

HeartBeat

Church of the Holy Family (Anglican), Heart Lake, Brampton

December 3, 2017

The First Sunday of Advent

Dear Friends

When I was a child my parents would always make sure my sister and I had Advent calendars – we would look forward to opening a little door each day, excitedly counting down the days until Christmas.

We would wonder what was behind each door, and upon opening it, see a picture, or a symbol, or a Bible verse relating to the Nativity or to the Christmas season, and if I recall, maybe a small bit of chocolate as well.....



The Advent calendar was first used by German Lutherans in the 19th and 20th centuries and is now embraced not only across denominations, but by the culture as well. I was in Shopper's Drug Mart the other day, and noticed the Advent calendars they had for sale – everything from lovely winter scenes to Star Wars to cars to Barbie to beauty products. But nothing of a stable and a manger...

To open each little door, read the verse or talk about the picture and what it means vis a vis our faith is a simple way for families to observe Advent. The simple cardboard versions have been creatively expanded upon, and now you can even participate in online

advent calendars – check out adventword.org.

The Advent calendar is a wonderful way of entering into the season, because Advent is a season of the hidden being revealed, of promises being fulfilled.

The readings tell us to, “keep alert, keep awake” to the ways God comes to us.

These ways at first are hidden, mysterious....but they point to something unexpected, something that will be revealed that will bring joy....something that is good news...

As each little door is opened, there is a gradual movement, an unfolding of something wonderful..... There is nothing like a child's simple trust that something good is about to be revealed...nothing like Mary's “Let it be to me according to thy will.”

What is it you are looking for? Longing for? Where do you expect to see God in your life? During Advent the deepest desires of our hearts become illumined by an ever-expanding light.

We open the little door on the 25th and the Truth is finally revealed. When the gift of Emmanuel, God with us, finally arrives, it is more “than we could ever ask or imagine.” The doors of our own hearts are fully open.

We have found the light of the world, the one in whom we place our hope, and He has found us.

In this we rejoice and give thanks.

Wishing you all a happy and blessed Advent and Christmas,

Rev. Julie +



A Prayer for Advent

Dear Heavenly Father,

This is my one word prayer: PEACE.
I can't see ahead. I don't know what to do.
Here are all my fears and my questions...
I want to experience your perfect peace.

Let it be with me. Just as you say.
Hold me, God, so I can hear you whisper
to me, "You don't have to know the way. I do."
In Jesus' name, Amen — Bonnie Gray, from
Praying for Perfect Peace When We Can't See How

Some memories of Holy Family's early days

by Joan Hutchins

Like many people at Holy Family, I was saddened by Susan and Dave Winfrow's leaving us after so many years, although of course happy for them that they would now be nearer to their family. Thinking of their long time here brought back many memories of the early days of Holy Family.



One of very few surviving photos of the bungalow

I moved into Heart Lake with my family in March 1981, I had been reading articles in *The Anglican* and knew that a fledgling church had started up. The road we lived on at the time was a dead end and my children, Debbie and Phil and I walked across the corn field from the end of our road to the bungalow on Kennedy Road — long before St. Leonard's church and school were built.

Debbie and Phil went into one of the bedrooms with the other children where they made palm crosses to be used the following Sunday. I discovered that parishioners had been working on a portable to make it habitable as a temporary church and that Palm Sunday was to see the first service.

When Father David Brinton became our Incumbent in 1984, he discovered he was going to be building a church, not something that I think Theological College prepared him for. We also discovered that the funding available would not be sufficient to build

a church but the issues was resolved when the builder, Don Hawkey, was prepared to build within our budget providing parishioners provided so many volunteer hours. We could have our church!

Building commenced and it was a common sight to see Dave Winfrow, Ron Robinson and other men doing construction work, sometimes wearing hard hats, but not always.

Ted Soward undertook to video the proceedings, earning himself the nickname of Captain Video. In the film we can see Dave, Ron and the other volunteers up high, no sign of any safety harnesses, something that I am sure would never be allowed nowadays. Children also ran freely around the site, again not exactly a safe situation.

The first baptisms and confirmations took place at the Easter Vigil on March 29, 1986, my son Phil can claim the distinction of being the first person to actually be confirmed in the new building as he was the first one to go up to the Bishop. The dedication of the cornerstone was performed by Archbishop Lewis Garnsworthy, Archbishop of Toronto on October 26, 1986.

