

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)
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The bulletin is given to the glory of God and in memory of **Elizabeth & Frank Dyke (Sr.)** by the Dyke Families.

| SERVICE TIMES FOR December 11 – December 18 | | |
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| <i>Today, December 11</i> <i>Advent 3</i> | Holy Communion (BCP) | 8:30 a.m. |
| | Holy Eucharist (BAS) | 10:30 a.m. |
| <i>Thursday, December 15</i> | Holy Eucharist (BAS) | 9:30 a.m. |
| <i>Sunday, December 18</i> <i>Advent 4</i> | Holy Communion (BCP) | 8:30 a.m. |
| | Holy Eucharist (BAS) | 10:30 a.m. |

Readings: **Isaiah 35:1-10**
Readers: Audrey Bishop

James 5:7-10
Terry Brown

Matthew 11:2-11
David Wells

Welcome. Welcome to anyone who is visiting with us this morning. If this is your first time at Holy Trinity, please introduce yourself to our Greeters and Clergy. We do ask that you sign our guest book in the foyer.

A special welcome to Dr. Wendy Wilmore who will be our guest speaker at the *10:30 a.m. service today*. We look forward to hearing her sing once again with the choir.

Lighting the Advent Candle. If you or your family is interested in participating in the Advent Candle Lighting liturgy, please speak to Rev. Randy. We need volunteers for next Sunday and the lighting of the Christ Candle on Christmas Eve.

Lighting of the Christmas Tree of Memories—This Thursday, December 15. The tree will be lit *at 7 p.m.* We will gather at the main entrance, read the names of those in whose memory the tree will be lit, prayers will be said, and then the tree will be lit for Christmas. Refreshments and Christmas music will follow in the Olde Parish Hall.

Flowers for Christmas. Would you like to donate towards the Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one? If you do, you may place a donation along with the names of your loves ones in an envelope and put it in the Offertory Plate. Please mark the envelope: **Christmas Flowers**. All names must be received by next Sunday, December 18 to be included in the Christmas Bulletin.

Singing Sidesmen Christmas Sing-Along. There will be a concert this *Tuesday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.* in the E.M. Bishop Hall. Admission is \$5. Refreshments will be served.

Holy Trinity Choir Christmas Service. Our choir will be leading the worship next Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m. The Choir will be presenting: *What Child Is This?* Please plan to attend and enjoy the readings, solos and choir anthems. We are very blessed to have such a wonderful and dedicated group of choir members. Under the leadership of our director, Beverley, and, organist Stephanie, they do such a great job of leading us in the musical part of our worship each week. As always, they have put a lot of work and time into preparing the Christmas service next Sunday morning.

Church Calendars Are Still Available. If you would like a calendar, please contact Karen Brown (489-6490). The cost is \$5 each.

Worship Services This Afternoon. A service will be held at Golden Years Estate at 1:30 p.m. and at the Carmelite House at 2:30 p.m. All are welcome to join with us.

Monday Morning Bible Study. The group will meet tomorrow morning at 10 a.m., and we will then recess for the Christmas break. We will resume again on January 16.

Tuesday Evening Chapel Prayer Group. The group will not meet this Tuesday because of the Singing Sidesmen Christmas Concert. It will resume again on January 10 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to come along any week.

Exploits Christian Ministerial Association Event. The Association will be hosting a *Christmas Coffee House* on *Monday, December 19 from 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.* It will be held at Donini's Restaurant on Cromer Avenue. All are welcome to come into the restaurant and receive free coffee and listen to some Christmas singing by various groups from the local churches.

Thank You. Special thanks to the Sunday School children and teachers for the great job they all did last Sunday in putting off their Christmas pageant titled *A Brand New Star*. The teachers put in a lot of time preparing the children and the children did a marvelous job of telling us the Christmas story.

Children to Sing Silent Night. Any young people wanting to sing *Silent Night* at the 6 p.m. family service on Christmas Eve are asked to let Leslie know by emailing her at lesleyburke99@hotmail.com You can also let Rev. Randy know, and he will pass your name along to Lesley. This is for children and young people of all ages to do together. It is always a very moving experience for the congregation each year as we dim the lights and hear the young people singing so beautifully. When we have the names, Lesley will let them know the practice times. Any other groups, families or individuals who would like to sing something at the family service are welcome to do so. Let Rev. Randy know, and he will gladly include you in the service.

Annual Light-Up Contest. Judging for the Annual Light-Up Contest will take place this week *December 12 – 16*. Be sure to have your lights turned on at that time.

Rector's Christmas Discretionary Fund. The fund is a special fund that many contribute to at Christmastime. The monies allow the Rector to help families and individuals who may find it financially difficult during the Christmas season. If you would like to contribute to this cause over the holidays, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please use a plain envelope, mark it *Rector's Christmas Discretionary Fund*, and put it in the Offering Plate.

Finance. We have just a few more weeks to go before we close the books for 2016 and embrace a brand new year. We are very grateful to the members of our parish for their generous offerings throughout the year. It is our hope and prayer that we will end the year on a very positive financial note. We are blessed to have a beautiful church building in an excellent state of good repair because we have been proactive in taking on projects, while at the same time being debt-free. God has blessed us indeed, and we are very fortunate to have so many dedicated parishioners that help us to do this. The past year saw our province go through a rough economic time, and this has been reflected in the support of many charitable organizations. However, through it all, we manage to hold dear to the things we love, especially our love for our Lord and our church. The role of the church in society is so very important. It may have changed somewhat, but God's call to do the work of the Gospel is the same. Thank you for keeping our church family here at Holy Trinity a strong family. Next year, 2017, will mark 110 years of ministry in this town. What a marvelous celebration that should be. May we continue to be faithful and keep our Parish strong and vibrant for many years to come!

Greeters: Jim Mercer, Clyde Hunter, Rendell Hulan, Brad Hulan, Joe Richards

Items for the Messenger. Please have your submissions to Linda by Thursday. You may contact her at 489-9801 or e-mail linda.pafford@nl.rogers.com.

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

Third Sunday in Advent - Joy



Reader: *"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name'" (Luke 1:46-49).*

Reader: Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her womb. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly lifted up.

People: *Today we give thanks for the Marys among us, who step out of the roles society has planned; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.*

Reader: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way. It is also the candle of Joy. The joy in Mary's life when she knew she was chosen to bear God's son into the world, and the joy of God's people that a Saviour is born to bring light into the world. That joy is ours today as we prepare to celebrate his birth again.

(Light two blue candles and one rose candle.)

Hymn 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.