

# TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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**In God's Name  
and led by the Holy Spirit,  
we support and equip one another  
to implement Jesus' mission in Baptism  
for all people, in all places and at all times.**

# WELCOME!

Welcome to Trinity Episcopal Church — a Welcoming, People-Oriented, and Active Community set where the Metro-West region of Boston, Massachusetts meets the Historical Blackstone Valley. (also offering easy access to Providence, RI, Worcester, MA and Boston, MA). The search committee, with the help of the Vestry and many other committed parishioners, has prepared this profile to introduce you to our parish family.

The information in this profile was collected from many different parishioners, ministry chairs and from a previous parish profile. We also added to this process with information gathered during 2005 with our Member Mission Program which we will describe more fully later in this profile. At these Member Mission events, we shared openly our hopes, dreams, ideas and feelings about the future of Trinity Episcopal Church.



*Thank you for taking the time to read through this profile. We believe that it captures the essence of Trinity Episcopal Church — yesterday, today, and our hopes for tomorrow.*



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# COMMUNITY

Our Church is located in Milford, Massachusetts. The town of Milford is a thriving community of over 25,000 residents, conveniently located along I-495, with easy highway access to Boston, Worcester and Providence over major highways.

The Milford area offers many advantages to residents and visitors alike; an education system with modern facilities and excellent curriculum offerings, newly constructed, and rehabilitated municipal buildings, playing fields and parks for active and passive recreation, major shopping malls, a revitalized downtown, an active cultural center, a Nationally Recognized Regional Hospital, as well as a variety of restaurants and hotels.

Sports and arts are an integral part of the community fabric; Milford has a reputation for developing excellent athletes and musicians. Political awareness is encouraged early, and as a result, many Milford residents have embraced careers in public service, both at the local and the state level.

Milford is known the world-wide for its unique pink granite, discovered in the 1870's and quarried for many years thereafter. Milford pink granite continues to grace the exteriors of museums, government buildings, monuments and railroad stations in Boston, New York, Washington, D.C., and Paris, France.

Hopedale, where our Rectory is located, was originally part of Milford and was founded in 1841 as a "Dale of Hope" by Reverend Ballou eager to build a truly "utopian society" based on Practical Christian principles. Hopedale was incorporated as a town in 1886. The town of Hopedale is a smaller community with approximately 6000 residents. Trinity's Rectory is less than 5 minutes from the church, in Hopedale.

## **Education**

The Milford-Hopedale area offers a variety of school options for K-12. In addition to the public school option, there are many private schools in the area as well as 2 area Vocational School options for grades 9-12. Post High School education is available through local Adult Education programs as well as many nearby 2 and/or 4 year colleges.

## **Cultural Attractions**

Many cultural opportunities are available in the area. Some are located in Milford and surrounding towns and many, many others within a 30-40 minute drive. Locally, you could enjoy a night at the symphony (Milford's Claflin Hill Symphony) or a nearby Theater Production (many local theatre groups) or a Movie at the Cineplex..

# COMMUNITY

## **Cultural Attractions (cont.)**

If you travel just 30-40 minutes, your opportunities expand exponentially, be it the Worcester Art Museum, the Foothills Theatre or Jazz at Tuckerman Hall (all in Worcester). Visit Boston for the Boston Ballet, Symphony, Theater District or one of its many Museums. More recently, Providence has exploded with cultural opportunities with its Stadium Theater, Dunkin Donuts Center Concerts and many musical enjoyment opportunities.

If Shopping or Fine Dining is more what you are looking for, these options are also widely available both nearby and within a 30-40 minute ride.

## **Recreation & Outdoors**

For the outdoor enthusiast, there is possibly no better place to settle. Locally there are hiking, biking, soccer, baseball, basketball, tennis, hockey and many more sports opportunities for both youth and adult alike. The Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor is just minutes away where families can enjoy Civil War Re-enactments, Nature programs, tours and Canoe rides or one can take a more solitary walk on the many paths and trails.

Not far from Hopedale and Milford are skiing opportunities in Winter, beautiful foliage tours in fall, Beaches and boating within a 45 minute drive (lakes or oceans) and wonderfully historic places to visit.





## BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

Trinity Church was built in 1867, and by 1877, the bell tower and the Hook & Hastings organ were added to complete the worshiping space we enjoy today. The Hook & Hastings organ is still in use today. The building is constructed of wood and the exterior is vinyl sided. The air conditioned church provides 10 rows of 12 foot long padded pews and kneelers, on each side of a central corridor leading directly to the altar. The altar is beautifully surrounded by a gothic arch overhead, choir seating directly behind, and a gated kneeling area in front for offering communion to parishioners. The organ is situated in the main room, adjacent to the altar. The main seating area offers a post and beam feel, with a hardwood, cathedral ceiling which creates a very comfortable and warm atmosphere. Central Air Conditioning, funded by a focused fundraising campaign, was installed in 2005.

In 1961, the old detached parish house was demolished and replaced with the new Lane Memorial Parish House attached to the church. The parish house is two stories high and serves as the educational, social, and business center of the parish. The first floor provides space for classrooms and a chapel with versatile floor space for Youth Services, Sunday School, A.A. Meetings etc. The first floor also offers offices, a handicap accessible restroom, mechanical room, and storage. The second floor provides vast open space for our all important post service coffee hour, as well as many other functions such as meetings, fundraisers, social events, paying functions, etc. The hall offers the versatility to divide into sections with ceiling supported partitions to create smaller areas for multiple simultaneous uses. The hall was adorned with a new hardwood floor in 2005 to provide a warm but rugged surface for the many events it supports. Adjacent to the hall is an industrial kitchen which provides food services to a variety of functions and outreach activities. The second floor also provides a handicap accessible restroom.

The Rectory is located in a residential neighborhood on a moderately wooded quarter acre lot in the adjacent town of Hopedale. The ranch style home is about 5 minutes (2 miles +/-) from the church, and offers six rooms on the first level— 3 bedrooms, a modern kitchen, dining room, living room with fireplace and a bath. All of the first level, with the exception of the kitchen, is hard wood flooring. On the basement level, there is a family room with a second fireplace and recently a second bathroom was installed in the basement to compliment the family room. The one-car garage is attached under living quarters. The home is heated by an oil furnace with forced hot water, and supported by town sewer and water.

We are always making strides to improve our surroundings and create a more comfortable and efficient environment for us and new-comers.



# WORSHIP

Worship at Trinity is the core of our life as a family of faith. We welcome all who are baptized and believe in Jesus Christ to share in the Holy Eucharist. Our common worship gives us the direction and strength to carry our baptismal vows into the world.

Worship at Trinity is based upon the Book of Common Prayer with Eucharist offered on Sundays with a quiet service at 8am (Rite I, attendance 35-45 ), a family service with full choir at 10am (Rite II, attendance 125-150) and on Wednesdays at 9am (Rite I, attendance 10-15). A Healing Service is provided one Sunday a month after each service. While these services are the mainstay, we are a diverse congregation and welcome diverse experiences in our worship. We enjoy a very casual, contemporary service during the summer at 5pm on Saturday evenings in our air-conditioned sanctuary.

Leading us in worship, praise, and prayer is one of the most important functions for our priest but he/she will never be doing so alone. Lay involvement in worship includes Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers, Choir, Acolytes, Altar Guild, and Ushers. We have an enthusiastic choir led by our organist and we also have occasional guest musicians such as violinists and flutists at the 10am service. Our children joyfully process in after Sunday School about 10:30 to join with their families for Holy Communion. We also have an active group of Lay Eucharistic Visitors who carry our corporate worship experience to the homebound and sick. We welcome participation of our youth in our worship and are particularly proud that we have a large children's choir and three youth who are licensed LEM's.

Trinity is honored to have one of our young adults, Chris Lloyd, recently accepted to Gordon-Conwell Theology Seminary for a Masters in World Missions and Evangelism. Trinity also recently had another adult parishioner (who was also our Parish Nurse and Pastoral Associate), Janice Ford, accepted as a Postulant for Holy Orders in April 2005. She began seminary studies in September 2005 by enrolling full-time in the Master of Divinity program at Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Centre, MA, and is concurrently completing Anglican studies at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA. Janice will apply for Candidacy for Holy Orders later this year, and will complete the Master of Divinity program in May 2008. She anticipates ordination to the diaconate following graduation, with subsequent ordination to priesthood later that year.

