

Our Mission Statement

Guided by Holy Scripture and the Holy Spirit, we the congregation of Holy Trinity pledge our lives to Christ. Through worship, love, and service to one another, we will bring witness and encouragement to the community.

Rector: The Rev. Randy Lockyer 489-6597 (Home) or 489-3002 (Church Office)
E-mail: holytringf@nf.sympatico.ca; Website :<http://www.holytrinitygrandfalls.ca>

Christmas Bulletin – December 24 – January 8

The bulletin has been given to the glory of God and in loving memory **Donald & Florence Hiscock** by Sons & Daughters.

Service Times for December 24 – January 8

Christmas Eve	Family Christmas Worship	6:00 p.m.
	Midnight Christmas Eucharist (BAS)	11:00 p.m.
Christmas Day	Holy Eucharist (BAS)	9:30 a.m.
Thursday, December 29	Holy Eucharist (BAS)	9:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 31	Holy Eucharist (BAS)	11:00 p.m.
	Thanksgiving for 2016 and Welcome 2017	
Sunday, January 1 New Year's Day	Holy Communion (BCP)	8:30 a.m.
	Morning Prayer (BCP)	10:30 a.m.
The Naming of Jesus	No Evening Service Today	
Thursday, January 5	Holy Communion (BCP)	9:30 a.m.
Sunday, January 8 Epiphany 1 Baptism of the Lord	Holy Communion (BCP)	8:30 a.m.
	Holy Eucharist (BAS)	10:30 a.m.

Readings:

<i>Christmas Eve:</i>	Isaiah 9:2-7 Hubert Griffin	Titus 2:11-14 Barbara Leyte	Luke 2:1-20 David Mercer
<i>January 1:</i>	Numbers 6:22-27 No appointed readers	Galatians 4:4-7	Luke 2:15-21
<i>January 8:</i>	Isaiah 42:1-9 Ann Shears	Acts 10:34-43 Gordon Shears	Matthew 3:13-17 Patricia Hammond

Welcome. A warm welcome to our Christmas Services. Thank you for being with us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. If this is your first time here, we appreciate you joining with us as we come together as a family to honour our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. If you are new, please introduce yourself to our Greeters and Clergy, and sign our guest book.

Many Thanks to our Choir. Thank you for the beautiful worship service last Sunday, December 18.

2017 Church Envelope Boxes. The boxes are in the foyer of the church. If your envelope box is not there; or if you would like to receive a box of envelopes for the first time, please call David and Judy Mercer at 489-7235. They will be happy to assist you.

Finance. Parish books will soon close for 2016. All offerings received after December 31 will be receipted in 2017. If you would like to ensure that your offerings for 2016 are receipted for this year, please get them into the church before January 1.

Confirmation for 2017. Confirmation is scheduled for Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 a.m. We will begin preparation for Confirmation early in the New Year. Anyone wishing to be confirmed at that time must let Rev. Randy know before January 22. Anyone being confirmed must be at least 11 years of age by May 31, 2017.

Financial Support. Thank you for your financial support of your church in 2016. The parish gets by each year entirely dependent upon your support as a member of the church. Each year in running our homes, we experience costs increase that is often beyond our control. Be assured that the Vestry at Holy Trinity makes every effort to ensure that the money we receive from you is used in the most efficient way possible. Each year, by God's grace and providence, and from your faith and generosity, we are able to meet the needs of the church. We are thankful for that. As we say farewell to 2016, we are hopeful that 2017 will also be a year of blessings on our parish and upon each one of you.

Home Communions. If you know of someone who might like to receive Holy Communion at home because they are no longer able to get out to church for worship, please let Rev. Randy know.

Church Bulletins in Memoriam. A new chart is now available. Anyone wishing to donate a bulletin for a particular Sunday may do so by entering the details on the chart located in the main foyer. The cost of a Memorial Bulletin is \$35. Please place your money in an envelope and mark it Memorial Bulletin.

End of an Era at Mint Brook Camp! Recently our Diocesan Executive had to make a very painful decision to cease operations at Mint Brook. Rising costs and fewer campers each year meant that the camp has been operating at a significant deficit each year, and that was unlikely to change in the future. As well, the camp urgently needed an infusion of upwards of a half million dollars to bring it up to code. As stewards of the resources that come to our Diocese from the 32 parishes, many of which struggle themselves, it was deemed poor stewardship to keep the camp open any longer. That does not mean an end to the activities that go on at camp. It simply means we need to do them somewhere else. The February Clergy Retreat will be held at Max Simms Camp. The boys and girls camps next summer will be held there as well. We will simply make use of facilities that already exist, and even if it cost a little more to do so, it will still be less than Mint Brook. We thank God for Mint Brook in the past, and for all the blessings that came from it. Many people in our Diocese have many memories of time spent there--indeed lives that were changed there. We honor those memories and those moments in time. But, we also realize that God moves wherever His people gather in His name, whether that is Mint Brook, Max Simms Camp or any other venue the Diocese will use to carry out the various activities formerly done at Mint Brook. God is opening up a new chapter in how our Diocese operates, and we have every hope that He is calling us to something greater. What will happen to Mint Brook camp will be determined at a future time. But please pray for the various Diocesan groups that will be meeting at other venues in the future.

