



# Trinity TODAY

A newsletter of Holy Trinity Church, Thornhill

December 23 2022

## COMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER

- 24 Christmas Eve  
Services at 5 and 8 pm
- 25 Christmas Day  
Service at 10 am

- 31 New Year's Eve

### JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day  
Epiphany Service 10 am
- 3 Office re-opens
- 8 Baptism of Our Lord 10 am  
Caravan 11:15 am
- 23 ACW Ingathering
- 29 HTC ACW Service

### FEBRUARY

Vestry! Date to come.

The church office  
will be closed  
from 4 pm on  
Friday,  
December 23 to  
9:30 am on  
Tuesday, January  
3. For  
administrative  
matters during  
this time, please  
send an email or  
leave a message  
on Laura's

voicemail (ex. 21). For urgent pastoral  
matters, please email [info@holytrinity-thornhill](mailto:info@holytrinity-thornhill) with URGENT in the subject line,  
and someone will get in touch with you as  
soon as possible.

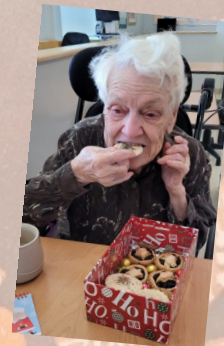


*To the church of Holy Trinity,  
Thank you so much for thinking of me  
and sending the box of goodies ...*

A lovely Christmas card came into the office today, from one of the recipients of the annual cookie boxes. She isn't able to do any Christmas baking of her own these days, and confesses to having a "very sweet tooth," so was especially grateful to receive one of the sturdy, colourful boxes packed with homemade treats, baked in a large part by Elaine Hishon and hand-delivered by from ACW members and friends. Boxes were hand-delivered to shut-ins and others – a ministry of kindness that provides an opportunity to catch up with beloved parishioners such as Barb Caiger, June Alexander and Madeleine Daly (pictured below).

Thank you, cookie box volunteers, for your actions on Holy Trinity's behalf. **It means a lot!**

What's better  
than a cookie  
with your coffee?  
A Christmas  
cookie, of course!



## WELL DONE HTC

This year there has been about **45 deliveries** of non-perishable food and fresh fruit and vegetables, plus personal use items, to Richmond Hill Community Food Bank (RHCFB). In addition, some parishioners have provided financial assistance for the purchase of needed items as requested by RHCFB director Lee Reynolds and her staff. Thank you for your contributions and support! It is much appreciated! If you would like more information on where to drop off your contributions or what to donate, please speak to Peter Paterson or call the office.

## Thank you to HTC from the Thornhill Christmas Assistance Program, 2022

The Christmas Assistance Program extends its sincere thanks to Holy Trinity parishioners for your very generous financial contributions given through the Outreach Committee, the ACW, the Eva Rae Fund, the Footlights Club and individual donations. This year Holy Trinity gave a total of \$6991 to the project. The program was able to provide grocery and other gift cards to 132 families - 231 adults and 139 teens and children. This included 20 families referred to us by the Yellow Brick House Women's Shelter. The cards were delivered in envelopes beautifully decorated by students at Baythorn and Bayview Fairways Public Schools. Special thanks go out to parish members who gave time on Saturday morning to do the deliveries.

On behalf of the Christmas Assistance Program I want to express our sincere appreciation to you for helping to brighten the holiday season for our local families in need.

— Linda Gould

An illustration of a caravan consisting of four camels and a person walking behind them, all on a curved path. Above them is a sun with rays and a few birds flying in the sky.

## Caravan

**January 8 @ 11:15 am**

Caravan returns! On January 8, after the 10 am service, talk with representatives from the charities supported by Holy Trinity: Sleeping Children Around the World; All Saints Community Centre; Mooreland's Kids; Eva's Place, and our own Refugee Committee, which organizes sponsorship for refugee families on behalf of HTC. Their work is so important and your support of them is incredibly appreciated. They want to say thank you, so let's welcome them with open arms.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

— Matthew 25:40

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% of sales from this ad  
will be donated to HTC



## Dear Friends,

It is the Advent season. Once again we are invited to hearken to the joyful message of God's everlasting love for each of us and all of creation. Because of his love for us and the whole world, God took on human flesh and dwelt among us, not as a powerful leader of armies or nations but as a powerful presence to heal, to forgive, to give us new life. This is the message that the angels brought to shepherds in the fields on the night that Jesus was born to Mary and Joseph in a stable in Bethlehem. This is the message that the Church repeats to the world in story, song and sacrament at Christmastime.

