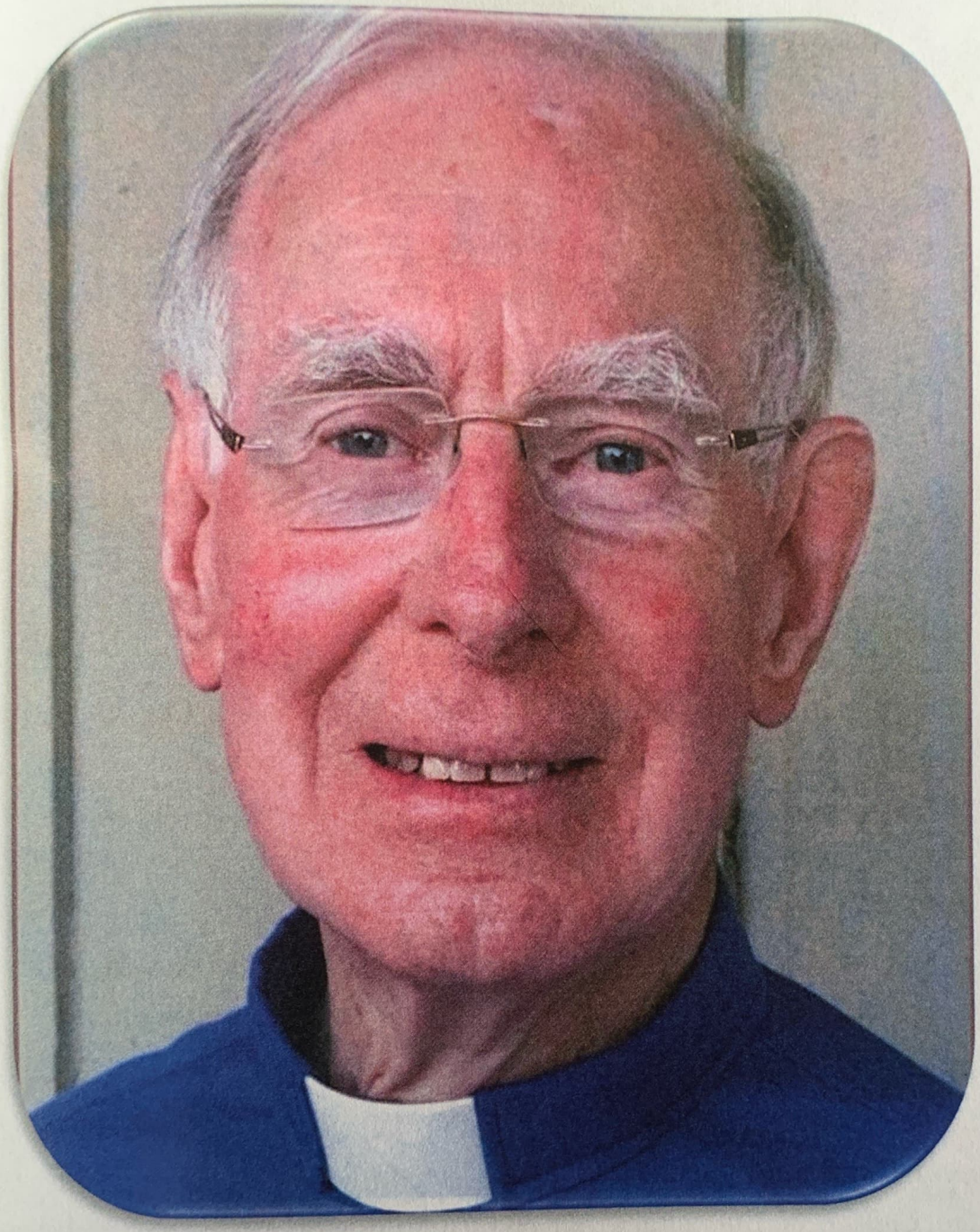
Welcome To

ST. DAVID'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
TSAWWASSEN



IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

The Rev. Arthur John Nash

June 11, 1942 - January 7, 2025

(April 5, 2025)

Rev. Arthur J Nash

June 11, 1942 - January 7, 2025

Arthur John Nash (Reverend) was born on June 11, 1942 in St. Peter's Rectory, Cork, Ireland, and grew up as a "Priest's Kid" (P.K.) in the modern vernacular, as his father was an Anglican Priest in the Church of Ireland. Arthur's parents were the Reginald and Cora Nash and he had an older sister, Rayleen also born in Cork, Ireland (all predeceased). Arthur is survived by his family: Sons David, Stephen (Chrissy) and their children [his adored grandchildren]: Curtis, Dylan and Michael, and his Daughter Valerie (Ryan).

