

Story of Babushka

Once upon a time there lived in Bethlehem a woman named Babushka. She kept the cleanest and neatest house in town and was also the best cook. She heard rumours of three kings coming across the desert but paid no attention to them because she had so much work to do. Then she heard the sounds of drums and pipes and a cavalcade of riders. She looked out the window and there were three richly dressed kings coming towards her house. They told her that they had come to honour the little prince who had been born in Bethlehem and they needed food and lodging. Babushka cooked a wonderful meal for them, remade all the beds, and wore herself out. The next morning the kings begged her to come with them so she too might see the little prince. Babushka said she would follow after them as soon as she finished the dishes. She cleaned the house again and then took out of a cabinet the toys of her own little prince who had died so long ago. She had no more need of them and would give them to the new little prince. She put them in a basket and sat down for a moment's rest before she followed the wise men. Hours later she woke up, grabbed the basket, and rushed into town. But the kings were gone and so was the little prince and his parents. Ever after, it is said, Babushka has followed after them. Whenever she finds a new-born babe, she looks to see if he is the little prince. Even if he is not there, Babushka leaves a toy for the child, because what Babushka learned was that she had missed meeting the prince by letting the important interfere with what was essential. And that discovery had changed her life. May your Christmas be one of discovering for the first time, or rediscovering anew the Christ-child, the Prince of Peace in the midst of the hubbub and busyness of a 2020 world. -

Rev'd Adrienne Bruce

Readings **Christmas Eve** 10:45pm - Isaiah 9 :2-7, John 1:1-14

Christmas Day 8.00 am: Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 2: 1-7 **Page 476**
 9.30 am: Isaiah 52:7-10; Luke 2:1-20

Collect for Christmas Day :

Holy God, the Angels revealed your presence to shepherds with light and wonder in the midst of the ordinary. Transform our hearts and minds to recognize your ongoing presence in the world today, that we may be faithful agents of your story of love. For you are alive and reign with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sundays at Holy Trinity Tauranga : 8am – Traditional 10am -
Contemporary



The Church office reopens Mon 11 Jan – Fri 15 Jan (9am-12pm)

Normal Office hours resume from Monday January 18 (9am - 3pm)



Vision Statement

We recognise that God is calling us together to be a Spirit-led community; enabling us to utilise our gifts, skills and resources to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to make His love known in this place through - **HOSPITALITY, HEALING AND HOPE**

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