



Canterbury Tales

To be a supportive Christian community allowing the Holy Spirit to grow within us so that we may become a living symbol for Christ's presence.

PENTECOST 2011

What's Inside

Rector's Message	2
Incumbency Scenes	3
It's Pentecost	5
Famous	5
Or Faith – Our Hope	7

plus

Children's Corner
Calendar
Warden's Wand

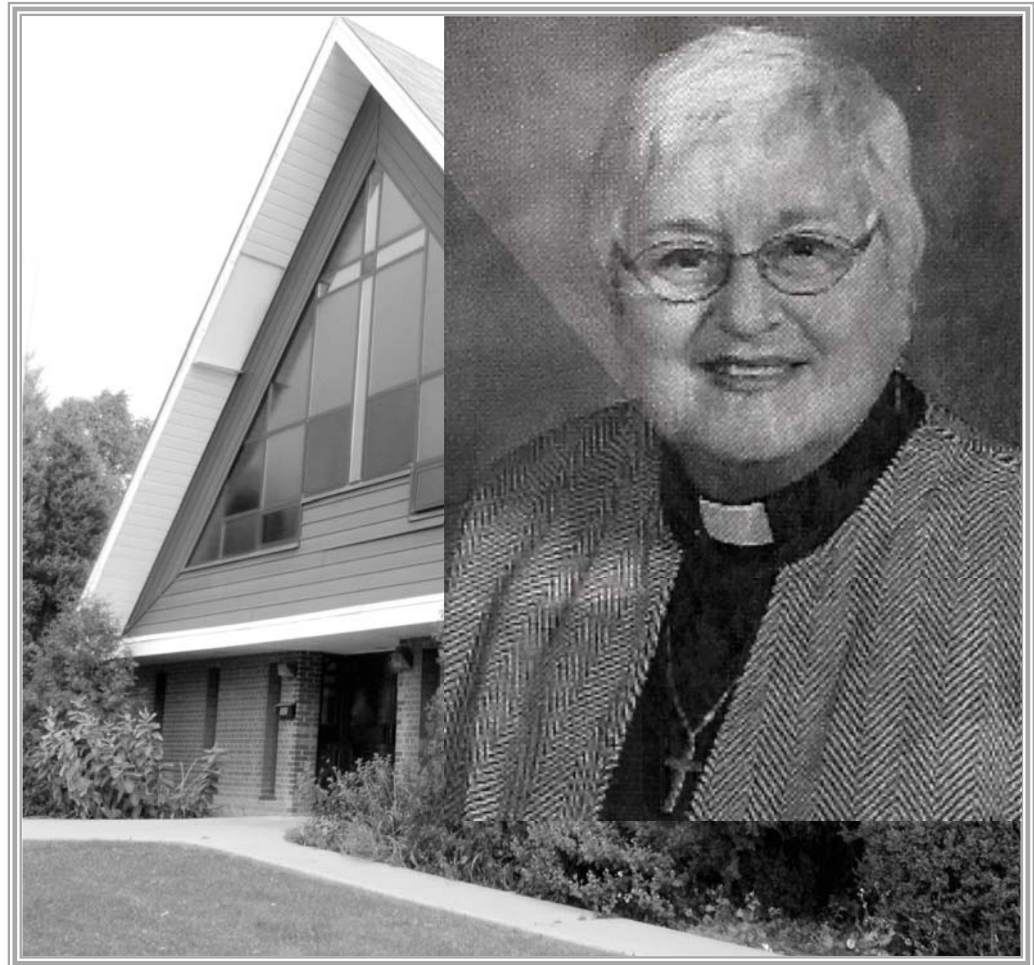


St. Theodore of Canterbury
Anglican Church
111 Cactus Avenue
North York, Ontario
M2R 2V1

Telephone: 416-222-2461
Facsimile: Please call ahead

E-mail:
theodorechurch@bellnet.ca

Website: sttheodore.ca



Farewell and God Bless your New Ministry

The Reverend Claire Goodrich Dyer

Incumbent

St. Theodore of Canterbury

2005 - 2011

From the Rector's Desk

This is a very difficult message to write as I prepare for my move to St. Patrick's.

I cannot believe that it is six years since I came home to St. Theodore's. From the time in 2001 when I spent a year with you as a green theological student – memories of 'Unhand Me Squire' – I have grown to know and love you and saying goodbye is not easy.