Greeters—December 24. David Mercer, Ena DaCosta, Anne Hiscock, Winston Ellsworth, Gerry Dobbin, Amanda Constable

Greeters—December 25. David Wells, Ron Antle, Bob Hiscock, Martha Beson, Audrey Bishop

Greeters--January 1. Fred & Linda Pafford, Hubert Griffin, Margaret Pomeroy, Heather Howse

Bulletin. Items for the next bulletin, January 8 must be submitted to Linda by **Friday, January 5.** Please e-mail linda.pafford@nl.rogers.com or call (489-9801).

Christmas Messages

It seems such a short time ago when many were concerned about what would happen when our calendar rolled over from 1999 to 2000. Would the airplanes continue to fly? Would our money be okay in the bank? Would our computers crash? And yet 2000 came in just the same as every other year before and since. But I do remember it being a time of anxiety for many, and that is so often the case, isn't it? We worry about things needlessly and forget that God is in control of even the things we can't control. Anxiety and stress can cause a lot of negative things to happen to us in so many ways, and most of the time we come to realize that we worried needlessly, that all turned out well.

I wonder about the stress Mary and Joseph were under when they made that journey to Bethlehem so long ago? Mary was very far along in her pregnancy, in the middle of nowhere on the back of a donkey, and Joseph was given the task of making sure she was safe, and the holy child she carried would be born safely. Being human, I'm sure they were very worried and stressed, after all Mary was to have a baby and there was no one to help with the delivery. What if her time to deliver was on that cold and dirty road on the way to Bethlehem, would everything be okay? No doubt, Joseph was praying to God that they would reach the city, that they would find a nice warm inn with all the comforts of the day, and that someone qualified, perhaps even a doctor, would be available to help Mary deliver the baby. What a worry it must have been when they arrived and there was no room in the inn, and they were relegated to that dirty barn among the animals. I'm sure Joseph and Mary's anxiety increased greatly, perhaps even wondering why God would lead them to such a place. But we all know the Christmas story, we know that Jesus was born, we know the part of the angels, the shepherds and the Wisemen, we know that even in the most difficult and dark times God is still working in our lives to bring about something wonderful, and that there is always a glimmer of light that comes through.

One of the wonderful things our diocese has been involved with in the past year is helping resettle Syrian refugees in Canada. Holy Trinity has been very involved in supporting a refugee family here in our own town, and it is wonderful to see the lives of this family being transformed by the care and generosity of people. It is literally giving new life and hope to a family that could easily have become victims in the terrible things that continue to happen in Syria. It has been life-giving and life-changing for the family. Refugees factor very highly in scripture. After all, following the birth of Jesus the Holy Family had to escape to Egypt and stay there until Herod was dead and it was safe to return to Israel. Jesus started his life as a refugee. As the family, we sponsored, worried about their lives as refugees, God was providing them with hope. This involved us as we offered them a safe home among us. That is how God works. When we think all is hopeless, God has a plan. The plan started over 2000 years ago with the birth of Jesus, and it is still unfolding. Because God is in control, we don't need to worry needlessly.

Ada and the boys join me in wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy 2017!

Rev. Randy

Matthew 2:13 - 15,....Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This is to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

As we reflect on the Christmas story and as well on the wonderful experience and stories of those who have taken flight during the past year from other countries, we are reminded of the above story in St. Matthew's gospel. We tend to think, too often, that what we are witnessing today is something that is only common to the present. Let me briefly share with you the story in Matthew's gospel.

It is the story of Jesus Family's flight into Egypt. Mary & Joseph were trying to avoid the evil of King Herod. Angels have always played an important part in our Christmas Story. So, too, with their flight into Egypt. We are told that while Joseph is sleeping, an angel of the Lord appeared to him and warned him that King Herod would stop at nothing to destroy the child Jesus. King Herod saw the baby Jesus as a threat to his power and was willing to hold onto power using whatever means possible. Sounds familiar, doesn't it?

Again, as I reflect on this story and what we see happening in Europe and the United States where people have an opposite view of what happened to our Lord in Egypt, I shake my head and say "How can Christians act in this manner?" Over the years we have seen Herods in many forms and while nationalism today might be good in some cases, we now see how people are second guessing the decisions that have already been made in Europe and in the United States. "What have we done?" they say. As Herod did, and as we see in the present, we ask, "How can we do things that have the effect of removing God from our lives?"

