the bulletin board in the church office. We'll arrange transport 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.

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## LET'S WEAR OUR NAME TAGS

Please remember to wear your name tag in church. Wearing your name tag provides an incredible hospitality to those who are visiting our parish, newcomers, and for those in our parish who may have a little more difficulty than others remembering names.

Name tags are in the back, alphabetically by first



name. If you discover that your name tag is missing or lost, please let Bonnie know, she will be happy to make a new one for you! And, if you are new and need a name tag, please write your name on the clipboard in the back of the church and we will have one made for you.

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## MAPPING EXERCISE AT HOLY TRINITY

A free interactive workshop  
from PWRDF

Saturday, September 28  
10 am to 12 noon  
Church of the Holy Trinity



Join us as we share our personal, political and economic histories using a map of Canada to show where we have come from and where we stand together today. The Mapping Exercise was developed by the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) as one practical response to the many calls to action from Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We will consider historical and current realities for Indigenous peoples and settlers, help participants to journey on the path of reconciliation and offer resources for further study and action.

The Reverend Michael Shapcott is a trained Mapping Exercise facilitator and serves as Executive Director of the Sorrento Centre in the Shuswap region of British Columbia. He is grateful to live, work, pray and play in Secwépemc'ulucw, where the Secwepemc people have lived since time immemorial practicing virtues of harmony and generosity.

Registration is limited to 25 participants. Register today via the link below or call the church office, 604-531-0884. If you have questions, please contact Carol De Boeck or Fr. Joe Dirbas

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## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

All are invited join us on  
September 29 at 2:00 p.m.  
for the  
Blessing of the Animals

We'll gather at the corner of Foster and Roper, outside  
the front door of the church and will pray and thank God  
for our beautiful animal companions.

Please let your friends and neighbours know!



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## TEA DANCE OCTOBER 26



John and Helen Davison are  
putting on another spectacular  
Tea Dance!

Saturday, October 26

Ticket sales will begin on  
September 29. Tickets are \$25  
each. All proceeds will be  
donated to the Sources Food  
Bank in South Surrey.

Feel free to grab a poster and share it in your strata or with your neighbours!

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## EVENSONG SEPTEMBER 29, 5:00 P.M.



# EVENSONG

## ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Sunday, September 29 | 5 p.m.

Church of the Holy Trinity  
White Rock

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## DEAR ABBEY



Dear Abbey,

Last week Fr. Joe included a prayer by Thomas Merton in his sermon. Can you tell me more about Thomas Merton and can you share that prayer?

Sincerely,  
Certain Merton

Dear Mulling,

Thomas Merton was an American Trappist monk, a branch from the Cistercian community. He is known as a writer, a mystic, a theologian, a poet, and a social activist. He was also a scholar of comparative religion and an advocate for interfaith understanding and dialog. Some of his books include, *Life and Holiness*, *Thoughts in Solitude*, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, *Contemplative Prayer*, and *The Silent Life*. Thomas Merton died on December 10, 1968. While the cause of death was not fully explained, some believe he was assassinated for his political

opposition to the war in Vietnam.

The prayer Fr. Joe used in his sermon comes from a meditation in Thomas Merton's *Thoughts in Solitude*, Part Two, Chapter Two.

“My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.”



## 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

**September 8 - HOMECOMING SUNDAY!**

**September 9, 10:00 a.m. - Prayer Shawl Knitters in the library**

**September 12, 1:30 - 3:30 - Thankful Thursday Christmas Crafts**

**September 19, noon - Seniors' Lunch**

**September 20, 10:00 a.m. - Kwomais Point Park Labyrinth Walk**

**September 28 - PWRDF Mapping Exercise in the Parish Hall**

**September 29, 2:00 p.m. - Blessing of the Animals**

**September 29, 5:00 p.m. - Evensong - St. Michael and All Angels**

EVENTS at  
THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Post 15 / Proper 22 Sunday Worship 8 and 10 a.m.	2 OFFICE CLOSED Labour Day	3 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church	4	5 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church Choir Vespers 10:00 a.m. in the Library	6	7
8 Post 16 / Proper 23 Sunday Worship 8 and 10 a.m. HOMECOMING SUNDAY	9 Prayer Shawl Knitters 10:00 a.m. - Library Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	10 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library	11	12 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church Choir Rehearsal 4:30 p.m. in church Christmas Crafts 1:30	13	14
15 Post 17 / Proper 24 Sunday Worship 8 and 10 a.m. Family Sunday & Food Drive Collection	16 Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	17 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in the church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library	18	19 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church Seniors' Lunch Noon - Parish Hall Christmas Crafts 1:30 Choir Rehearsal 4:30	20 Kwomais Point Park Labyrinth Walk 10:00 a.m.	21
22 Post 18 / Proper 25 Sunday Worship 8 and 10 a.m.	23 Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	24 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in the church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library Parish Council 7:00 p.m. - Library	25	26 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church Christmas Crafts 1:30 Choir Rehearsal 4:30	27 PWRDF Mapping Exercise Parish Hall	28
29 Post 19 / Proper 26 Sunday Worship 8 and 10 a.m. Annual Meeting 2 p.m. Evensong 5 p.m.	30 Women's Group 10:30 a.m. - Library	31 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m. in church Bible Study 10:00 a.m. - Library	1	2 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m. in church Christmas Crafts 1:30 Choir Rehearsal 4:30	3	4

