



Welcome To PARISH OF CENTRAL SAANICH St. Stephen Church



APRIL 28, 2024 – EASTER 5

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31

We acknowledge that we gather to worship on the traditional lands of the WSÁNEĆ and Coast Salish peoples

St. Mary's Service:

Sunday Service: 9:00 a.m.

St. Stephen's Service:

Sunday Service: 11:15 a.m.

Continue to monitor our website - ParishCS.ca

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Incumbent The Rt. Rev. Dr. Logan McMenamie, Honorary Assistant

Associated Clergy: The Ven. Bob Baillie

The Rev. Dr. Brett Cane The Rev. Paul Schumacher, The Rev. Gil Shoesmith, deacon

Please practice Health protocols that make you feel comfortable. Please be sensitive to the comfort level of others.

11:15 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Book of Alternative Services

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego, Presiding & Preaching A Warm Welcome to all who worship with us, especially visitors. The congregation says or sings the items in **bold** typeface.

Prelude – All the People Said Amen

- Matt Maher, Paul Moak and Trevor Morgan ©2013 CCLI# 6518275

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Easter Greeting - Daisy Essery © 1990 CCLI# 3306590

Leader: The Lord is risen!

Congregation: The Lord is risen indeed!

All: Alleluia!

Leader: The Lord is risen!

Congregation: The Lord is risen indeed!

All: Alleluia!

Repeat as lead.

Gathering Song: Fear Not, Rejoice and Be Glad

– Priscilla Wright Porter © 1971 CCLI# 136289

Fear not, rejoice and be glad, The Lord hath done a great thing; Hath poured out His Spirit on all mankind, On those who confess His name.

The fig tree is budding, the vine beareth fruit, The wheat fields are golden with grain. Thrust in the sickle, the harvest is ripe, The Lord has given us rain.

Fear not, rejoice and be glad, The Lord hath done a great thing; Hath poured out His Spirit on all mankind, On those who confess His name.

Ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, The mountains will drip with sweet wine. My children shall drink of the fountain of life, My children will know they are mine.

Fear not, rejoice and be glad, The Lord hath done a great thing; Hath poured out His Spirit on all mankind, On those who confess His name.

My people shall know that I am the Lord, Their shame I have taken away. My Spirit will lead them together again, My Spirit will show them the way.

Fear not, rejoice and be glad, The Lord hath done a great thing; Hath poured out His Spirit on all mankind, On those who confess His name.

My children shall dwell in a Body of love, A light to the world they will be. Life shall come forth from the Father above, My Body will set mankind free.

Fear not, rejoice and be glad, The Lord hath done a great thing; Hath poured out His Spirit on all mankind, On those who confess His name.

The Gathering of the Community

Presider Almighty God,

All to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria – Mass for the King of Glory

Betty Carr Pulkingham © 1973 (arr. for one voice by Daisy Essery)

Glory to God,
Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Centering Stillness:

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God. (Silence)

The Prayer of the Day: O God, you give us the Son as the vine, apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, so that we bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

The Readings

Acts 8:26-40 - Lynda Clifford

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹ He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of

the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Here what the Spirit of God is saying

Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm 22:24-30 – Lynda Clifford

- ²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; * I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- ²⁵ The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: * "May your heart live for ever!"
- ²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- ²⁷ For kingship belongs to the Lord; * he rules over the nations.
- ²⁸ To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- ²⁹ My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- ³⁰ They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * **the saving** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

1 John 4:7-21 – Sue Smith

- ⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.
- ¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this

world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Here what the Spirit of God is saying

Thanks be to God

Gradual: I Am The Vine – John Michael Talbot © 1982 CCLI# 19533

I am the Vine, and you are the branches; Live in Me, and you will never die. I am the Vine, and my Father is the Keeper. Come to Me, let the Spirit bring new life.

Like the tree planted by the living water To stretch its roots into the living stream; You will show no distress in the heat of the drought, But still bear fruit and live.

I am the Vine, and you are the branches; Live in Me, and you will never die. I am the Vine, and my Father is the Keeper. Come to Me, let the Spirit bring new life.

Jackie: The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Jackie: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

John

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 15:1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

Jackie: The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

I Am The Vine (cont.)

Come to Me, all you heavy laden, My yoke is easy, My burden is light. I will raise you up on the wings of an eagle And to God's mountain we'll fly.

I am the Vine, and you are the branches; Live in Me, and you will never die. I am the Vine, and my Father is the Keeper. Come to Me, let the Spirit bring new life. Come to Me, let the Spirit bring new life.

Sermon – The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego

The Apostles' Creed (said)

Presider: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the People – Lynda Clifford

Lynda: Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore, in confidence and trust we pray for the Church: For all those who minister and teach in this Parish. Father, enliven the Church for its mission.