At this Christmas and every day, you and I are called to guard the precious gift of Christ, which is to reach out to the wider world and not protect our own turf by dismissing or, worst still, ignoring the plight of others which nationalism tends to do these days. In Ephesians we read "*I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the father of glory may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you*". May we, like Joseph, be the guardian of the Lord in what we do and say for others.

May God continue to bless us this Christmas Season, and keep us ever faithful, loving and guardians for the Lord Jesus who is "Emmanuel," God with us and God in us.

Joan joins me in wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and may the New Year *be the source of all our joy and peace.*

Bishop Don

Christmas time for us is always a time when our hearts are filled with all the things we would like to do for our families. I usually bake cakes and cookies instead of trying to buy items at the mall, because I know they all appreciate whatever it is as long as it is wrapped in a Christmas paper. We all like to receive gifts on Christmas morning. We do this because God gives to us the most special Christmas gift, that has ever been given--the gift of his precious Son, a Son that would grow up and teach his disciples and us how to love ourselves and each other, to become the best that we can be for Him. The Advent Season helps us to prepare ourselves once again to celebrate his birth. In doing so, we have to look beyond Christmas to Good Friday and Easter to fully understand why Jesus was born to us. He became the gift to us so that we will live with Him forever. We are called to live like him; and at our death, we too will be given new life. Thanks be to God.

Christmas time is very emotional for some and difficult for others. We remember those who will spend Christmas in hospitals this year or those who have lost loved ones. Ron and I have so much to be thankful for. We have had good health this year and enjoy doing what we can to help out at Holy Trinity, Parish of Buchans and the Hospital. Ron enjoys working with Hoskins. We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and every hope and happiness for the new year. May God continue to bless you and your families.

Rev. Joan & Ron Antle

Sing His praises for all the world to hear! On behalf of the choir, Stephanie and myself, we would like to wish everyone here at Holy Trinity and their families a Merry Christmas. God be with you through the New Year. May this day and the days ahead hold many blessings for you and yours.

Bev, Stephanie and all the Choir Members

2017 Church Envelopes. The envelopes are now available for pick up at the front entrance. Boxes are arranged in alphabetical order. However, you may have a new number. As we continue to reduce excess supplies, it is necessary to reassign numbers. At this time, we would like to thank the members who faithfully deliver for us, and *wish a very Merry Christmas to all.*

David and Judy Mercer

Christmas Flowers Contribution

Flowers Are Given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of

George & Olive HICKS; John HICKS; Richard WALTERS; Ernest & Ruth(Hicks) SCOTT; Paul SCOTT; Michael & Phyllis (Hicks) MURPHY; Henry & Myrtle WALL; Edward & Pearl ELLSWORTH; Myrtle YOUNG; Mandy IVANY; Donald & Florence HISCOCK; Robert “Boo” HISCOCK; C.K. “Sawn” POWELL; Phillip BENNETT; Gary LANE; Arthur CHAMPION; Kieth THORNE; George FELTHAM; Malcolm & Hazel PARSONS; William & Olive COLLINS;

Sidney & Gertrude GRANTER; Arthur & Minnie FOWLER; Alf & Dell HISCOCK; Arthur, Annie, Phoebe POMEROY; Don & Bob HISCOCK; Roy, Lucy, Peter & Thomas EARLE; Phyllis DAVIS; Edgar & Phyllis BANNISTER; Annie & Jack DAVIS; Gerald PRINCE; Eileen NICHOLS; Marion & Herbert HART; Jessie CAREY; Simeon, Elizabeth & Edward HEDGES; Christine HICKMAN; Audrey GOODYEAR; Sharon (Goodyear) SKINNER; Victor & Myra MERCER; Frederick & Lena STONE; Robert & Miriam WAY; Theil JENKINS;

Joseph CROSS; Ross DURANT; Bill & Mildred EARLE; Wm & Clara EARLE; Richard & Ethel PARSONS; Pearl & Irene PARSONS; Jim KEMP; Baby Daniel FUREY; Ruby JACKMAN; Edgar EARLE; Howard MILLER; John, Margaret & Wilbur MERCER; Elizabeth & Llewellyn KING; Hilda & William HILLYARD; Leonard PURCHASE; Agnes & Clarence BROWN; James & Elizabeth BRAGG; NORMAN LEWIS; Donald QUIGLEY; Stephen & Marjorie BURRY; Harold & Loulla GOULDING; John, Ruth, & Calvin REID;

