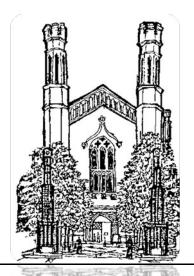
Alive In The Heart Of The City • Founded in 1847

The Church of the Holy Trinity DIOCESE of TORONTO • The ANGLICAN CHURCH of CANADA 10 Trinity Square • Toronto Ontario • M5G1B1

🖀 (416) 598-4521 🕈 www.holytrinitytoronto.org

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20th, 2015 10.30 am Service .





We are delighted to have you with us this morning.

Holy Trinity is an accessible, active, vibrant, justice-seeking, queer-positive community in the heart of downtown Toronto.

We try to use language in our worship which includes us all, and we encourage the participation of each person in the worship and life of the Church.

At the Exchange of Peace we move about freely, greeting one another.

Assisting hearing devices are available. Please ask a Greeter or the Caretaker.

Scent Free Zone: Please refrain from wearing highly scented personal products.



A large-print version of this bulletin is available. Ask a greeter if you would like one.

A special welcome, Newcomers!

Please make yourself at home in this church.

The Church of the Holy Trinity is a community of people who express Christian faith through lives of integrity, justice and compassion. We foster lay leadership, include the doubter and marginalized, and challenge oppression wherever it may be found.

Advent 4 liturgy – Church of the Holy Trinity

This service is on opportunity to delve into Mary's song musically, emotionally, and physically. The worship leadership will be moving from place to place and we invite you to participate in as many ways as you feel comfortable. We recognize that this does not fit our familiar pattern, but hope the richness of words, images, and actions will offer much to your spiritual experuience this morning.

The service will be in 4 movements:

- 1. **Relationship** (Family/ community/ gathering). Who do you run to? Who do you talk to?
- 2. Revolution/re-creation (Justice). "The arc of the universe bends toward justice."
- 3. Redress/Reconciliation (Jubilee). What is a good thing?
- 4. **Response** (Action). How do we respond? What are we to do?

Throughout, adults create a chain of ideas, hopes, concerns, intentions. "These are the chains we forge in life." We are taking the words of Jacob Marley breathing alternate meanings into them.

Youth will create specific thematic pieces at each movement and contribute to our centrepiece.

There is a large newsprint sheet to capture thoughts and images as we go. We won't specifically make this happen at any point, it will simply be one of the options to express ourselves during the service.

The small piece of Turtle Island that we call Toronto has supported humanity for more than 10,000 years.

As we gather here, we recognise the Wendat, great diplomats and farmers, who held this land when Europeans first came. We recognise the Haudenosaunee, fearsome warriors and hunters, who held these lands after death and disease pushed the Wendat north and east. We recognise the Mississaugas of the new Credit who, through alliance with the Haudenosaunee, held these lands until very recent times.

We recognise and honour all people who have cared diligently and respectfully for these lands though all the years to the present day.

Musical meditation:

Music in the Street - Big Rude Jake

I hear the music when I'm walkin' down the street I hear the sound of a sweet melody And a single voice could start a revolution And I do believe in the song And I do believe the time has come

I hear the sound of people aching to be free. I hear the power in the numbers on the street. And a single voice could start a revolution. And I do believe in that song. And I do believe the time has come.



Chorus Raise your hands up high! Raise your hands up high! Let me hear you now... Raise your hands up, your hands up, your hands up high now!

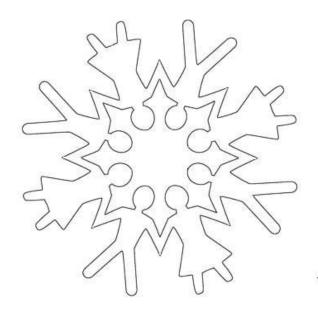
I see a soul who's doubtful, and another one's afraid Measuring the gains against the things they take away But, you can't tell me that all that money is better than a better world No. I still believe in the song. And I do believe the time has come!