Since coming as your incumbent in 2005, we have journeyed together through births – baptisms – weddings and funerals. I have had the privilege to sit with you at your happiest and your saddest times. As well as that, there have been other times which families spend together – times of excitement and fun and times of conflict and problems.

You have been faithful and loyal through it all and I appreciate that that has not always been easy. We have walked together through new liturgies both in English and Russian – through a few secretaries and many Monks' cells. We have struggled as usual with our finances but still managed to be more than faithful to a major capital campaign.

We have sung praise songs and enjoyed the more traditional anthems of a superb music team.

I have had fun with the youth – now not so young – and held some new babies. I have looked down at the awe in the face of the children as I tell them that Jesus loves them.

You will always remain very deep in my heart and always in my prayers.

In return, I ask for your continual prayers as I tackle a new challenge and get to know a new family at St. Patrick's.

We worship a God of surprises and this move is surely one of those. However, I deeply believe that we must always watch for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and obey.

Once more thank you for all the support you have given me and I will definitely have a table for Monks' Cell in 2012.

Blessings, your priest and pastor,

Rev. Claire

From the Editor's Mac

Canterbury Tales absorbs much of my energy, I have always had the full support and regular contribution of Reverend Claire. Here are some gems she has sent me, with comments.

Contributed by a teaching Nun on an exam for grade Four Students (spelling not corrected)

- Lot's wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night. (The Rev. has always been a ball of fire by day. Whatever gets her through the night is okay by me.)
- The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Then Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments. (Desserts and Cyanide? Can't be the weight loss programme of choice.)
- Moses died before he ever reached Canada then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol. (Thankfully The Rev. made it to Canada. As for Geritol, a lady never tells.)
- The greatest miricle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him. C2 (The only time Rev. Claire stood still was after her foot surgery.)
- St. Paul cavorted to christianity, he preached holy acrimony which is another name for marraige. (And we thought she knew why she was led to ordination.)
- The people who followed the lord were called the twelve decibels. (Not a bad name for a band, but neither is The Tunes.)
- When Mary heard she was to be the mother of Jesus she sang the magna carta. (well Rev. Claire, I had to put something in about social justice)

Who to Call this Summer

Brother Leonard Abbah OHC is covering the services in July

Rev. Steven Shaw is covering pastoral emergencies in July.

If you have any concerns please contact one of the Wardens either directly or through the office.



“Love does not mean perfection, but commitment”

We first met The Reverend Claire Goodrich Dyer in September 2001 as one of our theological students. The Reverend Dean Mercer, our incumbent at that time, did not spare her. She certainly got a very solid workout in the multifarious tasks a parish priest is asked to perform.

True to the quote above, her commitment carried her through, and when we said goodbye to her in April she carried a growing vocation for the life of a parish priest. Then, in early 2006 she renewed her relationship with St. Theodore's, this time as a newly minted priest in her first incumbency. The quote at the heading of this retrospective was almost her first written words to us in Canterbury Tales April 2006. The other quotation speaking eloquently to Claire's style : "Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love" (I Corinthians 16:13)

So where has commitment and love brought us, the people of the parish church of St. Theodore of Canterbury during the six years of The Reverend Claire's incumbency? Again and again she tried to open us to the sheer variety of Christian expression. She advocated "time out to visit other worshipping communities". She brought us visiting clergy in enthusiastic parish exchanges. We were led in worship by the Reverends Brereton, Horne, Hunt, Jacques, Machoko, Mercer, Pataki, Sandilands, Wilton and by Bishops Yu and Johnson. She was ever curious about how others coped with any given problem. She joined us with Mosaic, and St. Seraphim of Sarov Orthodox congregation, with our Jewish neighbours, and with the Sisters of St. John the Divine. She devoted endless hours to encouraging cross cultural interaction, starting with the parish events Monks' Cell and Caribbean Night, she brought us week after week the announcement of other parish and diocesan cultural events. From her commitment to social and human rights issues, she brought us a never ending procession of speakers on a variety of social issues, from housing, homelessness, poverty and human rights, always showing us the practical assistance we, as members of this parish, might give. She truly laboured hard in this vineyard, our social activist incumbent.

