



December 13, 2009

# TRINITY NEWS

## Advent III - The Destiny Waltz

I preached in the Church of the Holy Trinity in Orange, NSW last Sunday. I came to that Church 43 years ago the day after I had been ordained a Deacon on December 17<sup>th</sup> 1966 in the nearby town of Blayney. I began by saying that a well known identity, Anne M., had passed her artistic gaze over me at Holy Trinity that evening and paid me a compliment that I had not forgotten. I added that men do not forget the compliments that are paid to them by women. I would have liked to add "by classy ladies", but I thought that was pushing my luck! I later rang Anne M. to ensure that she was clear on what I said before a report reached her which may have grown in the telling! She was delighted that I had recalled the compliment. The point in the sermon was that I could no longer live up to the compliment. We do change in appearance and in our capacity to do things. I had my birthday last

Friday, December 11th, another reminder that time is passing at a great rate. But I am thankful for energy and drive and strength for the journey.

But as with Paul in Philippians 4:4-9 we have much to rejoice about. Gentleness in a strong person is never weakness, but of tensile strength. "The Lord is near" is reminder of the expectation in the early Church that Christ's return was always near. It may be taken in the sense that he is always near, "closer than a brother" whenever we reach out to him and in his own constant welcoming stance towards us.

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).

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Worry leads to anxiety and anxiety leads to fear, and fear leads to reaction, anger and sorrow. Prayer is a conversation with God, laced with supplications, “prayers of the heart for others and ourselves”, and thanksgiving, “offering thanks for past blessings and lights in the darkness on the trail of our life-pilgrimage”. Last year Anne M. lost her husband, a wonderful man. She has to chart a new course just when her first strength is failing and she is fortunate to be in a small village where the people warm to her artistic gifts and to her honest and open approach. Some of us recall a dance called the Destiny Waltz. I never mastered it. We are all dancing the Destiny Waltz in another sense. I am very conscious of it this week. Perhaps

you are also very conscious of dancing the Destiny waltz at this time. So is the Church in Advent Season as it awaits Destiny’s Child. “Let your requests be made known to God”, says Paul. “The Father of all lights” always listens to us. The most important part of prayer is listening for the *Bath Qol*, “the daughter of the voice”, the soft and insistent assurances of God’s voice that the Rabbis of old spoke about. When that inner voice says things over and over, then in my experience they have always come true. “Slowing down won’t kill you” is a current road sign in the Australian countryside. “Slowing down” to listen to the *Bath Qol* will permit you to hear words that will strengthen your resolve and prompt you to dance the Destiny Waltz.  
**Bishop Arthur Jones**

## Third Sunday of Advent: December 13, 2009

### We are thankful to those who are ministering in the church this morning

*Celebrant / Preacher:* The Rt. Rev. Arthur L. Jones

*Eucharistic Ministers:* [7:30] Edison Yap

[9:30] Ed Burleson / Robin Whale

*Readers:* [7:30] Christopher Yu

[9:30] Ann Quon-Cordingley

*Ministers of Music:* Ferdinand Bautista / Domino Marcos

*Ushers:* [7:30] John & Alice GoHoc

[9:30] Tiffany Shau / Hydie Ursua

*Acolytes:* Patrick Dagas/Alexis Dalmas/Dexter Fanged/Eric Gatulla/  
David Joaquin/Loren Ursua

*The altar flowers are donated to the glory of God by:*

Domino Marcos; Hedelisa Kawi and family

*Offering of the Bread and Wine & Hospitality:*

Hector & Cecile Katigbak

#### Collect:

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

#### Scripture Readings:

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20 page 1066-1067

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-9 page 1325

Gospel: Luke 3:7-18 (NRSV)

#### Sunday Hymns:

[7:30] Gradual What love is this (insert)  
Recessional Lord of the dance (insert)

[9:30] Processional No. 56, O come, O come Emmanuel  
Gradual What love is this (insert)  
Communion No. 81, Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
No. 336, Come with us, O blessed Jesus  
Recessional Lord of the dance (insert)



#### A Note of Thanks from Bishop Arthur

My thanks to Fr. Dimanche and Fr. Barry and our wonderful staff and ministry team for support while I was on leave in Australia. Valerie is recovering well and she sends her love.

It is a year today since I came to this church. It has been a wonderful year, far exceeding my expectations.

Thank you all for your love and care.

Dear Everyone,

We are reminding the parishioners to prepare for the culminating UTO/PASASALAMAT event on December 20. Kindly prepare your coin savers and envelopes for collection.

Our utmost sincere thanks,

Women of the of the Church

**Your prayers are asked for:**

Those who are celebrating their birthdays this week especially

- Joy Doctor (Dec. 16)
- Abigail Katigbak (Dec. 16)
- Larry Litchfield (Dec. 17)
- Rehan Perera (Dec. 18)
- Maricel Bangilan (Dec. 19)
- Tyler Hoban (Dec. 19)
- Hedelisa Kawi (Dec. 19)
- Melvin Ong (Dec. 19)
- Prasanna Perera (Dec. 19)
- Rebecca Wallum (Dec. 19)

Those celebrating their wedding anniversaries especially

- Hector & Cecile Katigbak;
- Sibley Jr & Lilibeth Kawi.

Those who are in need of healing especially Allan Waterfield, Beryl Tanner, Bonnie SyCip, Carlyn-Fern Manning, JPeter, Rom Vildzius, Johnny Manning Jr, Audrey Lacson, Isabel Yu, Loy Solasco, Benjie Conzales, Jovel Llagas, Richard Kendall, Aris Paraman, Diana Croyston, Ted Whale, Merly Quiapos, Susan Dalmas, Helen Irvine, Carrie Angus, Valerie Jones, Emerinciana Gatela, Ron Jacob, Suzanne Jacobson.

Ray Lyon, Charlotte Dimanche on the occasion of their death anniversaries.



**THIS WEEK:**

- Mon., Dec. 14                   • Vestry meeting, 6:30pm, Rectory
- Tues., Dec. 15               • Bible Study, 10am
- Wed.-Sat., Dec. 16-19      • THEA Inventory Sale, 9am-5pm
- Thurs., Dec. 17              • Eucharist, 10am, Chapel
- Bible Study, 7pm, Rectory
- Sun., Dec. 20                 • Eucharist, 7:30/9:30am
- Sunday School/Pageant Rehearsal, 9:15am
- Potluck, after the 9:30am service
- UE Choral Festival, 5pm, Church

	<b>Last Sunday</b>	<b>Year-to-Date</b>	<b>2009 Budget</b>
<b>Pledge</b>	P80,750.00	P3,466,125.50	P3,900,000.00
<b>Loose Plate</b>	P18,360.00	P1,019,395.95	P940,000.00
<b>Pasasalamat/UTO</b>	P200.00	P23,715.00	