The Altar Guild was formed while we still worshipped in the portable, each week the ladies had to carry the communion vessels backwards and forward to the bungalow. In spite of rain, wind, snow and ice, nothing was ever broken.

We were all so happy when the church was built and we finally had a sacristy right near the altar. Louise O'Connor, Margaret Brittles (now Lonergan), Lorie Wilson and myself are founding members of the Altar Guild so have been members for over 30 years. I doubt any of us will be around for another 30 years, so it would be great if we could recruit some younger members to continue this very important service.



Theology of the Candy Cane!

“J” is for Jesus

The shape is a shepherd’s staff: Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Hard candy: Jesus is our rock - dependable and strong.

Red stripes: representing the blood Jesus shed on the cross for us

White: representing the holiness and purity of Jesus

Sweet: How sweet the name of Jesus sounds to a believer’s ear!

Gift: The candy cane was made to be given as a gift, as Jesus is God’s gift of love to us.



Wonder Woman

Mary the wonder woman
in whose womb
the galaxies are knit
and God emerges
as a peasant child
whose word and wounds
doom all the powers of darkness.

Thomas John Carlisle
from *Beginning with Mary:*
Women of the Gospels in Portrait

Into this silent night

Into this silent night
as we make our weary way
we know not where,
just when the night becomes its darkest
and we cannot see our path,
just then
is when the angels rush in,
their hands full of stars.

Ann Weems
from Kneeling in Bethlehem

The Upper Room

The room between the Narthex and the parish office has had many uses and several names. Now, thanks to Joy Forrester’s design skills and the Advisory Board’s naming, it has both new look and a new name. The title “The Upper Room” - reminds us of Mark 14:15 and Acts 1: 13 (The Passover Dinner and the first appearance of Jesus to his disciples after the Resurrection). Thanks, Joy!



Some Facts About The Bible

The Reformation

The Reformation spanned several years as it was a process, rather than a specific event, but the key moment, from which the Reformation is often dated, took place 500 years ago, on October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther wrote to his bishop complaining about certain practices of the Roman Catholic Church (particularly the sale of indulgences). According to one source (which may not be true!), he nailed the “theses” to the door of All Saints’ Church in Wittenburg, as a way of giving them publicity.

The Original Languages

The Old Testament was written mainly in Hebrew, over a period of several centuries. The earlier sections were probably completed about 400 BC; the later sections over the next 3 centuries.

The New Testament was written in Greek, the common language of the Eastern Mediterranean. The earliest books were probably written about the year 50, the others in the next 50 years. Precise dates are not known.

The Vulgate

Commissioned initially by the Pope, “The Vulgate” was a late 4th century Latin Translation by St. Jerome of virtually the whole Bible. With a few modifications, it remained the official Latin Version of the Roman Catholic Church for about 1500 years. The word “vulgate” comes from the Latin *vulgatus*, meaning “of the common people”.

It was the basis of the Wycliffe version in English.

Translations

According to Wikipedia:

“As of September 2016 the full Bible has been translated into 636 languages, the New Testament alone into 1442 languages and Bible portions or stories into 1145 other languages.

Thus at least some portion of the Bible has been translated into 3,223 languages.”

Try reading some of these versions – some are easier than others

The Vulgate

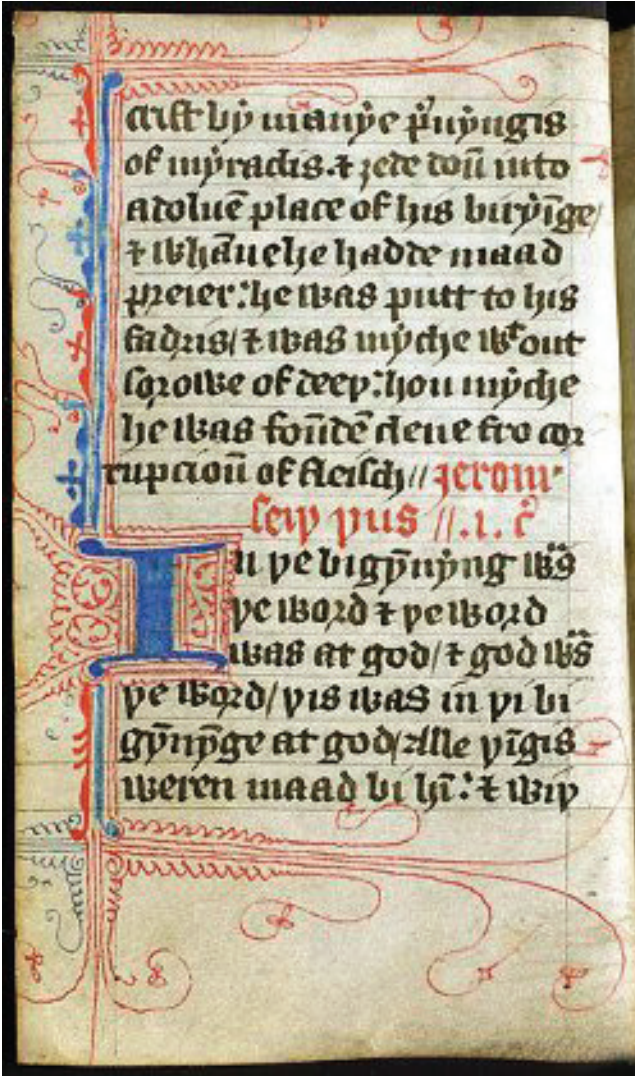
For those with some Latin, perhaps remembered from school, here is the text of Luke 2: 8 - 14.