In our worship life, the Reverend Claire instituted the contemporary service, she brought us hand bells at Easter, post it notes on Good Friday, not to mention the Good Friday neighbourhood walk, services in Moore Park, and healing and bereavement services. She passionately advocated for the meaning of Christmas, both to our young people in the celebration of St. Nicholas day, and to the adult congregation in Advent workshops and studies.

During her Incumbency, SARS brought her the task of implementing hygiene around the common cup, the common practice of having long time wardens of small parishes moved her to put three year limits on any appointment with three years off before renewing, and the residential schools issue brought her screening in faith organizational headaches.

Theodore of Tarsus was sixty when his Bishop sent him to England to take up a heavy task. Theodore became our patron; Claire became our incumbent. We are truly twice blessed.

Robert McCurdy and Aba Newton Announce their Engagement



One thing I can say I appreciate about being a member of St Theodore was the way I was showered with so much affection by all the women as well as the mothers there and their constant prayers and concern about their praying I meet my life partner. The first time Rob visited St Theodore he was greeted with hugs and affection and he promised coming back (which he did). He said to me on our way home he admired the way he saw the church had a mixture of all races and it felt so much of a big happy family.

This is from Robert.

'Her hello, was the end of my endings, her laugh was the first step towards a happy relationship, her hands would be mine to hold forever, her forever would be simple as my smile, she said he knew what was missing and I said I instantly knew, she was the question to be answered and my answer was YES!!! "

Happy Birthday, It's Pentecost

Birthday? Pentecost? What's going on here?

"When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them ability."

Acts 2 1-4



called "Green Sunday". Churches are decorated with greenery, priests wear green robes and people place a green branch at their door. The custom comes from the fact that on Pentecost three thousand people were baptized into the new faith. Green symbolizes new life, and Pentecost is thought to be the birthday of the church. In the Eastern Orthodox and Greek Catholic Church Pentecost is one of the twelve Great Feasts of the church year, second only to Easter in importance. It is celebrated with an all night vigil, and the beautiful "kneeling Prayer" is sung at the Vespers service. Green is the liturgical colour in this tradition too.

Why were those apostles gathered together? After all, Jesus had already revealed his risen self to them and had ascended to heaven. They were gathered for Shavuot the loveliest and most ancient of Jewish festivals, which takes place on the fiftieth day after Passover (Ancient Greek: pentekoste – fiftieth day). It was during this time that they experienced the first gift of the Holy Spirit, and affirmation of what we know as "The Great Commission". It is considered the birth of Christianity, so... Happy Birthday dear Christians!

Pentecost is the season for baptisms and ordinations. It is most appropriate that new life begin at Pentecost.

And so, whether you wore red or white or green to the June twelfth service, you were in good company, for we are nothing at St. Theodore's if not multi-cultural. Oh yes – and Happy Birthday.

Tradition has it that the room they were gathered in was the very room where they had celebrated the Passover meal with Jesus fifty days before. Many other traditions have grown up around this feast day. Pentecost is known as Whitsun in the United Kingdom (White Sunday because of the celebratory white robes and altar cloths). Until very recently the Monday following Whitsun was a holiday. In the Caribbean red is the colour of Pentecost, reflecting the red of the tongues of fire that descended upon the apostles. In Italy it is traditional to scatter red rose petals from the loft also recalling the tongues of fire. In France trumpets are blown during Divine Service recalling the violent wind. In The Ukraine, Pentecost is

FAMOUS

BY NAOMI SHIHAB NYE

The river is famous to the fish.

The loud voice is famous to silence,
which knew it would inherit the earth
before anybody said so.

The cat sleeping on the fence is famous to the birds
watching him from the birdhouse.

The tear is famous, briefly, to the cheek.

The idea you carry close to your bosom
is famous to your bosom.

The boot is famous to the earth,
more famous than the dress shoe,
which is famous only to floors.

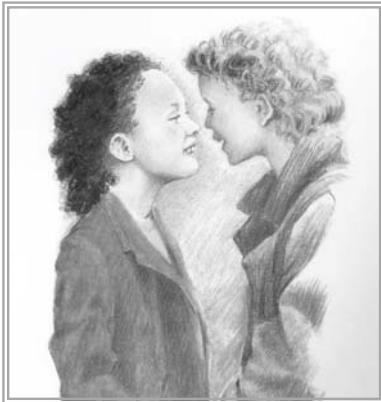
The bent photograph is famous to the one who
carries it
and not at all famous to the one who is pictured.

