

# COME TO Church ON Christmas

BY REV. J. N. HEPBURN  
Presbyterian Church  
Richmond Hill

An artist once drew a picture of a winter twilight, the trees heavily laden with snow, and a dreary dark house lonely and desolate in the midst of the storm. Then with a quick stroke of a crayon he put a light in a window. The effect was startling. The entire scene was transformed into a vision of comfort and good cheer.

The birth of Christ was such in a world of darkness. The chill of December is forgotten in the warmth of God's love as He says to the world, "This is My Christmas gift to you."

Christmas is the most loved of all Christian festivals recognized by the Christian Church. It is one season when we take time to be thoughtful and kind when love crowds out for a little while the selfish interests of our common days. We must guard against Christmas losing its religious significance.

That man was right who said: "Christianity has not been tried and failed; it has

been found difficult and not tried."

That promise is as good as on that night long ago when Christ was born. There can be peace on earth; there will be peace on earth when the lost chord of the angels' song is found again and we say with our lives as well as our lips "Glory to God in the highest."

BY REV. C. G. HIGGINSON  
Richmond Hill  
United Church

Boys and girls love Christmas. It is the most wonderful time of the year. And, after it is over, we have happy memories which stay with us always.

One of my happiest Christmas memories is of my first visit to the City of Montreal. There were the crowds in the stores and the displays of bright toys and games and books. There were presents to be bought for our friends and good things to eat in the restaurant.

At the last my cousin took me away from the noise and the crowds into a large church. There a light shone

Joseph and Mary and the Baby Jesus. The quiet beauty made us remember what Christmas really was. This year, and every year, after we forget the crowds, the gifts we receive and the gifts we give, we still keep in our memories the most important part of all - the Baby Jesus in a manger. For Christmas is His birthday.

And then the story was told, For the manger tells that God sent His Son; But only the Cross tells how much mercy, how much compassion, how much love.

He had really sent that first Christmas day.

CHANGE OF DIRECTION  
By Rev. R. T. Holton  
Richmond Hill  
Free Methodist Church

In the Gospel according to St. Matthew we read that the Wise Men, after finding the Christ Child, "departed into their own country another way." We observe that two factors were involved in this decision on their part. One was the searching of the Scriptures to discern the whereabouts of the new-born King, had aroused uncertain-

ty, fear, and hatred in the heart of King Herod. The other was a Divine warning through a dream. Therefore when they found the babe, they had no alternative, for to return by way of Jerusalem would endanger the infant child, and possibly themselves.

When one has searched for, and found the Christ, he can never be the same again. True, there will be fear and uncertainty, one will meet with prejudice, but he cannot return by the way he has come.

Can we continue to cherish our hates and petty rivalries? Or can we go on with our half-hearted responses and compromises with evil? No! but let us determine to walk in the pathway of persistent goodwill, and full abandonment to Christ and His Kingdom. This Christmaside affords us another opportunity, God is revealing Himself to us once again. Let us return another way.

REV. WM. PATTERSON  
St. Matthew's United Church  
Aristotle, "the master of all who know," as Dante call-

ed him, and "the secretary of nature," as Bacon called him, says that happiness is the bloom that the gods make to lie on a life of goodness. May I wish to you, and to all your readers, through your columns, a truly Aristotelian Christmas; a Christmas that knows that happiness which lies on a life of true goodness. "If you would enjoy a truly happy Christmas," say to them, "let the Christmas season be adorned with your doing good."

By REV. F. MCGINN  
Parish Priest  
St. Mary Immaculate  
Richmond Hill

"Glory to God on high, and on earth peace to men of good will."

"Glory to God . . ." - This is the prayer we learn from God Himself, as is revealed to us in Holy Scripture. It is the joyful exclamation of the angels proclaiming our redemption.