et pastores erant in regione eadem vigilantes et custodientes vigilias noctis supra gregem suum
et ecce angelus Domini stetit iuxta illos et claritas Dei circumfulsit illos et timuerunt timore magno
et dixit illis angelus nolite timere ecce enim evangelizo vobis gaudium magnum quod erit omni populo
quia natus est vobis hodie salvator qui est Christus Dominus in civitate David
et hoc vobis signum invenietis infantem pannis involutum et positum in praesepio
et subito facta est cum angelo multitudo militiae caelestis laudantium Deum et dicentium
gloria in altissimis Deo et in terra pax in hominibus bonae voluntatis

The Wycliffe Bible

John Wycliffe (late 14th century) prepared this translation from the Vulgate. Early copies were hand-written.

And scheepherdis weren in the same cuntre, wakyng and keypyng the watchis of the nytt on her flok.
And lo! the aungel of the Lord stood bisidis hem, and the cleernesse of God schinede aboute hem; and thei dredden with greet drede.
And the aungel seide to hem, Nyle ye drede; for lo! Y preche to you a greet ioie, that schal be to al puple.
For a sauoure is borun to dai to you, that is Crist the Lord, in the citee of Daud.
And this is a tokene to you; ye schulen fynde a yong child wlapid in clothis, and leid in a cratche.
And sudenli ther was maad with the aungel a multitude of heuenli knyythod, heriyng God,
and seiynge, Glorie be in the hiyeste thingis to God, and in erthe pees be to men of good wille.



Manuscript

For about three quarters of the 2000 years that separate us from the time of Jesus, the Bible and other books were copied by hand. Large numbers of scribes were employed in copying and these copies wore out as they were used. Bibles (and in fact all books) were very expensive. Try reading part of Wycliffe's Bible, copied by hand. Try starting with the Big letter "I" — it's the beginning of John's Gospel, so the text may be somewhat familiar.

As the copying, labour and vellum (sheepskin) or paper were very expensive, many abbreviations were used. Reading a manuscript is not easy!

Here's what it says:

In the ('y' = 'th') bigynnyng was the word + (=and) the word was at God, and God was the word. This was in the bigynnyge (note the mark over the 'y' — means an 'n') at God. All things were made by him . . .

Or, as our lectern Bible has it:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him . . .

King James Version

Completed in 1611, the "KJV" remains in print and the language is loved by many.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

New Revised Standard Version

Our lectern Bible, translates Scripture into current language with no archaic words.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

Recently — at Holy Family —

thanks to Norma for the photos



We said goodbye to David & Sue Winfrow



We thanked God for the Harvest



We welcomed new members to the Christian family



We held a very successful Christmas Bazaar (see page 8)



On All Souls' Day we remembered and gave thanks for those whose earthly work is done