I want to be famous to shuffling men
who smile while crossing streets,
sticky children in grocery lines,
famous as the one who smiled back.

I want to be famous in the way a pulley is famous,
or a buttonhole, not because it did anything
spectacular,
but because it never forgot what it could do.

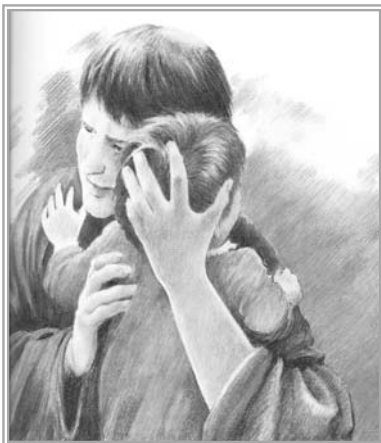
Children's Corner

Here are some favourite prayers to say during the summer. Remember all places are good for prayer. The beach, in an airplane, at your grandparents, the dinner table, your bed. God always listens.



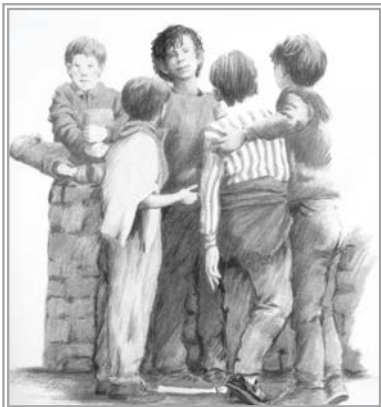
God bless all those that I love
 God bless all those that love me
 God bless all those that love those that I love
 And all those that love those that love me.

Now another day is breaking, sleep was sweet, but so is waking
 Dear Lord, I promised you last night never again to sulk or fight
 Such vows are easier to keep, when a child is sound asleep.
 Today, O Lord, for your dear sake, I'll try to keep them when awake.
 Ogden Nash



Watch Lord with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give
 your charge over those who sleep. Tend your sick ones, O Lord Jesus,
 rest your weary ones, bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering
 ones, pity your afflicted ones shield your joyous ones; and all for your
 love's sake.
 St. Augustine

Lord, when I am afraid of sleep and afraid of the darkness, make me
 remember that in peace I can lay me down in sleep, for you alone
 make me dwell in safety, and the darkness is not dark to you. Lord
 Jesus, help me put my trust in you when I am afraid.



Lord, you know how busy I must be this day.
 If I forget You, do You not forget me. Sir Jacob Astley(1652)

For all that has been – Thanks!
 To all that shall be – Yes!
 Dag Hammarskjold

Thank you for the world so sweet
 Thank you for the food we eat
 Thank you for the birds that sing
 Thank you God for everything

The Warden's Wand



As the editor of Canterbury Tales, and no longer a warden, I sent the following request: "Could one of you write a warden's report for Canterbury Tales? I'd like to continue the "Warden's Wand" feature. What's needed is a few paragraphs updating the parish. "

The following reply came from Dan, ever faithful, ever humorous:

"From the property management perspective, the following has been taking place.

1. Jamie Galka has been assisting me and Roy with some odd jobs around the church.
 2. We had a backup in the washrooms downstairs in the church (sand all over the floors? We have pictures of it). Asked the City to check it out based on the work across the street.
 3. Roy and I checked the sewer tanks behind the church to make sure they were draining correctly (they are -- I'm sure you didn't want to hear about this one)- Roy is now the second person who knows about this and where they are located. (I'm starting feel like John Mitchell)
 4. Inside the church the Russian congregation wants to build another stained glass window for us.
 5. The boiler room has been cleaned out and we want to keep it that way.
 6. Roy is going to have the BBQ box for Monk's Cell repaired – one corner is falling out.
- Not much, just the usual and whatever Rebecca discovers."

