

PRAYERS AND FLOWERS

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God, may this Eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Worldwide: Willochra – (South Australia): The Rt. Revd. Gary Weatherill.

Companion Diocese of the Windward Islands: In our companion diocese of the Windward Islands, we pray for St. Matthew, Biabou with St. Sylvan & St. Mark: The Rev. Junior Ballantine.

Diocese: In our diocesan cycle of prayer we remember St. Cyprian, Lacombe, Church of the Epiphany, Rimbey: The Rev. David Holmes; Holy Trinity, Rocky Mtn. House: The Rev. Chris Nojonen.

Parish: Here at Holy Nativity we pray for all our parish families and individuals, and for those desiring individual prayers. Today we especially pray for Ruth, Anne, Pat, Dave, Phyllis, Sid, Will, Don, Dorothy, Joy & Nathan and any others on our hearts today.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

Given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for His many blessings.

CALENDAR

WEEKLY December 13 - 19, 2009

SUN.	8:00AM	Holy Communion	Sanctuary
	9:15AM	Choir Practice	Music Rm.
	10:00AM	Holy Communion	Sanctuary
MON.	7:30PM	Contemporary Music Practice	Sanctuary
	8:00PM	Fireside Group (AA)	Parish Hall
	8:00PM	Simply Serenity Al-Anon	Friendship Rm
TUES.	9:30AM	Crafts & Chats	Friendship Rm
THURS.	10:00AM	Holy Communion/Morning Prayer	Chapel
	10:30AM	Bible Study	Music Room
	7:00PM	Choir Practice	Music Room

If you wish to use the church for a meeting, gathering or any other use, please call the office to determine availability of, and to book space. It is very limited during the week.

MONTHLY

1st Sunday

Food Bank – The Food Bank values donations at \$2/lb. Month of November: 46.5lbs, \$94. YTD: 547 lbs, \$1094. Next collection date January 3, 2010.

4th Sunday

COOKIE Sunday –December 27th.

1st Tuesday

Corporation meeting 7:00PM January 5, 2010

3rd Tuesday

Vestry meeting 7:00PM December 15th.

HOLY NATIVITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

RECTOR	The Rev. Bryan Beveridge
PRIEST ASSOCIATE	The Rev. Betty Vaughan
ORGANIST	Johnson Philip
OFFICE ADMIN.	Cheryl Nicholls
WARDENS	Wayne Power Kathy Dodds Barb Scott

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Holy Nativity Anglican Church

*Our mission - To be God's people,
demonstrating God's love*

Prayer of the Community

God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

TODAY AT HOLY NATIVITY

* 8AM HOLY COMMUNION BCP p.67
10AM HOLY COMMUNION BAS p.185

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE

ORDER OF WORSHIP 8AM

8:00AM HOLY COMMUNION – BCP 67

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

Words of Welcome
The Lighting of the Advent Wreath
The Collect p.67
The Commandments
The Prayer of the Community (*on front of bulletin*)

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

First Reading: Zephaniah 3: 14-20
Psalm: Cantic 3 (Is. 12: 2-6)
Refrain: **Ring out your joy, for the Holy One of Israel is in your midst.**
Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-7
Gospel: Luke 3: 7-18
The Creed: pg. 71
Sermon: The Rev. Bryan Beveridge
(*A moment for silent reflection*)

RESPONDING TO GOD

The Offering
The Prayers of the People
Confession and Absolution p.77

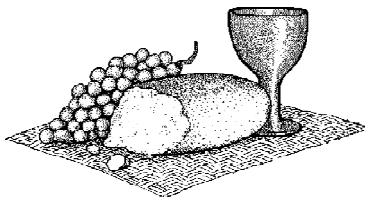
THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

The Great Thanksgiving – The Rev. Bryan Beveridge
Communion
The Lord's Prayer p.85

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

The Blessing
Announcements
Dismissal

AGAPE: Please join us for refreshments following worship. All are welcome!



REFLECTIONS ON TODAY'S READINGS

YEAR C - Advent 3 (Revised Lectionary)

TODAY'S READINGS sound an even more joyful chord in the growing anticipation of Christ's Coming. The Second Reading begins with the word "Rejoice!". Traditionally, this Sunday has been called "Gaudete Sunday" (from the Latin introit), and "Gaudete" is Latin for "rejoice".

The First Reading (Zephaniah 3: 14-20) is a passage filled with excitement for it looks forward to the restoration of the people of God. It thus expresses our Advent hope of joyful expectancy. Zephaniah is one of the gloomiest prophets in the Old Testament. He could see only fearful judgement and disaster for Judah, and indeed there were sound historical reasons for that outlook. But our passage today is in such vivid contrast to the rest of the book that scholars believe it must be from a later date, and perhaps even by a different hand. Here the prophet says that God is a "King" who has taken away his fearful judgement; that he is a "Warrior" who brings victory and will renew us in love; that he has promised to "restore (our) fortunes before (our) eyes" (v. 20). Such is our Advent hope.