This prayer was sung as the first hymn to Jesus Christ. His birth - God became man - was to give glory to God on high, a continuing giving of glory which is

also our work as Christ's Mystical Body. . . and on earth peace to men of good will." Why this contrast: Glory for God in heaven and peace on earth for men?

The answer is Christ Himself, the God-made-man, Who came to restore the right balance which had been lost when man had lost his living connection with God.

Now this is all set aright in Jesus Christ, God-made-man. Because of Christ, God is once more given His glory by man - without any lack or restraint because the Man who gives it, is the God-man Christ.

Once again, after a lapse of many many ages of humankind suffering, peace is truly attainable by man, the peace of union with God, the person of Jesus Christ. This is the work of Christ, for in Him is united heaven and earth, God and man. This is the continuing work of Christ, because the Church is His Mystical Body.

In each of us Christ acts, with His saving action of redemption, and through the

Church, His Mystical Body of which He is the Head, heaven and earth meet. Through the grace of Christ, the living connection has been made once again with God.

Christmas Schedule of Masses.  
Midnight; 8:00; 9:00; 10:30; 11:45 a.m. (No evening Mass on December 25).

By REV. JOHN WARD  
St. John's Baptist Church  
Richmond Hill

At what we might call the first Christmas God came to men as he had not previously come. Have you ever read how many surprises were sprung in the events that led up to the coming of the Christ Child or noted the unusual in the actual circumstances surrounding the Birth of the Bethlehem Babe?

As the characters take their places and play their parts fears and doubts are aroused, hearts are filled with trouble and minds with wonder.

And is it any wonder? The Annunciation is made

not to a princess in proud Jerusalem but to a maid in despised Nazareth. Mary, might have expected her Child to be born in an inn, the Wisemen would have said a palace. He was born in a stable.

One might anticipate an angelic choir singing to worshippers in the Temple; instead it sang to bewildered shepherds 'on the job' on a Judean hillside.

But to the simple and the sincere, to those cast by God to play their role there are the words of explanation and good cheer.

Mary hears, "Fear not, for thou hast found favor with God." "Fear not to take unto thee Mary, thy wife," gives decision to a hesitating Joseph.

And once more, to stunned shepherds comes the good word, "Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy . . ."

Immanuel, Christmas is the coming of God to men. It is a most opportune time to learn reverence for God and respect for men of good-will.



## Doing A Hard Selling Job

"Are they really good", asks Mrs. H. Pollard to sales clerk Mrs. A. Doner, as she ponders the purchase of bath salts at the annual Christmas bazaar sponsored by the Richmond Hill Senior Citizens Club in the auditorium of the public library recently. Looking on is Mrs. A. Srigley, left, and Mrs. I. R. Banks, right.

## HEADFORD NEWS

Mrs. Loren Guild  
R.R. 2, Gornley Phone TU. 4-3040

### United Church Women

Mrs. Stewart Rumble, convener for the December meeting of Headford United Church Women used the Christmas theme throughout the program, weaving devotional meditation with Christmas thoughts. She opened the program by reading a few thoughts on the philosophy of "What it is to Keep Christmas."

Mrs. Elmer Leek read the story of how the beloved hymn "Silent Night," came to be written. In the year 1818 in a small Austrian village a misfortune occurred just at the Christmas season, a mouse had destroyed the bellows of the organ in the church. A distracted organist found that he could not get a note out of the instrument and there was not time to have it mended before the Christmas mass.

The young priest, Joseph More, humbly offered to his friend Franz Gruber a few verses he had written and suggested that he set them to music and they would rehearse the children to sing them. As Franz Gruber walked home over the crispy snow, under the silent moonlight, the words his friend had written absorbed him completely. "Silent Night, Holy Night", and a melody flowed through his mind. On Christmas morning the congregation was surprised by a group of children with gaily decorated guitars singing this new hymn. The hymn was forgotten until found crumpled and tucked away in a bookcase, it was presented in a near by church and gradually travelled from country to country until it has become a precious part of the Christmas services.