Report from Synod

by Norma Deacon

Holy Family was represented at the 157th Synod on November 24 & 25, 2017 by Rev. Julie, Paddy Ann McHaffie and Norma Deacon. There were over 600 delegates, made up of priests and lay people. The day began with a celebration of The Holy Eucharist. The Archbishop delivered the charge, and announced that he will retire in 2018. In addition he named 9 new Canons, including The Rev. Byron Gilmore of Christ Church Brampton. The Business Session began with the acceptance of minutes, the reviewing of motions which relate to elections and other proposed amendments to the Constitution, Missional Moments, and the review and acceptance of reports

on General and Provincial Synod, discussions for the Consideration of General Synod's Marriage Canon, a social hour of networking, greeting priests, lay people, perusal of booths where books, vestments, and other relevant material were on display. After supper the sponsors were acknowledged, and the Business Session resumed with a presentation on "Growing in Christ" a strategic plan for 2016 – 2021. On Saturday morning,

there were additional Missional Moments, the election of members to Provincial Synod, the review and approval of The Financial Statements for 2016, the Financial Update for 2017, and the Priorities and Plans for 2017 – 2019 and Members Time where participants have 5 minutes at the mike to voice concerns.

Missional presentations included one from the PWRDF (Primates World Relief Development Fund). It showed that Asha Kerr-Wilson was a member of the team that went to Tanzania. Asha is a Holy Family baby, who was born in Brampton, and baptised in our own Font while Fr. Greg (now Bishop Kerr-Wilson) was incumbent here.



A relaxing moment: Holy Family's delegation with the Archbishop

Youth Update — Advent 2017

by Reverend Vinaya Dumpala

Our youth groups from St. Joseph of Nazareth and the Holy Family will experience exciting events during this coming Advent season on 2nd and 16th December 2017. These events will be held at St. Joseph's and will be a joint gathering. The "Emmaus" Bible study is well progressing into its third session and will continue on its original theme by inviting a friend to walk with Jesus on 16th December, followed by Pizza brunch.

We now have four acoustic guitars, two table tennis tables, and several chessboards. As part of the branding initiative, both youth groups are asked to suggest a name and we are hoping to create one

before end 2017.

On an average, fifteen youth gather during joint youth events and it is expected to grow with other activities such as Film night, Guitar workshop, Table Tennis coaching, and field trips.

All these will take place in the coming weeks.

Finally, it is happening and all glory be to God. I once again thank each parent for their time and effort in helping our youth participate in these events.

Blessings.

In Brief

New Email users: NEVER click on a link in an email message unless you're **sure** where you're going. Not sure why this is a good rule? Ask someone!

Service of Lessons and Carols. Be sure to come to the Lessons and Carol Service: mark Sunday evening, December 10, at 7:30 on your calendars.

The Spirit of Giving — Holy Family's outreach successor to Caring and Sharing — will involve a Christmas Party (10 AM to noon) on December 9. **TODAY** is the deadline for bringing gifts and toys. See Peter Fisher after the service.

Asha Kerr-Wilson (see Norma's Synod report on page 7) is on the Board of Directors of The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. For more information go to <http://pwrdf.org/> or <http://pwrdf.org/who-we-are/board/>

Fr. Greg: If you're interested in what Fr. Greg (Asha's Dad) is doing now, go to: <http://www.calgary.anglican.ca> where you will discover that he is Archbishop of Calgary and Metropolitan of Rupert's Land.

Bible reminder: Our lectern Bible (NSRV) will be found at <http://bible.oremus.org>. Other translations are at: <https://www.biblegateway.com>.

Advent - Christmas Season Dates for the Calendar

Sunday, December 3 (Advent 1)	10:00 AM	– Choral Eucharist
Sunday December 10 (Advent 2)	10:00 AM 7:30 PM	– Choral Eucharist – Carol Service
Sunday, December 17 (Advent 3)	10:00 AM	– Choral Eucharist Holy Baptism
Sunday December 24 Advent 4	10:00 AM	– Choral Eucharist
Christmas Eve	8:30 PM 9:00 PM	Carol Singing – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Monday December 25 The Nativity of our Lord - Christmas Day	10:00 AM	– Sung Eucharist
Sunday December 31 First Sunday after Christmas	10:00 AM	– Patronal Festival Choral Eucharist & Meditation on the Nativity <i>Celebration downstairs after the service</i>

The Bazaar

Holy Family's Christmas Bazaar was a great success — thanks especially to the talents and efforts of Louise O'Connor and Deb Robinson. There were over 12 tables and about 30 helpers - but both Louise and Deb lost count of the number as people came and went!

The bazaar made over \$3,000 for the funds of the church and Deb and Louise want to thank all the helpers (and, of course, the donors, crafters and buyers) for making the occasion such a success.

If you missed it this year, be sure to put down November 17, 2018, in your calendars — next year's Christmas Bazaar.

Getting in touch

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