

# Liturgy at Home

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St. James' Anglican Church



The Holy Family  
December 28, 2025 | 9:00 am



# Welcome

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We acknowledge with gratitude and respect our presence on the ancestral, traditional and un-ceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓xwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓ílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations.

Welcome to this St. James' "Liturgy at Home", which gathers together a community of worship for those prevented for various reasons from being in church for the celebration of Solemn Mass at 10:30 am on Sundays. For times for weekday Mass (in church) and Daily Office (online), please see the Notices pages at the end of this bulletin.

You are invited either to share in this Liturgy at 9:00 am on Sunday via Zoom, or to use its as an aid to your prayers at home. You will draw strength, we hope, from the knowledge that fellow-parishioners will be praying alongside you.

The Parish Intercession Lists are being prayed daily. Please make any requests to the Parish Office at [office@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:office@stjames.bc.ca).

The flowers on the High Altar  
are given to the Glory of God,

in loving memory of  
Brenda Lou-Hing.

# About St. James'

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St. James' is an inclusive Christian community, worshipping in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. For more information, please see our website: [www.stjames.bc.ca](http://www.stjames.bc.ca)

## **VISION STATEMENT**

Discovering the beauty of holiness in our lives and neighbourhood, by living a Christ-centred sacramental life rooted in the Anglo-Catholic tradition.

## **MISSION OBJECTIVES**

- To be a beacon for all as a neighbourhood and destination church where we invite and welcome friends, family, and strangers into our midst;
- To deepen our life of prayer and formation in Christ;
- To develop relationships and fellowship in open, honest, and spiritual ways among parishioners, with our neighbours, and those in need;
- To pursue and practice justice and mercy for the imparting of the Kingdom of God within and beyond the Parish;
- To strive to maintain financial equilibrium, develop our reserves, and optimize the use of our assets to ensure the preservation of our sacred space and ministry from generation to generation, to the everlasting glory of God.

# A Reflection

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Lully, lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.  
Lullay, thou little tiny Child,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

O sisters too, how may we do,  
For to preserve this day  
This poor youngling for whom we do sing  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Herod, the king, in his raging,  
Charged he hath this day  
His men of might, in his own sight,  
All young children to slay.

That woe is me, poor Child for Thee!  
And ever mourn and sigh,  
For thy parting neither say nor sing,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

*The Coventry Carol – 16<sup>th</sup> century*

# Opening Rite

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## INVOCATION

Gathering together on the ancestral, traditional and un-ceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱xwú7mesh (Squamish), and səl̓ilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, we meet

+In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the Lord.

**Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**

From eternity to eternity you are God,  
**and now we see you as a newborn child.**

## HYMN

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

## PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

God the Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit.  
Let us therefore put away all anger and bitterness,  
all slander and malice,  
and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

Lord Jesus, you are Mighty God and Prince of Peace:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and Splendour of the Father:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins, and keep us in eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Glory be to God on high,  
and on earth peace, good will towards men.  
We praise thee, we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee,  
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,  
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that taketh away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

Thou that taketh away the sin of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,  
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord;  
thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
+art most high in the glory of God the Father.

**Amen.**

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

you have shed upon us the new light  
of your incarnate Word.

May this light, enkindled in our hearts,  
shine forth in our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

# Liturgy of the Word

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## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,  
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,  
because of all that the Lord has done for us,  
and the great favour to the house of Israel  
that he has shown them according to his mercy,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
For he said, 'Surely they are my people,  
children who will not deal falsely';  
and he became their saviour  
in all their distress.  
It was no messenger or angel  
but his presence that saved them;  
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

(Isaiah 63:7-9)

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Hallelujah!  
Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise him in the heights.  
Praise him, all you angels of his;  
praise him, all his host.

**Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him, all you shining stars.  
Praise him, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord;  
for he commanded, and they were created.  
He made them stand fast for ever and ever;  
he gave them a law which shall not pass away.

**Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea-monsters and all deeps;  
Fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;  
Wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and wingèd birds;

**Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;  
Young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**

Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name only is exalted,  
his splendour is over earth and heaven.

**He has raised up strength for his people  
and praise for all his loyal servants,  
the children of Israel,  
a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

(Psalm 148)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

And again,  
'I will put my trust in him.'