We invite you and your family to the celebrations at Holy Trinity. (See reverse.)

- We begin with the lighting of candles in the Advent wreath, and each Sunday, the children in the congregation help us prepare the crèche for the arrival of the baby Jesus.
- On December 18 — the “joy” Sunday of Advent — we'll have some extra singing in the annual service of lessons and carols.
- For those who do not feel the joyful outburst of this season, due to loss or disappointment in their family or life, we are offering a service of quiet reading, reflection and prayer on Tuesday, December 6 at 5 pm.
- On Christmas Eve, families are welcome to a late-afternoon service, with a more adult-oriented Christmas Eve celebration later in the evening.
- Christmas Day and New Year's Day are both on Sundays so there will be one service each day. New Year's Day will also feature the arrival at the crèche of the Magi, bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The season of Advent holds an encouragement for us to share God's love and blessings with the wider

community. It challenges our imaginations to envision where God wants us to be not just in 2023 but in 2030 and in generations yet to come.

With the Finance Committee, we are beginning to prepare the 2023 budget. (See current financials on reverse.) We ask that you prayerfully consider the following and complete and return your commitment card on or before December 31, 2022:

1. At least maintaining the pledge that you made for 2022
2. Enrolling in the PAG program, if you have not already done so
3. Opening up some time to volunteer at Holy Trinity, if you don't already do so
4. Praying for the success of the Parish Selection Committee and the swift arrival of a new incumbent

Wishing you and yours all the blessings of the season, with our sincerest thanks,

Your Churchwardens and Priest-in-charge



### Beautiful Blue

This year twice as many people attended our “Blue Christmas” service, a thoughtful time of prayer and meditation that was much appreciated. The chancel tree was decorated with blue lights, and participants decorated it with white dove ornaments expressing words of hope and cheer.

*Photo by Nancy Cutler*

## Get Involved

### HTC Shelter Program

HTC's shelter program with Blue Door (formerly known as Out of the Cold) is up and running, Friday nights until the end of March. Because of continuing COVID regulations, this year we are offering our guests an evening lunch. Lunches are made Friday mornings at 11:00 at the church by teams of about six people. If you'd like to help out, email or phone the office if and Laura will put you in touch with us.

– Miriam Irving & Hillary Brown

### FELLOWSHIP TIME

#### Thanks to all our hosts!

If you enjoy a beverage with your after-church social time, why not sign up to host one Sunday? The schedule is on the bulletin board closest to the auditorium doors in the library area. Grab a couple of friends and pick a Sunday. Better still, invite someone you don't know well to join you in hosting. Working together is a great way to get to know someone better!

– The Wardens & Advisory Board

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – Postage Stamps!

Recycling your Christmas-card envelopes? WAIT! The stamp has value! Christian Salvage Mission (CSM) collects cancelled postage stamps and sells them to collectors. HTC has already passed on a large number of Canadian, USA, and UK stamps, as well as others from around the world. CSM is always thankful for our continued support to their worthy cause.

You can bring in the entire envelope or just the part with the stamp on it, depositing them in the marked box in the library area. If you have questions, email the office or talk to **Angella Smith**.

## Worship with us



**Sunday 8 am and 10 am  
at 140 Brooke St, Thornhill**

### Sunday 10 am Virtual Chapel

On Zoom, live on your device or phone – go to [www.holytrinity-thornhill.ca](http://www.holytrinity-thornhill.ca) for details

### Watch anytime on YouTube

Live Sundays at 10 am or whenever you like

## Get in touch

**905.889.5931**

The Rev'd Canon Barbara Hammond,  
Priest-in-charge (x23)

Brother Reginald Crenshaw, Lay Pastor

The Rev'd Canon Stephen Crowther,  
Associate Priest

The Rev'd Fran Kovar, Associate Priest

Rachel Yoon, Director of Music

Laura Peetoom, Office Administrator (x21)

Hours: TWF 9:30-4:00

Jesús Cruz Aránago, Custodian (x24)

Hours: M-F 9:00-4:00

Nancy Cutler & Ed Carter, Churchwardens

**Something good is happening here!**

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[www.holytrinity-thornhill.ca](http://www.holytrinity-thornhill.ca)

