

Local churches plan Christmas celebrations



Nativity scene

Familiar figures wait in silence in this nativity scene at St. Margaret's Church on Hugel Avenue. The display

lacks only the Christ child who's birth it commemorates.

Staff photo

On Christmas Eve almost every church in town will be full of the sounds of Christmas as hundreds of people leave their stockings hanging by the fireplace, to attend the candlelight service in the church of their choice.

The next day, on Christmas, some of the same people will leave their living rooms full of wrapping paper, put their turkeys in the oven and head off to church for the Christmas service.

If you've never done this before and want to do it this year, here are some of the churches you can attend:

The Calvary Baptist Church is holding a candlelight Christmas Eve communion worship starting at 8 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. On Christmas day, the Baptist Church is holding their service between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. The service will be carried by the choir which will sign carols and

the readings.

At St. Mark's Anglican Church the Christmas Eve service for families begins at 7:30 p.m. At 11:30 p.m. the Christmas Eve candlelight service will be held. On Christmas Day, the service will begin at 10 a.m.

The Salvation Army is holding its Christmas service at 10:30 a.m. on December 25. The Christmas Eve service was held early this year, on Tuesday night.

At St. Margaret's Catholic Church the Christmas Eve mass will be held at 8 p.m. There will also be a celebrated mass at midnight. On Christmas morning, the masses will be held at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

The Catholic Church's New Year's Day masses we're informed, will be held Saturday evening at 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m. and 12:15 a.m.

Knox Presbyterian The Knox Presbyterian

Church will be having their annual Christmas Eve Carol Service beginning at 11 p.m. This year as an added feature they will also have John Coull's Brass Choir on hand to play old carols, according to Reverend Little. At midnight the church bell will ring, ushering in Christmas 1977.

On Christmas day the service will begin at 11 a.m.

The Alliance Church isn't holding a Christmas Eve service. However, there will be a service on Sunday beginning at 11 a.m. Reverend Frost is also holding an informal fellowship gathering at his home at 297 Seventh Street on the evening of December 25.

Over in Penetanguishene the All

Saints Anglican Church is holding their Christmas Eve service at 11:30 p.m. On Christmas Day the services will be at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. There will also be a service at St. James-on-the-Lines at 9:30 a.m. on Christmas Day.

At St. Ann's Catholic Church in Penetanguishene the Christmas Eve masses will be held at 8 p.m. in English and at midnight in French. On Christmas Day the masses will be held at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. in English and 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in French. There will be no mass on Sunday night at 7:15 p.m.

In Perkinsfield the Christmas Eve mass at the Catholic Church will take place at 9 p.m. in English and at midnight

in French. Both the Christmas Day services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. will be in French.

Last but not least Sacred Heart Church in

Port McNicoll will be holding its Christmas Eve masses at 9 p.m. and midnight. The Christmas Day service will be at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Christmas bank hours

From December 23 until January 3, you will only have five opportunities to visit the bank and fill your wallet. The banks are closed on Dec. 24, 25, 26, 27 and 31, as well as January 1 and 2.

Those of you who have a problem holding on to money can rest easy knowing that the banks

will only be open on the December 23, 28, 29, 30 and January 3.

If you happen to do your banking at the Bank of Nova Scotia you get an extra bonus of being able to visit the bank until 8 p.m. on December 23 and 30. All other banks will only remain open on those

days until 6.

For those of you who put your money in trust companies, you get even more of a Christmas bonus. As well as the five days that the regular banks are open you can also get money until around noon on the December 24 and 31.

Library services improve

When you ask at the Midland Public Library for a book that is not on the shelf, or a film that isn't in stock, your request will now be filled faster, because of a new courier service recently introduced to this area. The new courier service is supplied by the Georgian Bay Regional System.

The service uses a stationwagon to speed the flow of materials among the largest libraries in the Georgian Bay Region, including Midland, Collingwood, Barrie, Orillia and several others. In addition the courier service will provide a link between the provincially courier system which delivers materials among the 14 library regions in the province.

Prior to the introduction of the new courier service, books and films requested from out-of-town libraries usually had to be shipped by mail, sometimes taking weeks before the item actually arrived.

The new courier service will visit each of the nine libraries twice a week so books and films can be received in a matter of days. And in special cases, the courier service will be able to make deliveries to smaller libraries as well.

The service will be free.

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