And again,  
'Here am I and the children whom God has given me.'

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

(Hebrews 2:10-18)

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA

**Alleluia.** Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; for it becometh well the just to be thankful. **Alleluia.**

## THE GOSPEL READING

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Now after the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

'A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

(Matthew 2:13-23)

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## **HOMILY**

Mother Amanda Ruston

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us bless the living God:

Christ is born of the Virgin Mary,  
**revealed in his glory,**

worshipped by the angels,  
**proclaimed among the nations,**

believed in throughout the world,  
**exalted to the highest heavens.**

Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,  
**now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Celebrant:*

Let us pray to Christ, our Saviour.

*Intercessor:*

For Charles our King, the leaders of the nations and all in authority,  
that the people of the world may lead quiet and peaceable lives.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For continuing action in the face of the climate emergency,  
and for an end to famine, fire, and flood throughout all the earth.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For your holy Church throughout the world,  
that the visible unity of all Christians may be a witness to your love.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For Bishop Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury-elect, and for;

- The Anglican Church of Canada
- Archbishop Shane, our Primate; Archbishop John, our Metropolitan
- Archbishop Christopher and all Indigenous People working toward Ordination,
- Bishop Benny and our companion diocese of Northern Philippines,
- and in our Diocese, for the parishes of:
  - St. John the Evangelist, North Vancouver; St. John, Shaughnessy
  - and in our own parish of St. James.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all who are sick or in need, especially Peter Symons; Rocky Rocksborough-Smith;  
Julia Glass; Alex McKenzie; Gillian Budd; Aisha & Hellen; David Gagnon;  
Rikke & Bjorn; Kasen Baker; Kenzie Baker; Gordon Wrightman; Roger Lavolette;  
Gary,

and for our Street Outreach, especially Martin; Lindsay; Antonio; Ian Bee; Darren; Francesca; the Howard family; Baker Mike; Joey; Jenny; Vinnie; Dr Susan Burgess, Dr Brian Conway, and all doctors serving this community.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

For all who have died recently, especially Sheila Wallace; Elizabeth Feeley; Peggy Hughes; Nathan Howard; Adam Williams,

and for all those whose anniversary of death we commemorate at this time: Roland Schou; Ngoc Chat Ung; Julia Brooke; Dorothy McDonald; Nel Fedden; Bob Clarke; Mary Brown; Gary Campbell; Norman Green; Don Chassels, priest; Eric Munn, priest; Annie Stringer; Miriam Wilson; Margaret Connolly; John Hendry; and Joseph Pettitt.

+Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord.

**And may light perpetual shine upon them.**

May they rest in peace.

**Amen.**

*Celebrant:*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of Holy Mary, the Mother of God, and St. Joseph, St. James, our Patron, and all the Saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life, to you, our Lord and God.

**Amen.**

# Spiritual Communion

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: have mercy upon us.  
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world: grant us thy peace.

## SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*As we are unable to receive the Blessed Sacrament at this time,  
meditate quietly for a moment on these words of Jesus from St. John 6:*

*“I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, whoever  
believes in me will never thirst.”*

*Then, in union with the Body of Christ in every time and place, pray:*

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus. There is room in my heart for thee.

## HYMN

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord, Emmanuel.

# Concluding Rite

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.  
Source of truth and joy,  
may we who have received the gift of divine life  
always follow the way of your Son.  
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.  
**Amen.**

## THE GRACE

Christ, the Son of God, born of Mary,  
fill us with grace to trust his promises and obey his will.  
**Amen.**

May the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
+and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with us all evermore.  
**Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## ALMA REDEMPTORIS MATER

O loving mother of the Saviour,  
ever the open gate to heaven,  
and star of the sea,  
O hasten to aid us,  
who though falling strive to rise again.

Bearing as a virgin, while nature stood in awe,  
your own Maker, your own holy Lord,  
ever virgin, after as before,  
when the mouth of Gabriel  
uttered that great 'Ave,'  
O take pity on us sinners.

# Clergy Notes

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It sometimes seems harsh to move within a few days from the celebration of the coming of the Christ-child to the slaughter of the innocents on this first Sunday after Christmas.