Our Faith - Our Hope: Re-Imagine Church
Block I Parishes Statistical Report
17/06/2011

Parish	Parish Priest	Families	Goal	Reported this Week	#	Assigned	# Returned	# of Gifts	# of Declines	Average Gift	Initial Payment	Total Pledged	% of Goal
St. David, Lawrence Ave	The Rev. Andrew P. Fedele	121	\$ 95,000		115	100	100	61	39	\$ 3,119	\$6,860	\$190,230	200%
St. Martin, Bay Ridges	The Rev. Mike Hope	208	\$ 170,000		160	160	71	89	\$ 3,861	\$11,720	\$274,100	161%	
St. Hilary, Cooksville	The Rev. Paul J. Walker	194	\$ 240,000		197	193	94	99	\$ 3,876	\$31,180	\$364,370	152%	
St. Theodore of Canterbury	The Rev. Claire Goodrich Dyer	84	\$ 120,000		83	89	44	25	\$ 3,918	\$13,625	\$172,400	144%	
St. Nicholas, Birch Cliff	The Rev. Kevin Robertson	248	\$ 230,000	Yes	240	174	69	105	\$ 4,586	\$24,650	\$316,415	138%	
St. Margaret, New Toronto	The Rev. Renate Koike	103	\$ 170,000		71	70	38	32	\$ 5,355	\$40,195	\$203,495	120%	
Christ Church, Holland Landing	The Rev. Annette Gilles	46	\$ 60,000		49	33	26	7	\$ 2,758	\$4,800	\$71,700	120%	
St. Leonard's	The Rev. Brian Flower	148	\$ 225,000		137	137	66	71	\$ 3,868	\$24,930	\$263,220	117%	
The Church of The Nativity, Malvern	The Rev. Canon Donald Butler	262	\$ 250,000		152	152	92	60	\$ 3,161	\$4,425	\$290,810	116%	
Christ Church, Stouffville	The Rev. Jason Pringley	190	\$ 310,000		190	113	79	34	\$ 4,478	\$34,585	\$353,745	114%	
St. James the Apostle, Sharon	The Rev. Bill Welch	90	\$ 110,000		102	96	36	20	\$ 3,463	\$11,174	\$125,370	114%	
All Saints, King City	The Rev. Nicole Skinner	115	\$ 240,000		95	81	50	31	\$ 5,425	\$18,214	\$271,240	113%	
Grace Church, Markham	The Rev. Canon John A. Read	336	\$ 340,000		336	221	120	101	\$ 3,108	\$59,200	\$372,915	110%	
St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope	The Rev. Stephen Vail	243	\$ 225,000		233	233	75	158	\$ 3,276	\$23,700	\$245,732	109%	
St. Philp, Etobicoke	The Rev. Canon Allan Budzin	165	\$ 250,000		165	152	66	86	\$ 4,103	\$27,675	\$270,825	108%	
Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa	The Rev. Judy Paulsen	224	\$ 340,000	Yes	221	188	102	86	\$ 3,159	\$35,050	\$322,240	95%	
St. Cyprian, Toronto	The Rev. Mary Lewis	107	\$ 125,000	Yes	100	98	57	41	\$ 2,043	\$16,400	\$116,400	93%	
St. Paul, Newmarket	The Rev. Gordon Sheppard	168	\$ 195,000		163	157	77	80	\$ 2,328	\$20,348	\$179,290	92%	
Church of St. Andrew, Scarborough	The Rev. Heather McCance	289	\$ 340,000		285	297	68	189	\$ 4,594	\$15,600	\$312,390	92%	
St. Paul, Runnymede	The Rev. Maurice Francois	57	\$ 80,000		54	36	20	16	\$ 3,242	\$4,720	\$64,840	81%	
St. Paul, Uxbridge	The Rev. Dana Dickson	169	\$ 130,000		135	85	44	41	\$ 2,318	\$12,200	\$101,990	78%	
Trolley Church, Port Credit	The Rev. Judith Herron-Graham	136	\$ 160,000	Yes	81	74	33	41	\$ 3,567	\$10,340	\$117,700	74%	

Well, St. Theodore's we did it. We did it! We surpassed our target of \$120,000 by 44% bringing in a total of \$173,000! Not bad at all for a small struggling parish. These funds will be used to strengthen both the Diocese in terms of ministry on the local, national and international level and also, in a very tangible way at St. Theodore's; to replace the boiler and paint the Chancel and Narthex. Since much of this campaign took place during Lent, our campaign meetings, held every Wednesday evening save Holy Week, became a Lenten study. Each meeting opened with prayer setting the tone for the evening and for the visits that followed. Being part of this campaign allowed us the blessing of connecting with our parish family. Many prayers and jokes made their way into the time spent in the company of fellow members allowing us to get to know each other a little better. A suggestion was made that we consider starting parish visitations as a way to keep in touch with our parish family. Of course this will require the blessing of the Parish Corporation and the Advisory Board. "Stay tuned for further developments"