All: That we may be the salt of the earth and light to the world

Lynda: Help us to see needs in those around us, and enable us to bring the love of Christ to those who are responding to his call. Breathe fresh life into your people.

All: Give us the power to reveal Christ in word and action.

Lynda: We pray for the world: Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace. Guide all those in our national and local governments, Indigenous councils and all in authority. Be with us as we continue to seek reconciliation with

our First Nations neighbours. We thank you for doors already opened and the welcome shown.

All: That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Lynda: Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it. We ask your blessing on all the farmers as they prepare the land for new crops. We know that water and sunshine are necessary to have a good growing season, we are so thankful that we live in an area where we can have a ready supply of so many food items. Make us all aware of climate change and what we can do to help, give us knowledge and concern to be responsible residents of this part of your world.

All: Teach us to care creatively for the resources of these lands.

Lynda: We pray for the community: God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others.

All: That all act with integrity and courage.

Lynda: Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

Remembering friends and family who we do not see often but who we keep in our prayers. We are all thankful for the friends you have brought to each of us, and for the love and caring of our church family. We pray for Parish members Tracey Gordon and Nichola and David Wade and their families and also for Brett as he travels extensively, for his health and safety.

All: May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

Lynda: We pray for those in need: God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in Body, Mind and Spirit. Please lift the names of those who you are praying for now, either silently or aloud.

AND ...

All: May they know the power of your healing love.

Lynda: Make us willing agents of your compassion, help us to listen well.

All: Strengthen us as we share in bringing people wholeness.

Lynda: Lord, we remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone. Give comfort to those who mourn.

All: Bring them peace in their time of loss.

Lynda: We praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory.

All: May their example inspire and encourage us.

Lynda: Lord, you have called us to serve you.

All: Grant that we may walk in your presence; your love in our hearts,

your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The members of the community offer a sign of peace to one another in a manner that feels safe for you.

Please be sensitive to the comfort level of others.

Offertory Song: On Eagle's Wings - Michael Joncas © 1977

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life, Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain: And He will raise you up on eagles' wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear: Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day; Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

For to His angels He's given a command To guard you in all of your ways; Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain*

After the offering is placed on the Lord's Table, all sing:
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Jimmy Owens ©1972 Lexicon Music, Inc

Eucharistic Prayer #3

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;

we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus - music, Land of Rest, American traditional tune

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest; Hosanna in the highest.

Presider:

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you:

this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Presider:

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your daughters and sons; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

People Amen.

Lord's Prayer - Jodi Page © 1974 Celebration Services

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread #4

Presider: "I am the bread which has come down from heaven,"

says the Lord.

All Give us this bread forever.

Presider: "I am the vine, you are the branches."

All May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Administration of Holy Communion

All are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.

If you prefer not to receive communion but wish to receive a blessing,

please cross your arms over your chest. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

Music during Communion

<u>Prayer after Communion:</u> God of love, in this eucharist we have heard your truth and shared in your life. May we always walk in your way, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Presider Glory to God,

All whose love, working in us, can do infinitely more than we

can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever

and ever. Amen.

Blessing

Sending Song: *Go Tell Everyone* − *Kevin Mayhew* © 1982 CCLI# 968866

God's Spirit is in My heart, He has called Me and set Me apart. This is what I have to do, what I have to do.

He sent Me to give the good news to the poor, tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more; Tell blind people that they can see, and set the downtrodden free.

And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come,

And go tell everyone the news that God's Kingdom has come.

Just as the Father sent Me so I'm sending you out to be My witness throughout the world, the whole of the world.

He sent Me to give the good news to the poor,

tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more;

Tell blind people that they can see,

and set the downtrodden free.

And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come,

And go tell everyone the news that God's Kingdom has come.

Don't <u>carry</u> a load in your pack, you <u>don't</u> need two shirts on your back,

A workman can earn his own keep, can earn his own keep.

He sent Me to give the good news to the poor, tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more; Tell blind people that they can see, and set the downtrodden free.

And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come,

And go tell everyone the news that God's Kingdom has come.

Don't <u>worry</u> what you have to say, don't <u>worry</u> because on that day

God's Spirit will speak in your heart, will speak in your heart.

He sent Me to give the good news to the poor, tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more; Tell blind people that they can see, and set the downtrodden free.

And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come,

And go tell everyone the news that God's Kingdom has come. And go tell everyone the news that the Kingdom of God has come,

And go tell everyone the news that God's Kingdom has come.

Dismissal: Go forth in the name of the Risen Lord. Alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: God So Loved - Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash & Andrew Bergthold © 2019 CCLI# 7138599

Please join us for our monthly potluck luncheon in the Parish Hall CCLI# 245534

READINGS - MAY 5, 2024

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

AUTOMATIC ELECTRONIC DEFIBRILATOR – Our AED is now eight years old and has become obsolete. A new AED will cost \$1,500+/- and the cost of any replacement parts will be substantially lower. A new device has been ordered and should be in place soon. If you would like to help defray the cost of this important machine, you may do so by noting St. Stephen's AED in the memo line of your cheque and place it in an envelope with your number or name and address. You may also give using the "Donate" button on our website, selecting St. Stephen's AED from the

drop-down menu. Thank you for your consideration.