However, although the scriptures, and especially the gospel accounts are there to inspire and nurture our faith, they are also to guide us through the most difficult events in our lives. As we look at our world we are constantly reminded of the 'slaughter of innocents' whether in the misery of Gaza or Ukraine, to name just two places. And closer to home we know that many suffer on the streets of the Downtown East Side especially during the winter weather.

So why this reading today? Firstly, it is a reminder of the killing that Herod perpetuated around the birth of Jesus as he was threatened that a new leader might emerge from the Palestinian people to expose his power and position. Often it is those most insecure, like Herod, who visit damage and destruction on the those most vulnerable. Secondly it is to stand up against those who endanger the lives and welfare of others, especially those who are most at risk: the young and elderly, women, those of different ethnic backgrounds, colour or sexual orientations.

Although the Christian gospel exists to give us our faith, our faith should lead us to be there for others in our families, amongst our friends, in our neighbourhoods as well as across the world. Only when we seek to live our life as Jesus did, by being on the side of the poor and marginalized, can we really be faithful to the name we seek to bear.

So, as we continue to celebrate the feast of Christ, may we be reminded to stand up, as he did, for the most vulnerable in our society.

*Father Stephen Rowe*

# Notices

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## REGULAR SERVICE TIMES

<b>Saturday</b>	4:00 pm: Vigil Mass in church
<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am: Liturgy at Home via Zoom
	10:30 am: Solemn Mass in church
<b>Weekdays</b>	12:10 pm: Monday, Wednesday, Friday in church
	9:30 am: Tuesday, Thursday in church

## A HAPPY, PEACEFUL AND SAFE NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL!

Special thanks to all who donated flowers and contributed extra time and talent to ensure our holiday season went smoothly and joyfully! Our parish community continues to be a witness to Christ's love and light in this neighbourhood and beyond. The ministry we offer in Christ's name is only made possible through your dedication. God bless you!

## CHANGES TO REGULAR SCHEDULE

Daily Mass is cancelled on **December 31 and January 1**.

The parish office will be closed **until Monday, January 5**. For pastoral matters, please contact Mtr. Amanda directly.

## BIBLE STUDY CANCELLED DECEMBER 31

We'll see you in 2026!

## OUR GRATITUDE

As they complete their interim term as co-Music Directors, we wish to express our gratitude to **Brigid Coul and Susan Ohannesian** for their expertise, their talent, and their good humour as they helped St. James' navigate through a time of transition in our music ministry. Thank you Brigid and Susan!

Today also marks diaconal postulant **Jenn Ashton**'s last Sunday with St. James'. We thank her for her many contributions and wish her well on her continuing journey.

## ORDO KALENDAR 2026

The new St. James' Ordo Kalendar is available now at the back of the church. A minimum donation of \$20 is suggested for those able.

## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

Calling on all Clergy, Wardens, Treasurer, Guild Presidents, Committee Leaders, and other usual contributors, to submit Annual Reports to the office by January 26, 2026. Plans for the Annual Vestry Meeting will be forthcoming.

## **ARCHIVED LIVE STREAMS AVAILABLE NOW**

Share in the beauty of the moments from anywhere! Mother Amanda's induction, Nine Lessons and Carols, and Midnight Mass were live streamed and the archived videos are available on demand now at [legacystreaming.com/st-james-anglican-church-vancouver](http://legacystreaming.com/st-james-anglican-church-vancouver).

## **PRAY THE ROSARY IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL**

Bring your rosary if you have one on **Saturdays at 3:30 pm**. No experience necessary: instructions and booklets will be provided. All are welcome!

## **BIBLE STUDY**

On **Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**, we hold Bible Study in the library of the Parish Centre and via Zoom. Each week we explore a passage of scripture and wonder together about its meaning and implications for our lives as Christians today. All are welcome! No registration required. If you would like to be sent the reading and questions ahead of time, please contact Mother Amanda.

Zoom Meeting ID: 841 6396 2965 / Zoom Passcode: 247805

## **THE DAILY OFFICE**

The Daily Office is said online via Zoom **Monday through Saturday at 9:00 am and 5:00 pm**. Join via Zoom app or by phone at 778-907-2071.

Zoom Meeting ID: 986 3976 8391 / Zoom Passcode: 762469

## **FRIDAY NIGHT COMPLINE**

You are invited to join this small but lively group of people, praying Compline together from the BCP. We meet at **9:00 pm Friday nights**. Bring your own book, or contact Mtr Amanda for the PDF order of service. Join via Zoom app or by phone at 778-907-2071.