This is a story that spans the years as Sunday School teachers can testify. Program emergencies are the order of concerts and services, substitutions are frantically made with the prayer that everything will be all right and a bright thread of laughter is left in memories. The Christmas story from the Bible was read by Mrs. Ben Terry; Mrs. William Wellman read a poem on the appreciation of beauty; a story, "Bearing Gifts" was given by Mrs. Loren Guild and a poem from Edgar Guest was read by Cora Brodie.

In closing Mrs. Rumble read amusing verses depicting a familiar condition, "Seven Days Before Christmas." Christmas cake and coffee were served by Mrs. Rumble while a social period was enjoyed. During the business session, with the president, Mrs. Harry Burton in the chair, the slate of officers accepted their second term, and gifts for the Fred Victor Home were received.

### White Gifts

White Gift Service was observed in the church December 16 with a joint service of church and Sunday school. Stewart Rumble, superintendent, conducted the service, assisted by K. Deer. Chrysanthemums decorated the chancel and the traditional

Christmas tree commemorated the secular season. Sunday school pupils formed the choir and for their offering sang, "Snow Flakes are Softly Falling."

Jean Clark read the first lesson and Sharon Rumble told a tender story of a small Korean girl who gave her most precious possession as a Christmas gift.

Dr. Binington used for his brief message the text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

### 4-H Club

Headford 4-H girls with their leaders, Misses Cora Brodie and Elisabeth Barker attended a achievement day December 8 at Aurora.

The morning program was a test for the girls. Each girl demonstrated their knowledge of good food by judging menus for food value and attractiveness and by providing four tea biscuits to be judged. In the afternoon the girls presented a skit explaining the arrangement and use of table equipment.

Taking part were: Jean Clark, Patsy Scobie, Sandra Burr, Rosemary Leek, Dorothy Boynton and Elisabeth Barker. Each girl received a sterling silver spoon, the award for a completed unit. Dorothy and Elisabeth received certificates for the completion of two units. It was a pleasure for the leaders to have the mothers show their interest by attending this important event.

Don Brodie recently the guest of Allis Chalmers Company Implement Dealers flew to Milwaukee and spent a busy three days visiting production plants there and in Chicago.

For the most points in floral arrangement Mrs. George Barker was awarded first prize at the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society annual meeting. Her prize was an azalea.

Elisabeth and Charles Barker attended the King-Vaughan Ploughman Association banquet held in Snowbird. This was a real country banquet Elisabeth reports, turkey and plum pudding.

She showed her overseas slides and while the men held a business meeting the women had an opportunity to examine her scrap books and mementoes.

While in Scotland Elisabeth visited a Sunday school that had none of the abundance of information familiar in our S.S. She packaged some of the left over papers from Headford and has received a note of delighted gratitude. Elisabeth is also enjoying cards from the many friends she made in Britain.

Guests recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Boynton and Ellen of Thornhill, were Mrs. Norman Brodie, Cora and Don, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Clark and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Huitson and Mr. and Mrs. George Boynton.

### "LIBERAL" CLASSIFIEDS

GET RESULTS  
TU. 4-1105  
OR AV. 5-3316

## Refuse Request For Appointment To Metro Board

Richmond Hill Council Friday night balked at a request from Metropolitan Council to help appoint a member of the Metro Planning Board for 1963. The request was referred to 1963 council.

Mayor James Haggart reiterated the 1962 council's stand that Richmond Hill does not recognize its representative on the board. Richmond Hill, Stouffville, Markham Village and Markham Township are presently represented jointly by C. J. Laurin.

Council has taken its stand in order to protest the lack of direct representation on the board.

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**GREETINGS**  
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## Festive Christmas Air At Horticultural Meet

(By Elisabeth Grant)

Christmas plants, decorative arrangements and candles made a gay setting at the Lions' Community Hall for the December meeting of the local horticultural society. The programme, suited to the season, took the form of a panel discussion on various ways of decorating the home, indoors and out, for the festive season. President Spencer Urquhart acted as moderator, and three experts in three different fields gave information and advice and answered questions.