CLERGY CONFERENCE – April 29 to May 1, 2024 – Lon will be out of the office on the above dates attending the Diocesan Clergy Conference.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1 – There will be a service of Morning Prayer at St. Mary at 10:00 a.m. with Ken Pedlow presiding. Bible Study will follow.

WEEKLY PRAYER TIME - Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. (approximately one hour) at the home of Eva Townsend. Anyone who is interested may talk to Lon or Lynda Clifford (250-655-6478) regarding parking or location, etc.

ST. STEPHEN OUTREACH - In your offering envelope package you will find special monthly outreach envelopes. For those who do not have offering envelopes, you may bring your outreach offering in a plain envelope, marked "Outreach for Month of _____" with your name and address. You may also use the Donate button on our website and choose St. Stephen Outreach from the pull-down menu.

Apr.	General	Monies donated for General Outreach are used for
	Outreach	one-off grants with most dedicated Christmas
		outreach.
May	South Island	Our donations help fund programs and staffing at
	Counselling	this non-profit counselling and training agency
		which is funded solely through donations, fees,
		and grants.
June	Anglican Appeal	Donations support the mission work and
		ministry in Canada's North and our church
		partners overseas
July	Rector's	This is a dedicated fund under the Rector's
	Discretionary	control and discretion which provides (but is not
	Fund	limited to) financial assistance to members of
		the parish and the wider community.

ST. MARY'S SPRING FLING – is scheduled for the morning of May 25th. Please mark it on your calendars and watch for more information coming soon.

INTERCESSIONS

<u>Anglican Cycle of Prayer</u>: We pray for the Church of Bangladesh; the Anglican Church of Canada – Archbishops Linda, Lynn and Chris and the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples.

<u>Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:</u> We pray for Anna, our bishop; for the Parish of St. Dunstan, Gordon Head; for the people of the Centennial Park Campus of the Saanich Baptist Church.

Regional Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the Parish Pender and Saturna Island, Blair Haggart and the clergy that are rotating, and the people of the parish and neighbourhood.

<u>Our Parish Clergy:</u> Lon, Logan, Brett, Bob, Paul, Gil and all who minister.

<u>In our Parish:</u> We pray for Nichola & David Wade and Tracey Gordon and for their families.

For those ill or in need of prayer: Neville & Patricia, Roche, Diana A

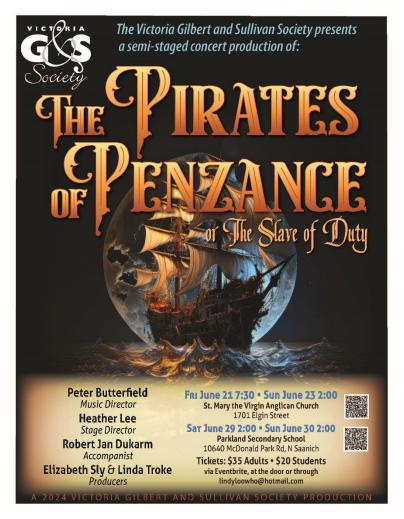
<u>For Those with Long-Term Needs:</u> Cheryl, Ted, Jillian S., Paul J., Phil J., Natalie, Jamie, Jane & Paul, Margery, Nancy J.

<u>For friends beyond the parish:</u> Jennifer, Jo-Jo, Margot, Sharie, John K., Helen, Andrew, Warwick, Sheila, Lynn W., Jim C., David F., Courtney, Dani R. & family, Hayden, Carlos, Bryan, Karen & family, Drew, Charlie John, Sheila P., Amy, Connie.

<u>In the greater community:</u> We pray for those impacted or endangered by the toxic drug supply crisis and also for their loved ones who are, or have been, impacted.

CLERGY CONTACT INFORMATION

The Ven. Dr. Lon Towstego His Cell Phone: (250) 208-9949 His email: ltowstego@bc.anglican.ca



Tickets are available from Rachel Moss at St. Stephen or you may email her at winterstar76@hotmail.com

Note: Worshippers may be photographed or recorded as part of the service. If this is of concern to you, please talk to the Minister or Wardens.

St. Mary's Anglican Church

1973 Cultra Avenue Saanichton, B.C. V8M 1L7 Office: 250-652-1611 stmarys.saanichton@shaw.ca

St. Stephen's Anglican Church

7921 St. Stephens Road Saanichton, B.C. V8M 1S2 Office: 250-652-4311 admin@parishcs.ca