#Invitation

Come to the circle! Come to the light! Prepare our hearts to receive light and love; hope and peace; justice and joy.

We journey towards Christmas. We listen to stories of mystery and hope. We seek wisdom and grace. We take warmth and light from this circle

To the other circles we enter this week.



Movement 1: Relationship

Mary runs to someone in her family who can comfort and support her.

#Word

Mary:

read by Kevin Bezanson

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. [Process in from 'over the hills' and bring all the candles in and light them]

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.



Shannen:

read by Morgan Baskin

When I was a little kid, I always use to think what a great leader my dad was, Andrew Koostachin, He taught me to look up to the Seven Grandfathers. Love, Respect, Truth, Honesty, Humility, Bravery and Wisdom. ... And the other thing my dad taught me about life is to take 3 steps, put God first, because he made you and me, Second is family. Because they give you a lot of love. Third is education. School is very important! This why I'm here...

I would tell [other children] not to be afraid. To ignore people who are putting you down. To get up and tell them what you want... what you need!

Shannen Koostachin. http://www.fncaringsociety.com/sites/default/files/Shannensletter.pdf

#Word continued

Melanie:

"...many aunts are not only the ones to share an enormous amount of love for your kids, they are often unsung heroes of the family. ... I hear stories all the time. One perceptive aunt detected autism in her young niece before her parents were able to see it. One is at risk of losing her job because she spends so much time looking after her young nieces, feeling responsible to watch over them while their mom gets high and leaves them to fend for themselves. ...

Of course, there's the less serious stuff we get involved in, too. ...We take our nieces and nephews on fun adventures, ... or to see their very first movie in a theater. ... And when they're bigger, we're taking them to their first concert, "friending" them on Facebook (to make sure they're safe), and yes — we're talking to them about sex or drugs when they won't go to you."

Melanie Notkin, "It takes an Aunt to raise a child". <u>http://parenting.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/02/26/it-takes-an-aunt-to-raise-a-child/</u>

Mars:

Chosen families are also often born out of necessity. Many queer individuals do not rely on their biological families in ways that other individuals might be able to. ... We carefully weave these families together in order to create a safe space for growth and love without limits. My chosen family has had a major impact on my life and development as a young adult by accepting, teaching, loving, and challenging me. When our biological families can't love us in ways that we need, our chosen families pick up the slack. Chosen family means so many things. Sharing resources, whether that's money or time or knowledge or a computer or a bike or music or coffee or a couch to sleep on. Trusting others to say no when they need to and yes when they want to. Travelling together, sometimes in silence. Helping each other move. Mutual respect, trust, and love.

https://complicatingqueertheory.wordpress.com/queerfamilies/chosen-family/

Elizabeth:

read by Merylie Houston

"If there is space in the heart, then it will look for someone to come into that space," [my friend] Ziggy tells me and I think she's right. It's about space in your heart to hold another person and the capacity to make a promise to them... It is about the space in our hearts. This is what links adoption with adults finding and picking each other to share the voyage.

Elizabeth Slade.

http://www.gazettenet.com/artsentertainment/hampshirelife/7147679-95/exploringthe-meaning-of-chosen-family

read by Rachel Aide

#Reflect

Silence as we let the readings sink in and prepare to act

#Act - creating chains of support

Youth: paper people chain

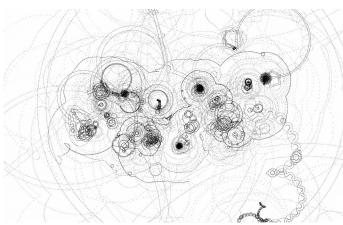
Adults: Record names or communities that have been 'family' and supports to you on slips of paper. These will form a chain of support. This chain of support (and any other act results) will be hung on the central tree or laid around it to form the advent wreath

Exchange of the peace

All are invited to move about to greet each other

One Peace be among us. Let us greet and bless one another as children of God.

