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Wednesday, 9 May 2007
St Expeditus Day

Hello Everyone

I didn't have even one chocolate bunny this year for Easter and I can't say that I'm terribly upset about it. There are other Easter joys which are much better (and less fattening!). How great to see that attendance this year saw a rise in numbers. How wonderful to be able to initiate an adult through baptism on Easter Eve. How tremendous to see and welcome the wide participation in services and preparation. How moving was some of the experience in the celebrations. In fact it is my reflection that Holy Week through to Easter is not simply commemoration or celebration but an experience.

For many experiences though remain too horrible even for us to imagine. I woke this morning to the news of yet another series of bombs in Iraq with a death toll of between 140 and 160. Can we even begin to contemplate that in one of our city shopping centres. The continuing tragedy of the university campus in the USA where 30 to 40 were shot dead by another student beggars the imagination

The news of these things overwhelms us and the despair of the victims and survivors must be enormous. Until one remembers that Christ triumphed over the most ugly of deaths, there is reason to be only pessimistic. May the Easter experience balance us back to an optimism in standing up for the ways that make for peace and the victory of the light of goodwill and the hunger that countless millions have for concord and harmony.

Director of Music Charles Clark has his farewell on Sunday afternoon June 17th at 3pm and plays his last service at Trinity that morning at 10am. There is active work currently in hand for his replacement which is a not easy matter after his long innings of over 40 years. Dorothy Carley and Leith Robinson offered and were taken up to arrange and supervise the afternoon tea for this occasion. All the parish community is invited and wider invitations will be issued as well.

Isabel Erksine has a birthday in her nineties on April 27th and we will be making a birthday morning tea on Thursday April 26th after the 10am mass. Anyone from the parish community is invited and we ask that people might bring a plate for the morning tea. We have another nonagenarian but her birthday is later on. Stand by!

Trinity Sunday this year marks the 130th anniversary of the present Holy Trinity Church. While the celebrations are not perhaps up to what we had for the 150th anniversary of the Parish, we are still planning a glad time.

After the 7.30am mass will be a champagne muffin breakfast. Following the Festal Mass at 10am is a dinner and entertainment in Trinity Hall. We are asking \$10 per head for this event or an affordable \$30 for families. The funds will help the Guild to make a quite decent repast!

Evensong will be at 2.30pm and we are inviting others who might not be able to come in the morning as well. Afternoon tea will be served (free!).

Please make sure you can join in and by your presence help make it a real community day. The Guild needs to know numbers for the dinner catering so please post or e-mail your RSVP, or place it in the collection plate at mass. Thanks.

Eva Goodchild, parishioner since birth, died recently at great age. Eva was one of connections to way back, and had been involved in many ways and a good friend of a number of the priests, and she involved herself at Trinity in numerous avenues. Most noticeable was her presence in her accustomed pew at mass each Sunday. In recent years Eva lived at a centre at Hope Island, closer to family members, but welcomed visits bringing her Communion and any news from Trinity. Eva's life of devotion was celebrated at a Requiem in her beloved Trinity Church.

Fr Harold Evers, noted for his presence in the front pew under the pulpit over recent years, died peacefully within minutes of being anointed and having the Last Rites. His concelebrated Requiem was also at Trinity. He had left specific details for his funeral and none of us dared to make any substantial alteration!! Fr Harold had been a priest for over 50 years.

At the other end of the life span, how wonderful to welcome into the world a son for Ann-Marie and Cuong Tran - his first outing in his pram being to Trinity for the Mothering Sunday mass and picnic. There was also a new addition for Nick and Alana Bailey - and look how Elliott is growing as well. Lana Auda's new little boy Kristian was baptised last week proudly held aloft by his godparents Imran, Davina and Talei. Not unusual to see one or two prams and pushers at mass in recent times. How nice.

Quotes are coming in for major work on Trinity Hall. Parish Council decided to proceed with the replacement of the hall floor and have it sealed, have endorsed a submission to heritage authorities for assistance with outside brick restoration and conservation work, and will be considering proposed costs for replacement of the hall roof. The interior is also due to be painted as well.

Enough from me for now. Please remember to put June 3rd Trinity Sunday on your calendars. Be of good cheer.

With love, prayers and regards,

Fr Trevor, Rector