

## Henry Budd (1812-1875)

*Observed 14 December*



Born a Cree, Henry Budd was orphaned and raised in a missionary school established by the Hudson's Bay Company in the Red River Settlement. When he grew up, he went to work for the company, then went on to be a school teacher and to become the first native person of North America to be ordained priest in the Anglican Church. He established a school and ministered in a variety of communities in the Canadian territories. He was noted for his eloquence and great gift for organization which together helped the communities under his leadership to thrive. He also translated the Bible and the Book of Common Prayer into the Cree language. During his years of ministry he brought a great many people to faith and baptism, such that at his death many felt it as the death of their own fathers. The area of his ministry includes parts of what are now Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Project Canterbury includes several fascinating documents shedding light on Budd's history, including the text of the sermon delivered at his ordination (by the first bishop of Rupert's Land – all that huge territory controlled by the Hudson's Bay Company until 1870) and a contemporary account of the coming of Christianity to Rupert's Land. (see <http://anglicanhistory.org/indigenous/budd/>)

*Lessons* Sirach 11:1-6,14,17; Psalm 29; I Thessalonians 5:13-18; John 14:15-21

*Collect* Creator of light, we thank you for your priest Henry Budd, who carried the great treasure of Scripture to his people the Cree nation, earning their trust and love. Grant that his example may call us to reverence, orderliness and love, that we may give you glory in word and action; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.