

Holy Trinity Anglican Church

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Ms. Bishopmouse & Family c/o Christ Church Cathedral 414 Sparks Street Ottawa, Ontario, K1R 0B2

Dear Cousins,

Greetings from "up the line" in the Parish of the Valley. We know it's been some time since we last wrote, but we wanted to let you know that we've recently taken up residence at Holy Trinity Church in Pembroke. It is a lovely sanctuary adorned with the finest Valley woodworking, not unlike your storied home at our cathedral. Unfortunately the churchwardens here recently chose to turn the heat down because of COVID-19, so things are a little bit chilly at the moment, not to mention quiet. The Parish of the Valley clergy team have blessed us with many old bulletins to help keep us warm. Apparently, they're recording worship each week using something called "Zoom." It sounds exhausting, but we're told the weekly services are lovely!

We wanted to write to say thank you for encouraging members of the cathedral choir to visit us this past December. Andrew, Nicholas and Justin led our community in a marvelous Lessons and Carols service on December 13th, which was by far the highlight of our Christmas season. The service was later rebroadcast on local television so that others throughout the Ottawa Valley could enjoy the holiday festivities. It has been so different for us this past year as we've coped with the many stresses created by COVID-19. To be blessed with such glorious music during a time when the rest of us are discouraged from singing was a true Christmas gift for our Parish of the Valley. Please convey our sincere thanks to the Dean and the Director of Music for making the visit possible. We would love to welcome visitors again when travel is allowed, and hopefully also pay a return visit to the cathedral once the pandemic is over. In the meantime, now that we know that Nicholas resides right here Pembroke, we have made arrangements so that he can practice from time to time on our Casavant pipe organ. Listening to him play is always a treat!

Please give our very best to Mr. Deanmouse, Miss Pulpitmous and Mr. Lecternmouse. You continue to be in our prayers, together with all members of our cathedral. Stay safe and be well.

Yours faithfully,

Bishop Michaelmouse & Family Holy Trinity Pembroke Parish of the Valley

PS: We've enclosed our new COVID portraits, just in case you've forgotten what we look like! 😊