**[Download the August / September Events Calendar here!](#)**

## PRAYERS REQUESTS

Our Book Nook on the on Foster Drive is a wonderful way for us to engage with the community. Not only do we share beloved books and interesting material, we also provide a slot for prayer requests. We don't get many requests, but the few we receive are retrieved by Fr. Joe and intentions for those prayers are made at our worship services. Whether they are prayers for healing or prayers for a new job, they are offered to God as we seek God's peace, together. Please pray for our neighbourhood and our neighbours. God bless you.



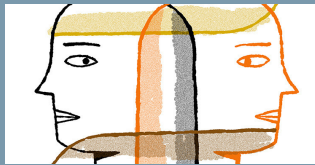
# DIRECTORY UPDATES

Do you have updates to your contact information? Please click on the link below to **update and/or add to your information in our database**. If you have any questions, please let Fr. Joe know. And, if you'd rather send an **email** directly to the office or phone Bonnie with updates, please do so!

[Update Contact Information](#)

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

### DISMANTLING RACISM



The next **Dismantling Racism Workshop** will be held on Saturday, 23 November 2024 at the Synod Office, 1410 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver. It starts at 8:45 am and concludes by 4:00 pm and is open to clergy and lay people. Clergy are reminded that it is a requirement of your licence that you complete this training every five years. The deadline to register is Monday, 18 November. Please register [here](#).

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### SIGLO DE ORO at ST. JAMES

**WHERE:** St. James Church  
**WHEN:** Friday, September 13  
**TIME:** 7:30 p.m.

England's celebrated vocal ensemble *Siglo de Oro* brings a programme of Renaissance and modern sacred music to St James' Anglican Church for their Canadian debut in Vancouver as they commence their 2024 Canada and USA tour.

Visit [sjmusic.ca](http://sjmusic.ca) for more information about Siglo de Oro, and for programme details.  
Tickets : <https://siglo.eventbrite.ca>



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### EVENSONG AT ST. JOHN'S SHAUGHNESSY

# CHORAL EVENSONG

September 15 at 4pm

St. John's, Shaughnessy  
1490 Nanton Ave.

## AROUND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

### SUPPORTING REFUGEE FAMILIES

From: Helen Armstrong, Chair Quaker Refugee Committee

Our Quaker church is very happy to report that the nine Afghan families we are helping are all thriving. Their basic furniture and kitchen needs have been met. There are a few items we would be grateful for if possible please:

- Bike locks
- iPads or laptops in good working condition
- Computer printers
- Small external pc desktop computer speakers
- Cotton or cotton-poly fabric to sew traditional Afghan clothes
- Gift cards for groceries



Thanks for your help. Please feel free to email me at [helenarmstrongslp@gmail.com](mailto:helenarmstrongslp@gmail.com) or phone 778-714-7874.

## 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)

Jacqueline Sephton (People's Warden)  
Erin Hallenburg (Finance)  
John Davison (Property)

### **Parish Council**

Susan Cummings (Pastoral Care & Alternate Synod Delegate)  
Helen Davison (Treasurer)  
Carol De Boeck (Community Services)  
Joan Dietrich (Stewardship)  
Susan Lazar (Worship)  
Charlotte O'Rielly (Youth Synod Delegate)  
Margot Owen (Pastoral Care & Synod Delegate)  
Mary Ponsford (Synod Delegate)  
The Rev. Paul Richards (Screening in Faith Administrator)  
Cindy Thornton-Veltri (Formation)  
Veronica Wright (Community Services & Alternate Synod Delegate)

### **Secretary of the Corporation**

TBA

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## 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](mailto:jdirbas@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)  
The Reverend Paul Richards, Assistant to the Rector- [prichards@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:prichards@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)  
Bonnie Gosselin, Parish Administrator - [bgosselin@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:bgosselin@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)

### Lay Leaders

Frances Fagan - [rectors.warden@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:rectors.warden@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)  
Jacqueline Sephton - [peoples.warden@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:peoples.warden@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)  
Helen Davison - [treasurer@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:treasurer@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)  
Jos Laskey - [envelopes@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:envelopes@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)

### General Info

[office@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:office@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)

### Questions about Church or Liturgy

[abbey@holytrinitywhiterock.ca](mailto:abbey@holytrinitywhiterock.ca)

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