All Peace be among us



#Pray

When we were born, we inherited a great commission from our parents and grandparents. The task is enormous. We are not.

But, we have also been given the great power of relationship. When we choose to honour and support each other, we grow in hope and show the strength of our love.

Let us be present to one another, be open to be the ones others run to: offering support, challenge, and comfort.

All My Relations. Chosen Family. Community. The Body of Christ.

Amen.

#Sing

Here I Am Lord

- I, the God of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
 I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
- Chorus: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.
- I the God of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
 I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
- I the God of wind and flame. I will bear their grief and shame.
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
 Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied.
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Words and music: Dan Schutte, LicenSing #605782

Movement 2: Revolution/Re-Creation

Mary claims the blessing of God and shows confident hope in transformation.

#Word

Mary:

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favour 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.

His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

Shannen:

Well the three or four things I would like people to know about me is:

One, I do not like broken promises.

Two, I do not like seeing my siblings going to school in washrooms. And

three, I would like them to know too that I AM NOT GIVING UP.

...I do not want my younger brother and sisters

thinking those portables are proper schools.

...I would tell them to pray and be strong. To stand up for their rights and never give up.

...[I want the Minister to] know that we will not wait for another eight years.

He knows that we are sick and tired walking back and forth outside in the cold winter, the cold wind, the cold rain, the hot sun. He knows that. It's just that he doesn't understand. If he did understood he could've just give us a school just like that! *Shannen Koostachin.*

http://www.fncaringsociety.com/sites/default/files/ Shannens-letter.pdf read by Maddy Digby

read by Emma Herle



#Word continued

Theodore and Martin:

read by Len & Luc Desroches

"I do not pretend to understand the moral universe; the arc is a long one, my eye reaches but little ways; I cannot calculate the curve and complete the figure by the experience of sight; I can divine it by conscience. And from what I see I am sure it bends towards justice."

Theodore Parker (August 24, 1810 – May 10, 1860) was a minister of the Unitarian church, a reformer and abolitionist.

A century later, Martin Luther King, Jr. paraphrased these words to great effect in his famous "Where Do We Go From Here?" speech of August 1967..., when he said, "The arc of the Moral Universe is long, but it bends toward Justice".

#Reflect

Silence as we let the readings sink in and prepare to act



#Act

Take this opportunity to transform bad news into images of hope and transformation. You are invited once again to participate in the action, chat with your neighbour, draw on the wall or in your bulletin.

#Pray

One: May God bless us with discomfort All: At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships So that we may live from deep within our hearts.

One: May God bless us with anger

All: At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of God's creations So that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

One: May God bless us with tears

All: To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger, and war, So that we may reach out our hands to comfort them and To turn their pain into joy.

One: And may God bless us with just enough foolishness All: To believe that we can make a difference in the world, So that we can do what others claim cannot be done: To bring justice and kindness to all our children and all our neighbours who are poor. Amen.

A Franciscan Benediction http://brianmclaren.net/archives/blog/a-franciscan-benediction.html



#Sing

Canticle of the Turning

 My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
 And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
 So from east to west shall my name be blessed.
 Could the world be about to turn?

Chorus: My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.

3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;
There are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.

4. Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around.

Words by Rory Cooney, copyright 1990 GIA Publications



Movement 3: Redress/Reconciliation

Mary claims the promise of god to turn the world upside down and inside out for a reconciling justice.

#Word

Mary:

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

Richard:

read by Dick Moore

To be here as morning breaks is to feel unity. It's to feel connected to everything around you and to absorb it, bring it into the very fiber your being, like learning to breathe all over again. It's to come to understand that you are alive because everything else is. It is to comprehend what your people mean when they say "All my relations."

It means everything. It's not uttered in a casual way nor is it meant to be. In its solemnity it is meant as a benediction, a blessing and a call to this unity you feel all around you in the depth of morning. This phrase, this articulation of spirit, is a clarion call to consciousness.