Edward & Gertrude HEDGES; William & Louisa JANES; Herbert & Marion JANES; Eileen, William, & Alan THOMS; William JANES; June & Reg SIMMS; Dave & Eileen JANES; Jim JANES; Patience JANES; Raymond BARTLETT; Steve & Annie THOMPSON; Jessie, Alec, & Ronald WAY; Patience HAYNES-IVANY; Harry & Rose HEAD; David HEAD; George & Mary HEAD; John CRITCH; Jim & Elsie CONSTABLE; Jim & Beatrice TEMPLE; Nancy DOIRON; Shelia DAY; John MERCER; Margaret MERCER; Wilbur MERCER;

Elizabeth & Frank DYKE (Sr.); Kenneth MILLER; Beryl & Ted DAWE; John MACKENZIE; Mildred EARLE & DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS; George B. & Lena MERCER; Robert RICE; Nehemiah PINSENT; Roy BUFFETT; Samuel & Dorothy BUFFETT; John, Effie & Eric WELLS; ALL DECEASED FAMILY FRIENDS of Ada Duffett & Family; James & Ethel HALL; Canon Andrew HALL; Overton & Clara PENNEY; Gerald PENNEY; Lorraine CAREY;

THOMAS, Ella & Gerald TROKE; Allan & Elizabeth TROKE; Bert & Ruth LITTLE; John & Olive TOBIN; Harry & Cassie TAIT; Hilda & Maxwell HOWSE; Susie & Samuel BROWN; Elizabeth & William MOSS; Thomas, Emma & Albert COOPER; Lillian LOCKE; Joseph & Bertha LANE; Patricia MOORE & DECEASED FAMILY; Mac BLACKWOOD; Daniel HISCOCK; Stewart & Nellie LANE; Harold MERCER; Edward & Sara HEDGES (Sr.); Barbara WHITTEN & ALL DECEASED FAMILY MEMBERS; Lewis & Cynthia LOCKYER; Eliol & Ethel HURLEY.

**Christmas Eve Order of Service 2016
11 p.m. Service**

Processional: #118	<i>Oh Come All Ye Faithful</i>
Gathering of the Community	p. 185
Lighting of the Candles	On Insert
Collect for Christmas	On Insert
1 st Reading	Isaiah 9:2-7
2 nd Reading	Titus 2:11-14
Gradual: #143	<i>Angels From the Realms of Glory</i>
Gospel Reading	Luke 2:1-20
Sermon	Rev. Randy
Nicene Creed	p. 188
Prayers of the People	p. 120
Confession & Absolution	p. 191
The Peace	p. 192
Offertory: #139	<i>The First Noël</i>
Blessing of the Offering	(Sung)
Eucharist Prayer #3 (Proper Preface p. 219)	p. 198
Lord's Prayer	p. 211
Breaking of Bread Sentence #6	p. 213
Communion Hymns: #48 #148	<i>Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent See Amid the Winter Snow</i>
Hymn After Communion: #119	<i>Silent Night</i>
Prayer After Communion	On Insert & p. 214
Recessional: #154	<i>Joy to the World</i>

Have a Blessed Christmas

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE-LIGHTING

Reader: "While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger" (Luke 2:6-7).

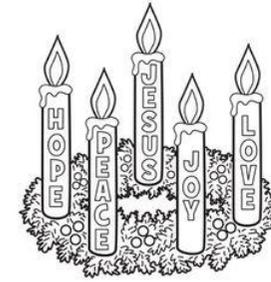
Reader: Tonight, angels far and near sing tender lullabies; well-worn fabric full of years holds in the warmth of parental love; animals and shepherds crowd in tight, glowing with adoration, while a muffled cry squeezes out to greet the world.

People: Tonight we give thanks for every child among us. Each new birth--regardless of circumstances--reminds us of the preciousness of life, the potential of tomorrow, the promise of God.

Reader: On this Christmas Eve, we light the Christ candle for the child-King, the infant-Redeemer, the lowly-Lord. And now we know . . . He is born and nothing will ever be the same! As we celebrate the birth of the Christ-Child, let us remember that He is not to be put away when Christmas is over to be remembered a year from now, but, to be celebrated every day as the King of our hearts and lives. May this Christmas be a reminder to us of how much God loves us, and how much Jesus desires to be a part of our lives. He is our King forever!

(Light all candles.)

(Sing all 5 verses of A Candle Is Burning)



A Candle is Burning

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
A candle of HOPE in November's dark night
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh**

**A candle is burning, a candle of PEACE,
A candle to signal that conflict must cease
For Jesus is coming to show us the way
A message of peace humbly laid in the hay**

**A candle is burning, a candle of JOY,
A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy
Our hearts fill with wonder and eyes light and glow
As joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow**

**A candle is burning, a candle of LOVE,
A candle to point us to heaven above
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth
For Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.**

**We honor Messiah with Christ's candle flame
Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim
O Come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night
As God comes among us, the Christian's true light.**