The Second Reading (Philippians 4: 4-7) calls us to rejoice, for "the Lord is near". As Advent unfolds its promise, our excitement increases. We need no longer be anxious, for we can trust in God. That is why our prayers always include thanksgiving. When we understand the goodness of God, we discover his peace. In this too, is our Advent joy.

The Gospel (Luke 3: 7-18) gives us the message of John the Baptist. John warned that there is no point in coming to be Baptized unless we come with a repentance that manifests itself in good deeds. And it is still not too late to repent, he says, before the unfruitful trees (i.e. useless persons) are hewn down in the coming Judgement. Then he gives some practical advice: people (even the poor) must show generosity; tax collectors and soldiers must act honestly and justly. True changes in society can come only from within the heart.

Finally, John points out that he himself is not the expected Messiah, but that soon a far greater One than he will come. His Judgement will be a cleansing "fire", and his Baptism will be by the Holy Spirit. It is in him and his Kingdom that we discover "Good News".

READINGS FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 20, 2009 – Advent 4

Advent 4 - pg. 271
Cantic 18 (Lk 1: 47-55)
Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)
Reader: Pat Hopkinson
Micah 5: 2-5a
Hebrews 10: 5-10
Prayers: Kathleen Patterson

NEWS 'N VIEWS

HOLY NATIVITY WEBSITE HAS BEEN REDESIGNED! DID YOU NOTICE OUR NEW SIGN ??? Web Site - www.holynativity.ca

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Beginning on Thursday Nov 12 from 11:00am to 12:00 noon, there will be a Bible Study on the "**Parables of Jesus**". This study is for 6 weeks and each week is a separate study. There is a DVD and discussion based on a study guide. All are welcome. The co-ordinator for this study is Rev. Betty Vaughan. The Wednesday evening Bible Study is now finished, but will be starting up again in January 2010.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST MEETING: Sat, 19th December 8:30 AM
Ladies welcome!!!! Andrea Li, Chief Horticulturist at Willow Park Golf & Country Club, will do a Power Point presentation on winter scapes and spring flower planting and layouts. Andrea, apart from being an Anglican, is also a Graduate of Olds College and the University of Massachusetts and has been in her profession for 12 years. Two Chefs of international renown will be on hand to provide the breakfast. Hope to see you there.

DORIS DALEY, a Turner Valley poet, has been crowned one of North America's best "cowboy poets". She was the first Canadian to be named Best Female Cowboy Poet and to win top honours for Best Cowboy Poetry CD from the Western Music Association for 2009's Beneath a Western Sky. Holy Nativity would like to extend our congratulations to Doris! We have been very pleased that she has been able to perform at our last two Stampede services.

2010 DAYTIMERS – If you need a daytimer for 2010, we have a quantity of them from the Bible League of Canada. Please pick one up in the entrance area

PRIMATE'S FUND CD – Our Primate's World Relief and Development Fund has produced a wonderful CD. We have 3 left, and the cost is \$20 each. We can play it on the sound system for you if you wish to hear a bit before purchase. All funds go to the 50th Anniversary Celebrations.

HEARTBEAT CHARITY: If you have winter boots or used soft toys (non-mechanical) we have a new home for them with the Heartbeat charity. They will be cleaned and sent to Eastern Europe to less fortunate people as work gear or as gifts for Orthodox Christmas. There will be a collection box at the church. Please call Faith Young at 403-225-1342 for more information.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: If you have any information to be included in the Sunday bulletins, please note that the cut-off time for input is Wednesdays at 11am.

ADVENT TWILIGHT RETREAT: Wednesday Dec 16, 5:30 – 9:30pm. Cost \$35, includes supper. FCJ Christian Life Centre, 219-19th Ave SW, 403-228-4215.

CELEBRATE THE SEASONS, Sat Dec 19, 7:30pm at Knox United Church, (506-4th St SW). Tickets \$15. Time honoured favourites and beautiful masterpieces celebrate both Christmas and Hanukkah seasons. Contact 403-685-1132, or cantarechildrenschoir@shaw.ca.

THE MUSTARD SEED will be hosting their 9th annual Music for a Winter Evening concert on Wed, Dec 16 at 7:30pm at the Jack Singer. The Corpus Christi Male Choral with the Cantare Children's Choir and the Footills Brass Quintet. Hosted by Darrel Janz. Tickets \$25/adults, and \$10/students. www.ticketweb.ca or 403-770-6878.