Arthur took life's challenges and saw them as an adventure. Arthur started life in Cork, Ireland and then moved with the family to the Rectory of St. James', Mallow. From there Arthur attended briefly attended Villier's school in Limerick before going to Kingston Grammar School in Dublin and then later Middleton College in Middleton, Cork (both were boarding schools). Arthur then spent the last two years of his schooling at Villier's school in Limerick; his parents had since moved and were a part of the church communities of Trinity and St. John's, Limerick. After Arthur finished school, he worked a few jobs while discerning a career. Arthur worked for a summer at Heinz in the U.K. in their tasting room as a prep server and then worked for a term at a boys' school in Sussex.

He was baptized at St Peter's, Cork and confirmed at St Mary's Cathedral, Limerick. After some discernment, Arthur felt the call to go into Christian ministry. Arthur applied and was accepted to go to theological college at the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada following in the footsteps of his Dad who had previously done his training there. Funding for Arthur's theological training was provided for by the "Commonwealth and Continental Church Society"- a protestant missionary society that sought to bring new clergy out to commonwealth countries in exchange for committing to completing a couple years of rural ministry.

So, in 1963, Arthur immigrated to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to go to theological school and in so doing followed his sister Rayleen to Canada who had immigrated a few years earlier and was living in Toronto. (Arthur's parents remained in Ireland until they retired in 1969 then likewise immigrated to Canada).

Arthur completed his theological training and was ordained Deacon by the Rt Reverend W. Crump. At special request, Arthur was able to be ordained Deacon at St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick on June 24, 1968 (St. John the Baptist Day). Arthur was later ordained Priest at the parish church of St. Andrew's, Shellbrook, Saskatchewan on St. Barnabas Day (June 11, 1969) where he was working at the time. It could be said that Arthur's Christian faith and belief was greatly influenced by his parents as well as an upbringing in the Church of Ireland, which was considered "low church" with an emphasis on scripture preaching and the sacraments and less emphasis on ritual.

In about 1972, Arthur left Saskatchewan and moved to the West coast of Canada taking up a shared ministry position of Priest as part of the Parish of Four Saints, Langley and was specifically responsible for the parishes of St. Dunstan's, Aldergrove and St. Alban's, Otter, but was also connected with St. Andrew's, Langley and St. George's, Ft. Langley. On August 10, 1973 Arthur married Katherine (nee Johnston) at St. Dunstan's. In October, 1979 Arthur changed parishes to take up the role of Rector of St. David's in Tsawwassen, Delta and was there until 1988. From there Arthur moved to live in Richmond and spent the next year in interim ministry at St. Stephen's, West Vancouver and then St. Bartholomew's, Gibsons. In 1989, Arthur became the Assistant, and later Associate Priest of St. Alban's, Richmond and was there until March, 1993, where he then took up his final role as the Rector of St. Margaret of Scotland, Burnaby where he remained until he retired in June, 2008. Arthur was part of various diocesan committees over the years as well as a Member of the Cathedral Chapter for a term. Retirement for Arthur probably lasted all of 3 months before he answered the call to go back into interim ministry and help out around the diocese looking after the parishes of St. Andrew's, Langley; Holy Trinity, Vancouver; St. David's, Tsawwassen and St. Cuthbert's, North Delta. Arthur was also a big supporter of Sorrento

Centre, the Anglican Church Conference Centre on the bank of the Shuswap. In total, Arthur spent over 50 years in Christian Ministry and was working as recently as this past December at St. David's, Tsawwassen.

Arthur loved to travel and had an interest in historical places. He travelled on pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Egypt and Israel) as well as Greece. He also went on a couple of the travel tours offered by the Vancouver School of Theology to the UK and Germany, France and Italy. Arthur had also travelled to various places around the United States and Caribbean as well as Canada. When he was not travelling to far off distant places, Arthur liked to go camping with his family. Many fun summers were spent camping at various Thousand Trails campsites around Canada and the United States. There were also several "long" drives up to Fort McMurray, Alberta to visit his family there. Arthur of course loved to travel back home to Ireland and was there as recently as June, 2023 and 2024.

Arthur also loved animals and over the years had a few, most notable in later years were Sherlock and Riley, both golden labs and were very much part of his ministry.

Arthur also liked to keep active and went to the gym regularly as well as playing various sports as time and age allowed. Arthur was part of the group that used to meet Wednesday mornings to play badminton in the hall at St. John's, Shaughnessy. Arthur also liked to go for a bike ride and loved to ski. Arthur skied for many years until he had a hip replaced.

Arthur saw life as an adventure and was always doing something. He had a lively and active Christian faith that was lived out in both his life and ministry. Arthur had the belief that we are not meant to be a spectator as a Christian but to be actively involved in the church, community and world. Arthur passed away at home on Tuesday, January 7, 2025. He leaves behind wonderful memories for his family and many friends.

Our Walk Together