It means that you recognize everything as alive and elemental to your being. There is nothing that matters less than anything else. By virtue of its being, all things are vital, necessary and a part of the grand whole, because unity cannot exist where exclusion is allowed to happen.

Richard Wagamese. <u>http://www.kamloopsnews.ca/opinion/columnists/wagamese-all-my-</u>relations-about-respect-1.1237759

Julia:

read by Susie Henderson

I didn't come from a background of activism, but when I first saw what was happening to the ancient redwoods in California, I fell to the ground and started crying and immediately got involved. It changed my life.

•••

Along the way I learned: by watching and talking, by asking questions, and by listening over and over during the 738 days that I sat in the ancient spreading branches of Luna.

•••

I started paying attention. I started listening and getting answers from everything—from Luna, the birds, the bears, the shapes of the pine needles. Everything became my teacher when I opened up. My relationship with Luna grew. I realized that Luna has been communicating with humankind for 1,000 years, and we just forgot how to listen. But I learned how to listen, and from that moment on everything started coming to me.

#Word continued

...

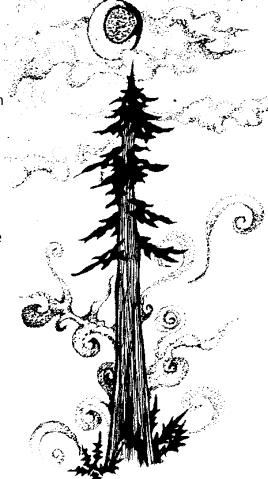
The legacy that I left behind was a vision of a better world. We protected a grove of oldgrowth forest. And we left a living embodiment of what that vision of a better world is all about: a world where the last of our ancient and old-growth forests and wild places are protected. A world where the watersheds we're all a part of are protected, even if we live in LA, Chicago, Detroit, or New York City. All those places that look nothing like nature anymore are actually a part of a watershed, and that watershed is the nature that beats its pulse underneath the asphalt and the concrete and steel. That watershed is our lifeblood, what keeps us alive.

To live a life of service for a better world is a legacy that doesn't disappear. It's an imprint, and that imprint can be negative or positive, depending upon the actions and choices we

make every single moment of every single day. I have to tell you the coolest people I've ever met, young and old, are the ones who are out there giving their life for a good cause.

They glow more; they're the most beautiful, magnificent, powerful people I've ever seen. They're much more powerful than the richest person and more beautiful than any model, because their beauty and power resonates from deep within the life force all the way through their body, and shines out. I've never wanted to kneel in front of a model or an actor or actress or a corporate billionaire, but I want to bow myself before people who are activists or who work for the common good. That's honor. Money is not honor. Doing something of real value with one's life is honor.

Julia Butterfly Hill. Surviving the Storm: Lessons from Nature <u>http://www.historyisaweapon.com/defcon1/</u> <u>butterflysurvivingstorm.html</u>



#Pray

We give thanks for the good things that come from the land.

When we share food with one another in friendship, we nourish our bodies but we also feed our souls.

May this food we now share deepen relationship, fuel re-creation, and strengthen us for the reconciling work of healing all creation.

For these good things...we give thanks.

Amen

#Act:

Agape - bread and roses. Please come and share the good things that have been prepared and brought out by our young members.

#Reflect

Silence as we let the action sink in and prepare to sing

#Sing

Bread and Roses

As we go marching, marching in the beauty of the day, A million darkened kitchens, a thousand mill lofts grey Are touched by all the radiance that a sudden sun discloses; All the people hear us singing: "Bread and roses! Bread and roses!"

As we go marching, marching, we battle too for men, For they are in the struggle and together we will win. Our lives shall not be sweated from birth until life closes: Hearts can starve as well as bodies, give us bread, but give us roses!

As we go marching, marching, unnumbered women dead Go crying through our singing their ancient cry for bread; Small art and love and beauty their drudging spirits knew; Yes, it is bread we fight for, but we fight for roses, too!

