

The Fisherman's Catch

Advent Newsletter 2008
St. Peter's Anglican Church, Calgary

A Christmas Reflection

Typically I arrive home from Christmas Eve services well after midnight. In past years, when the children were young, I would arrive to a house that was dark, the children in bed and a dog who'd moan as I'd come through the door. There was also often a note on the kitchen counter reminding me to consume the glass of milk and cookies in the living room for you know who. (The myriad of roles we play!)

One year our eldest son rigged up the video camera on a tripod and pointed the lens towards the glass and cookies hoping to capture the image of the visitor. As I walked into the living room I turned on the Christmas tree, noticed the video camera with the lens cap still in place and settled into the chair for the tiny feast. In the morning there was the usual discovery of an empty plate, the empty glass, a blank video film and (surprise!) gifts under the tree. "How did he do it?" they'd say. It's one of those lovely family rituals acted out without question. Christmas brings focus to family life as no other season.

With the glory of the evening services in my thoughts, the recollection of the carols hallowed by flickering candles, I realized this too is family – the community of faith gathered from all walks of life to join in praise and celebration. It is a greater and more eternal family that stretches around the globe and across time.

Christmas can be a lonely time for many and yet great solace can be found in the worship and gathering of the Church community; the delight of a children's pageant, joining in the harmonies of the carols, and hearing again the ancient words of the evangelists

The First Friday Club
Come Caroling . . . next week
Sunday, December 7th at 7pm
The Armstrong's 455 Lake Topaz Cres. SE
All are welcome.
Call: Ann / Mike at 271-2285

Here's a thought. Is there someone you know whom you could invite to join you at church this Advent and Christmas? Is there an extra place which could be made at the family table on Christmas day? Most of us who come to worship are here because somebody once invited us. So invite someone. Like the shepherds who turned to each other and said, "Let us go unto Bethlehem and see this thing which the Lord has made known to us," let us consider who we might invite to come with us to worship Christ the Lord.

A blessed Christmas and a safe holiday season.
Blessings, *Richard*

Children's Christmas Joy

Youth Play Sunday, December 7th
Children's Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 14th
Angel costumes welcome

The Prayer Group

Anglican Fellowship of
Prayer

Open to all. Gathering the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm for fellowship and prayer. Come by and join in holding up the needs of many and of one another.

Call Betty Nadurak 686-1110

Extreme Confirmation

(confirmation for Junior High ages)
led by Richard LeSueur

A six week course in the new year

For more information call Joan Hanna
Christian Ed Co-ordinator 403-252-0393

The Christian community
is to be the means by which people around it
recognize the presence and activity of God
that they may be drawn
to the light of God's life and love.

