

TRINITY NEWS

EPIPHANY 1. JANUARY 13, 2019

ECHT AGM Rector's Report 2019

A short report can be more effective than a lengthy. So here goes:

Thank you to the congregations, Vestry, Staff, Clergy and all who make what we call 'church' happen. Amongst many other things to celebrate we have the growing French speaking congregation led by Fr. Bert. Genette and the children's ministry team have welcomed Kimberly and Denise with their enthusiasm and helpful ministry. Outreach with scholarships continues to provide new and growing opportunities for students and families.

Our lives are a series of hello's and goodbyes. Deacon Mary has lived between two countries in the tension of caring for the church family in Manila and our biological family in Adelaide. Amongst the delightful hellos of new births and parishioners we have said farewell to loved ones who have joined the Communion of Saints, may light perpetual shine upon them and I thank God for their lives. Holy Trinity is a diverse-ness of cultures and people as they come and go nationally and internationally. Along with others, we give thanks for 33 years of Bertie and Ratna Ezra with their contribution to Holy Trinity and the wider Diocese and Philippines as they leave to retire in India.

Mission and Vision for the future. I guess it is more of a method and way of living I encourage. I'm not a fan of texta's and butchers paper. Often what can happen is the effort of future planning can distract the ministry opportunities which are right in front of us in the present. So 4 points I stress:

Pray: To be in step with the Holy Spirit.

Look: Observe the wonders of God around us and within us... *in the present.*

Listen: To what God is saying through people and creation.

Act: Pray the prayer 'what then can I do'.

This is nothing new the prophet Micah urged Jerusalem to *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

Maybe it's as simple and difficult as that.

Love and prayers.

Fr. Peter

NOTICES:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: An Ecumenical Service on Friday Jan 25 at 7:00pm followed by supper is planned across the road at San Antonio Parish. This becomes a wonderful expression of our faith in God, who is bigger than all denominations.

Nomination Forms are available for Vestry. Seven (7) positions are open. The 2-terms of Simon, Jocelyn, Bill is finished. Hazel is still eligible to run for the second term. There is a position vacant as Ratna leaves. Ruby and Romeo were filling vacant positions of one year term left, if choosing to continue, will need reelection. The other four (4) Vestry positions still have one year remaining. The AGM will be on Sunday 27th after the 9:30am worship.

Farewell: Bertie and Ratna Ezra last worship service before they leave to live back in India will be Sunday 20th Jan at 9:30am. We give thanks to God for some 30 years of worship, ministry and dedication for God's Church of Holy Trinity and the wider diocese and community of the Philippines. Please come to the service to support and give thanks to them both in their transition. If you can contribute to a 'Pot Luck' brunch this would be appreciated.

CALENDAR DATES:

Jan. 16. Bible Study, 10:30a.m.

Jan. 16. Bible Study, 7:00p.m., Rectory

Jan. 19. Wedding, 9:30a.m.

Jan. 19. Wedding, 3:00p.m.

Jan. 20. Wedding, 3:00p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Isaiah 62:1-5;

Psalms 96;

1 Corinthians 12:1-11;

John 2:1-11