As we go marching, marching, we're standing proud and tall; The rising of the women is the rising of us all; No more the drudge and idler, ten that toil where one reposes, But a sharing of life's glories: "Bread and roses! Bread and roses!"

James Oppenheim (words), Mimi Fariña (music)

Movement 4: Response

After being with her chosen family, Mary returns to her world of challenge to make a difference.

#Word

Mary:

read by Chloe Matamoras

"He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Marie:

read by Rena Post

The history of Indian Residential Schools in this country, and what needs to be done to address the legacy of them, is not just something for, and about, Aboriginal people. As a country, this chapter of our history belongs to all of us. As its citizens, we all own our past, just as we will all own its future. We are all called to "Witness the Future". Not just the survivors, not just the children, but all of us. Bearing Witness to something important is spiritual work. We know this from our everyday living. We know what an honour it is to be asked to Witness a wedding... a baptism... a traditional naming ceremony... or a memorial service. Through witnessing, the event is validated, made legitimate by honoured and respected guests who bear witness to it. We consider these times and events as sacred in our lives. They call for more than our momentary, physical presence.

Marie Wilson, TRC Commissioner.

http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/pdfs/Commissioner_Wilson_speech.pdf

June:

read by Ian Sowton

What was striking about her was her personal integrity, her optimism, and her ability to bring out the best in everyone. Not only was she compassionate, she always had a vision of how things could be better, and the capacity to communicate inspiration. Of all the books she wrote, my favourite is *Twelve Weeks in Spring*.... Margaret Frazer was a 68-year-old single, retired social activist who had no family locally when she learned she was dying of terminal cancer. June's book describes how 60 people (many only acquaintances or even strangers) came together as a team to care for Margaret in her home. Rather than a lonely death in the hospital, her life ended in a "defiant blossoming of vitality and love" which is the hallmark of good palliative care. June described the experience as "an impressive example of... the human tribe functioning at its best."

When June Callwood herself became ill with cancer, we were galvanized by her decision to refuse treatment and to live life fully, as long as she could, without medical interventions. Who can forget her grace and courage when, in a last CBC-TV interview shortly before her death, she chose to answer the question of her belief in God with, "I believe in kindness."?

Marion Lane. <u>http://effervescentbubble.ca/tag/june-callwood-twelve-weeks-in-spring-the-inspiring-story-of-margaret-and-her-team/</u>

#Reflect

Silence as we let the readings sink in and prepare to act

#Act

Recommitting ourselves. Commitment cards & pictures: who are we staying with? What does it mean to abide with?

#Pray

Prayers of the people

If there things that resonated from earlier in the service or from the bulletin, this is an appropriate time to recall them. You may choose to complete your prayer with a line on the left and the congregation will respond with the line on the right.

God in your mercy	Hear our prayer
God hear our prayer	And let our cry come unto you
Praise God	Alleluia
Rest eternal grant unto them	And let light perpetual shine upon them

Each prayer will be acknowledged by stones added to our table by young people.

#Sing

Stay With Us Through the Night

Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the pain. Stay with us, blessed Mary till the morning breaks again.

Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the grief. Stay with us, blessed Mary till the morning brings relief. Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the joy. Stay with us, blessed Mary till the morning breaks new bread.

Stay with us as we serve. Stay with us as we act. Stay with us, blessed Mary till the morning breaks for all.

Words Copyright © 1988 by Walter Farquharson. LicenSing #605782

#Sending

God is blessing and presence God is confidence and hope God is transformation God is good things.

Go now and be present in our hurting world, assured that Emmanuel God is with us!

