

October 2009 ~ Thanksgiving

Dear Friends,

What's the magic word?!

Apparently there is no magic about it, at all. According to Margaret Visser's huge book *The Gift of Thanks*, saying please and thank you does not come naturally but, in fact, is hard work. It takes years of drill-sergeant-like parenting to finally get it tripping off the tongue with ease.

And then they are only words. A true spirit of appreciation requires an even more deliberate effort.

A 16th century prayer practice of St. Ignatius called the Examen can help (see separate file). It involves taking a few moments at night to recall the events of the day and bring to mind the small pleasures, goodness and evidence of God's love that surrounds us. Like saying, "Thank you," a deeper spirit of appreciation and gratitude takes a few moments of intentional focused thought.

I thank you, the men, women and children of Trinity who serve so diligently to make a difference in people's lives. Our Welcome Table, Welcoming Arms and Clothes Closet ministries continue to be a lifeline for so many who have so little, especially during these economically challenging days. Our Mexico Missioners have returned, formed and changed through awareness and the experience of sharing. And many lives are touched every day by the love and compassion extended through our pastoral care, parish nursing program and small group ministries.

Thank you to everyone who helps make God's love a reality through our worship, service and spiritual growth.

This Thanksgiving, let's make a bit of magic! Let's take a few moments to pause to truly appreciate how fortunate we are and to delight in God's great glory. Thanks be to God.



Rev'd Canon Dawn Davis, Rector and Incumbent

79 Victoria Street, Aurora, Ontario L4G 1R3 905.727.6101