

# TRINITY NEWS

**WEEK 50.**  
**December 10, 2023**  
**Advent 2**

## **Relaunching Youth Ministry activities after the pandemic**

**A**t the start of the 2nd semester of this year 2023, the youth and young adults of HTC gathered for a morning of training and consultation with the aim of relaunching the Youth Ministry/activities in our church, after the difficult period marked by Covid-19. The participants analyzed the current situation of our parish community, reflecting on how to restore youth activities. Certain strategies and working methods have been defined to promote the visibility of our Trinitarian charism and the good continuity of our Youth apostolate. Prior to this post pandemic gathering, the Sunday schools was already up and running with two new volunteer teachers: We extend our gratitude to: **Elma Tcho** and **Julia Mabiassen**, (our continued prayer for **Kimberly Stokes'** fast recovery) for the wonderful work with the children. Last November 19<sup>th</sup> 2023, we launched the Advent Alpha Courses for our young Adults (13 years or above). These four weeks of training seek to help young people grow in an integral manner. It aims to respond to the new challenges of today's youth and thus

offer responses adapted to new educational and religious emergencies. During the last three Sundays, this training has seen the active participation of over twelve to fifteen young people from our community. The last session for the Advent season is being held today in Brent, together with the Youth group from Holy Family Church. Today's activity also marks our opening with the diocesan youth of the Episcopal Church. Our sincere thanks to **Sir Hannel** for facilitating this session. Looking forward to the next.

## **HTC Pastoral Plan for the Youth 2024**

Young people constitute an important part of the people of God, and therefore, an important and determining element for the life (future) of the Church. Consequently, we want to establish a framework for education and deepening of the Christian faith of young people. Better still, our 2024 program would like to be a catalog of Christian commitment which will offer diocesan visibility of specific youth ministry in harmony with general parish ministry. In a word, it will be about training our youth to be responsible and committed young people in the Church and in society. *To page 2*

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### **A) What can we expect for the year 2024 (Calendar to follow)**

- ♦ **Spiritual Activities:** such as retreats, learning sessions on how to pray and meditate the Word of God.
- ♦ **Educational activities:** such as Alpha Courses, Movies.
- ♦ **Opening with the youth groups of the diocese:** through Outings, Vocational Camps.
- ♦ **Sport activities:** to cultivate not only techniques, but mostly fair-play attitudes, listening and sharing.

Each young person will be encouraged to take responsibility for the smooth running of any activity, through their concrete involvement in the life of our community.

### **B) Areas of Service/Ministry:**

The HTC Youth Ministry aims to strengthen existing areas of services and develop new projects or services. It wishes to reach each baptized person in their life of faith, offering them the possibility to move forward in their journey with Jesus Christ. We highly encourage you to multiply your talents by:

- ♦ By Serving God and the community as **Acolytes** and why not as a **Priest?**
- ♦ By becoming a **Sunday School teacher.**
- ♦ By Singing in the **Choir.**
- ♦ By serving as **Lay Reader.**

- ♦ By becoming an **Alpha Course Animator.**
- ♦ By serving as **Catechism teacher** (for adult Baptism and Confirmation).
- ♦ By becoming a **Vestry Member.**
- ♦ By serving as **Usher.**

Through our youth program and like in a family, HTC wants to walk alongside the young people. We support them in progressive responsibility for activities, but also in their personal growth. Between the ages of from 4 to 12 (by instilling in them evangelical values through Sunday school); from 13 to 17 (by working with them on discerning their vocations. By helping them to transcend the difficulties and changes that puberty imposes on them, while keeping their gaze fixed on the only model that is Jesus Christ, through our educational activities/ programs) and from 18 to 30, by guiding them in making major life decisions: higher education, first job, struggles, marriage, etc.

### **C) What should we expect from adults and parents?**

Your prayers and full support.

Blessings,  
Fr. Bert

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK:

**Lucy of Syracuse, 13 December.** Lucy was a native of Syracuse in Sicily. She lived at the beginning of the fourth century, when the Roman authorities were attempting to re-establish the worship of gods they approved. The emperor himself was the focus of one of the cults. Tradition has it that Lucy, as a young Christian, gave away her goods to the poor and was betrayed to the authorities by her angry betrothed, who felt that they should have become his property. She was put to death for her faith in the year 304. Her name in Latin means Light and, as her feast-day fell in December, she became associated with the one true Light who was coming as the redeemer of the world, the Light that would lighten the nations, the Light that would banish darkness and let the eyes of all behold Truth incarnate.

**John of the Cross, 14 December.** Born to an impoverished noble family near Avila in Spain in 1542, Juan de Yepes was brought up by his widowed mother and went to a charity school. He worked as a nurse and received further education from the Jesuits before entering the Carmelite order when he was twenty-one. Having distinguished himself at Salamanca university, he was ordained in 1567 and met Teresa of Avila soon afterwards. Small of stature, he made a great impression on her and she persuaded him to help with her reform of the Carmelite order. His labours brought him into conflict with the religious authorities, and he was even imprisoned for a period, yet these experiences prompted some of his finest poetry and mystical writing. In particular, he described the 'dark night' of the soul as it is purified in its approach towards God. After ten years as superior to several different houses, he again fell out of favour and was banished to Andalusia in southern Spain, where he died after a severe illness on this day in 1591.

### Events:

- Today: Norway Advent Service, 6:00 pm
- Dec.11-16, THEA Inventory Sale
- NEXT SUNDAY, December 17.
  - ◊ JOINT Service 8:30 am.
  - ◊ Sunday School Christmas Pageant and Christmas Concert, 9:45 am.
  - ◊ Potluck lunch follows. **[SIGN-UP ON THE BOARD]**
- December 24, Regular morning service.
- December 24, Midnight mass, 10:00 p.m.
- December 25, Christmas morning service, 10:00 a.m.
- December 31, Regular morning service.
- January 1, Feast of the Holy Name, 10:00 a.m.



There is no mother but has her Magnificat.  
[**Charles Henry Brent**, *The Inspiration of Responsibility*]