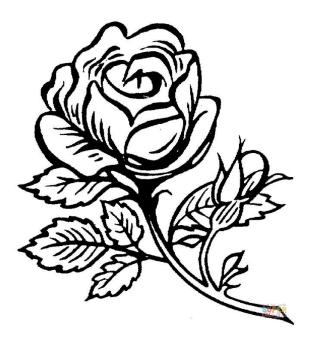
#Sing

 People, look east. The time is near Of the crowning of the year.
 Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table.
 People, look east and sing today:
 Love, the guest, is on the way.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is planted there:Give up your strength the seed to nourish, That in course the flower may flourish.People, look east and sing today:Love, the rose, is on the way.

3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the bird, is on the way.

4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.



5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way. Eleanor Farjean, LicenSing #605782

Postlude - Mary's Boy Child - Bony M

The Church of the Holy Trinity

www.holytrinitytoronto.org

The Diocese of Toronto www.toronto.anglican.ca

The Anglican Church of Canada www.anglican.ca

Today's Worship Team

Coordinators	Beth Baskin, Jennifer Henry, Keith Nunn
Musicians	Fallen Angles and Ian Grundy

Parish Staff

Co-Caretakers Children's Ministry Co-ordinator Music Director Parish Administrator Incumbent Shawn Haden and Ryan Poole Beth Baskin Ian Grundy Margot Linken The Rev'd Sherman Hesselgrave

Associated Clergy

Michael Creal, Ann Griffin, Jim Ferry, Alison Kemper, Bill Whitla, Jim Houston

Announcements

The Christmas Story at Church of the Holy Trinity closes today!

A Toronto tradition since 1938. The story of the Nativity is told through a series of narrated scenes linked by beautiful organ music and carols from an unseen choir. More than 100 volunteers, including babies who take turns playing the role of baby Jesus, perform in one of two casts. The Church of the Holy Trinity, a 168-year-old treasure brings its own charm to the show. Final Performances 4:30 pm & 7:30 pm Reservations recommended.

Suggested donation: Adults - \$20, Children - \$5. <u>christmasstory@holytrinitytoronto.org</u> or <u>www.thechristmasstory.ca</u> or <u>416-598-4521 x301</u> <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/424461191078956/</u> Instagram: #ChristmasStoryTO @ChristmasStoryTO

Christmas at Holy Trinity December 24: Christmas Eve

7:45 PM Cider and Caroling 8:30 PM Festive Bi-lingual Eucharist with San Esteban Community **December 25: Christmas Day** 10:30 AM Eucharist with Carols **December 27: Sunday after Christmas** Lessons and Carols with Eucharist

» Weekly Notices

¤ While in church, if you have **any concerns related to personal safety**, speak to our **Incumbent** Sherman Hesselgrave or the **caretaker on duty**.

¤ Assistive Hearing Devices are available at the rear of the church. Please ask a Greeter or the Caretaker.

¤ Please help us keep tidy by picking up bulletins and hymn books after the service and returning them to the carts at the entrances of the church. Thanks!

¤ Prayers: Please **feel free to light a candle** at the chancel steps, or phone Sherman Hesselgrave with your **special prayer requests**.

¤ Scent Free Zone: Please **refrain** from wearing **highly scented personal products**.

» Services at Holy Trinity Sundays

10.30 am Festive Contemporary Eucharist / Communion Children's Program, inclusive language and music.

2 pm Parroquia San Esteban – Misa en Español – www.sanestebanonline.com

Wednesdays

12¹⁵ pm **Brief spoken Eucharist:** Informal discussion of readings, silence, contemplation.

The Homeless Memorial • Second Tuesday of the month • 12:00 outside South doors

¤ Space Keeping

Please help keep our space looking sharp!! When finished with meetings or events, please leave the space as it was when you started. Thank you!

» Parking Notice

Parking on *Trinity Square*: limited to transportation for the physically challenged.

Free parking available Sundays between 10 am -1 pm in *City Hall* underground garage. (If you park there, bring your parking chit and have it stamped at the church.) Paid parking also available *Bell Trinity* garage, entrance off Bay, St \$6.00 flat rate; and *Eaton Centre* (off Shuter St). **The church is wheelchair accessible by South door.**