Our team; chaired by Reverend Claire, Executive Chair Bonny Hietala, Executive Secretary Deborah Carter, Committee Members, Andy Khan, Dan Della Rossa, Ruth Barber and Jacqueline Marée; were very grateful for the professional and positive support provided by Amy Sexton our CCS (Community Counselling Service Co.) representative. We were assured that as long as we followed the process all of us at St. Theodore's would benefit. And I must say it has worked.

A great big heartfelt thank you to all who participated in giving us their blessings, prayers and financial commitments, you made the campaign a success. Much can be achieved through prayer and positive thoughts. May we remain strong and committed to our faith, accepting God's guidance and wisdom in all areas of our lives, knowing that we are blessed to be able to worship freely without any fear of reprisal.

Jacqueline Maree

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

- Sun. 3 Pentecost 3**
10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS
Celebrant:Brother Leonard Abbah OHC
- Thu. 7 Choir to Thorne Mill
- Sun. 10 Pentecost 4**
10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS
Celebrant:Brother Leonard Abbah OHC
- Sun. 17 Pentecost 5**
10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS
Celebrant:Brother Leonard Abbah OHC
- Sun. 24 Pentecost 6**
10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS
Celebrant:Brother Leonard Abbah OHC
- Mon. 25 7:15 Sacred dance circle
- Sun. 31 Pentecost 7**
10 am Morning Prayer
Preacher:Carol Brunton

AUGUST

- Sun. 7 Pentecost 8**
10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS
- Thu.5 7:30 Choir at Thorne Mill
- Sun. 14 Pentecost 9**
10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS
- Sun. 21 Pentecost 10**
10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS
- Sun. 28 Pentecost 11**
10am Eucharist p. 230 BAS
- Mon. 29 7:15 Sacred Dance Circle

SEPTEMBER

- Sun. 4 Pentecost 12**
10:am Eucharist p. 185 BAS
last 10am service of summer
- Thu. 8 8 pm Choir Practice resumes
- Fri. 9 6:30 Tunes resume
- Sun. 11 Pentecost 13**
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Sung Eucharist/church school
- Wed. 14 7:30 Advisory Board
- Thu. 15 8pm Choir Practice
- Fri. 16 4:30 Tunes Rehearsal

Sun. 18 Patronal Festival

- 8am Holy Communion
- 10:30 Sung Eucharist/church school
Bishop Patrick YuThu. 22
8pm Choir Practice
- Fri. 23 4:30 Tunes rehearsal
- Sun. 25 Pentecost 15**
Back to Church Sunday
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Sung Eucharist /church school
8pm Choir Practice
- Thu. 29 8pm Choir Practice
- Fri. 30 4:30 Tunes rehearsal

OCTOBER

- Sun. 2 Pentecost 16**
PWRDF Appeal Launch
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Sung Eucharist/ church school
- Thu. 7 8pm Choir to Thorne Mill
Practice
- Fri. 8 4:30 Tunes rehearsal
- Sun. 9 Pentecost 17**
Harvest Thanksgiving
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Sung Eucharist/church school
- Thu. 13 8:00Choir practice
Pre Synod meeting
- Fri. 14 4:30 Tunes rehearsal
- Sat. 15 Diocesan Outreach Conference
- Sun. 16 Pentecost 18**
Thanksgiving
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Sung Eucharist/church school
- Thu. 20 8pm Choir Practice
- Fri. 21 4:30 Tunes rehearsal
- Sun. 23 Pentecost 19**
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Sung Eucharist/church school
2:00 Mosaic Peace meal
- Mon. 24 7:15 Sacred dance Circle
- Thu. 27 8pm Choir Practice
- Fri. 28 4:30 Tunes rehearsal
- Sat. 19 Basil Tonks Dinner
- Sun. 31 Pentecost 19
8am Holy Communion
10:30 Morning Prayer