The subject of outdoor lighting was discussed by Mr. Edward Lane, who had many excellent suggestions on how to make your house say "Merry Christmas" by the use of colored lights and floodlighting to achieve striking effects.

Miss Edna Izzard had assembled an interesting display of table, door and mantle arrangements. These were the production of the members of the flower arranging class and Miss Izzard explained briefly how they had been achieved.

A lovely display of poinsettias, azaleas and cyclamens was arranged by Mr. Harold Mills, who gave suggestions regarding their selection and care.

No Christmas party is complete without carols and the choristers from St. Mary's Anglican Church delighted with their singing. They were conducted by Choirmaster John Large who invited the audience to sing along in many of the old favorites.

### 1962 Winners

Prizes for the season of 1962 were presented. These were for points accumulated by winners at the flower and vegetable shows of the entire year. The winners were warmly congratulated by the president and applauded by all. It requires no small effort to produce these lovely blooms and vegetables and to prepare them for showing. Points are in parenthesis.

**Rose Specimen Section**  
Mrs. H. G. Caldwell (27), So-

ciety Rose Bowl and Eaton's Trophy; Mr. David Howard (11), Simpson-Sears prize (voucher); Mrs. Frank Titshall (6), society prize.

**Specimen Flower Section**  
Mrs. F. Titshall (161), Mr. C. T. Wilson's prize; Mr. R. D. Little (79), Mrs. S. C. Snively's prize (voucher); Dr. H. MacKay (42), society prize.

**Arrangements**  
Mrs. G. Barker (104), Miss M. Dove's prize; Mrs. F. Titshall (71), society prize; Mr. R. D. Little (27), society prize.

**Vegetables**  
Mrs. F. Titshall (57), society prize; Mr. A. Stong (24), society prize; Mr. D. Howard (21), Mr. A. Stong's prize.

**Novice**  
Mrs. D. Bruce (18), Lion's Club prize, \$12.50; Mrs. L. Duffield (7), Lion's Club prize, \$7.50; Mrs. S. Casement (6), Lion's Club prize, \$5.00.

**Juniors**  
Geraldine Brude (9), society prize; Billy Redelmeier (8), society prize; Janice Grainger (6),

society prize.

**Court of Honor**  
Mrs. G. Barker, society prize. The decorative arrangements, some 25 in number, were non-competitive and it was a pleasant surprise when Mr. Miles donated two beautiful plants from his display as prizes. He and Mr. Doug Boyd acted as judges and the plants were awarded to Mrs. W. S. Urquhart and Mrs. I. E. Grant. The turkey draw was won by Miss Frances Hurst.

Refreshments in the good old Christmas tradition were served by Miss Doris Leno and her committee and afforded an opportunity to exchange good wishes for a Merry Christmas to all!

## Woman Reeve In Two-Way Battle For Top Office

Contest for the wardenship of York County shaped into a two-way race between Reeve Clarence Davis of Aurora and Deputy-Reeve Mrs. Caroline Ion of Newmarket.

The warden will be elected by the 28 members of county council early in 1963.

A third contender, Reeve Harold Anderson of Georgina Township was knocked out of the running when he was defeated by 45 votes by the 1962 deputy-reeve of Georgina Ted Norris.

Mrs. Ion has been deputy-reeve of Newmarket for four years and received an acclamation for her fifth term. This week she told the Aurora Banner that she is "definitely going to run" for the office.

If elected she would be York County's first woman warden. "No comment," was her reply to a question on the effect of the defeat of one of the three contenders.

Reeve Davis, if elected, would be warden during Aurora's centennial year.

We Extend A Sincere Merry Christmas And Happy New Year To Our Many Friends  
**RICHMOND MOTORS**  
Bob Currington, Prop.