Zoom Meeting ID: 272 505 973 / Zoom Passcode: 688517

# Lectionary

DATE	MORNING PRAYER 9:00 AM	DAILY MASS	EVENING PRAYER 5:00 PM
MON December 29 <b>Holy Innocents</b>	Ps 2, 26; Is 49:13-23; Mt 18:1-14	1 Jn 2:7-11; Ps 96:1-9; Lk 2:22-35	Ps 19, 126; Is 54:1-13; Mk 10:13-16
TUES December 30 <b>St. Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170</b>	Ps 20, 21:1-7; 1 Kgs 17:17-24; 3 Jn 1-15	1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40	Ps 23, 27; Is 60:19-22; Jn 4:46-54
WED December 31 John West, Missionary, the Red River, 1845	Ps 46, 48; 1 Kgs 3:5-14; Jas 4:13-17, 5:7-11	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18	Ps 90; Is 65:15b-25; Rev 21:1-6
THUR January 1 <b>The Naming of our Lord Jesus Christ</b>	Ps 103; Is 62:1-5, 10-12; Rev 19:11-16	Num 6:22-27; Ps 8; Phil 2:5-11; Lk 2:15-21	Ps 148; Gen 17:1-12a, 15-16; Mt 1:18-25
FRI January 2 SS. Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops & Teachers of the Faith, 379, 389	Ps 34; 1 Kgs 19:1-8; Eph 4:1-16	1 Jn 2:22-29; Ps 98:1-5; Jn 1:19-28	Ps 33; Gen 12:1-7; Jn 6:1-14
SAT January 3 Feria	Ps 68; 1 Kgs 19:9-18; Eph 4:17-32	1 Jn 3:1-6; Ps 98:1-2, 4-7; Jn 1:29-34	Ps 29, 98; Is 66:18-23; Rom 15:7-13
SUN January 4 <b>Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b>	Ps 46, 97; Is 49:1-7; Rev 21:22-27	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-7, 10-14; Eph 3:1-12; Mt 2:1-12	Ps 96, 100; Is 52:7-10; Mt 12:14-21

## **CLERGY**

Rector: Mother Amanda Ruston: [mtr.amanda@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:mtr.amanda@stjames.bc.ca)

Non-Emergency #: 604-685-2532 xt 504   Emergency #: 604-825-2379

Street Outreach: Father Matthew Johnson: [matthew@streetoutreach.net](mailto:matthew@streetoutreach.net)

Non-Emergency #: 604-685-7522 or #: 604-685-2532 xt 502

Honorary Assistants: Father Neil Gray; Father Neil Fernyhough ;

The Reverend Joyce Locht, Deacon (ret'd); Sister Mary Christian Cross, Deacon (ret'd)

## **PARISH STAFF**

Parish Administrator: Fiorella Mauro: Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri: [office@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:office@stjames.bc.ca)

Music Directors (Interim): Brigid Coult/Susan Ohannesian

Music Series: [musicseries@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:musicseries@stjames.bc.ca)

Building Manager: Darren Campbell: Tues-Sat: 7 am - noon, 778-839-4432

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

Chair: Louisa Farrell

## **PARISH OFFICERS**

Rector's Warden: Reece Wrightman [wardens@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:wardens@stjames.bc.ca)

Warden: Leah Postman [wardens@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:wardens@stjames.bc.ca)

Warden: Joanna Lam [wardens@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:wardens@stjames.bc.ca)

Trustees: Ross Hornby; Michelle Heshka; Bev Wilson

Treasurer: Andrew Campbell [treasurer@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:treasurer@stjames.bc.ca)

Envelope Secretary: Wayne Sample [envelope.secretary@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:envelope.secretary@stjames.bc.ca)

Parish Privacy Officer & Vestry Clerk: Linda Adams



St. James' Anglican Church | Diocese of New Westminster |  
Anglican Church of Canada | 303 East Cordova Street, Vancouver, BC, V6A 1L4  
T: 604-685-2532 E: [office@stjames.bc.ca](mailto:office@stjames.bc.ca) | Web: [www.stjames.bc.ca](http://www.stjames.bc.ca)