We want our parishioners to leave the service with the enthusiasm, spiritual guidance and motivation to live out Jesus' teachings in their everyday lives. "Go out and do the work He has given you to do" is one of the most important reasons for our worship together.



# MUSIC

The sanctuary at Trinity has wonderful acoustic qualities. We are blessed with a small but adequate 1877 Hook and Hastings tracker pipe organ, restored several years ago by Andover Organ Company. Everyone who has played this instrument has raved about its character and depth of sound. Though it lacks brass, the existing stops are in good shape and fill the space. The strings and oboe stops are exquisite! There is a 25-note set of cathedral (Maas) chimes attached to the organ as well.

In 2005, a full-size Yamaha digital piano was purchased with memorial funds; this instrument, just a few feet from the organ allows choir accompaniment and a variety of musical combinations. The two instruments are in tune with one another.

We use the 1982 Episcopal Hymnal, and Celebration (copyright 1997 by Word/Integrity) for the 10:00AM Sunday morning services. The choir uses Wonder, Love and Praise on occasion to supplement. A few favorite hymns from the 1940 Episcopal Hymnal appear as inserts from time to time (eg. Ride On, Ride On in Majesty #64 St. Drostane).

We try to blend the traditional with tasteful contemporary music. The adult choir of 10-16 voices sings at every 10:00AM Sunday service, during Holy Week, and on request for other occasions. The music files contain approximately 300 original anthems. We frequently use soloists and instrumentalists from the local community to enhance the music where appropriate and to expand our program.

The Children's' Choir, numbering 16-18 (ages 3-12), sings about six times each year at "Post-Communion", a time we devised for special music, solos, etc. Post-Communion is also a wonderful opportunity for reflection.

We own nearly two octaves of English hand bells which are played on special occasions.

Our Director of Music/Organist is a life-long Episcopalian, who has 23 years of experience with liturgical music and church tradition. The prevailing atmosphere reflects the warmth, enthusiasm, receptivity to new ideas, and appreciation of all of those involved in music at Trinity Episcopal Church. Our goal is the enhancement of the worship experience, utilizing the talents of many.



## OUTREACH

There are many forms of outreach at Trinity Episcopal Church in addition to our Mission Committee disbursing funds designated for Mission.

At Thanksgiving, our parishioners donate food items and help to assemble and deliver Thanksgiving Baskets to those needing assistance. Each basket contains items for the main Thanksgiving meal along with a turkey and extra items. Also at Thanksgiving parishioners from Trinity, along with parishioners from our Covenant parish St. Marys, help to deliver hot meals from a local caterer to those in town that are in need.

At Christmas, the Jesse Tree in the Church holds slips that identify items needed by the children and adults at the Winter Haven Shelter (located in Milford), as well as others in need. Parishioners at Trinity have always been most generous in fulfilling the wishes of others at Christmas.

Trinity participates in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Samaritan's Purse is led by Franklin Graham, son of Billy Graham. One of the many projects that Samaritan's Purse runs is Operation Christmas Child. Parishioners donate shoeboxes filled with toys, candy, clothing, books and other items to children in need all over the world while spreading the good word about Christ.

Trinity is one of the six founding churches of the Daily Bread Food Pantry which was organized in October, 1991. The Pantry is run by volunteers and funded through donations of food and money from local churches, businesses, civic groups and individuals. Parishioners at Trinity donate food items in the baskets located in the Narthex, and every Monday volunteers from Trinity deliver the food to the pantry. Some Parishioners volunteer their time at the Pantry, either by stocking shelves or packing food for distribution. Trinity holds special collections within the Parish for food items, paper goods and toiletry items for the Pantry as well.

The Mission Committee at Trinity disburses funds from the Parish budget and from donations that are designated for Mission & Outreach. Recipients are charities which are Christian based, as well as those which provide basic needs to people. They may be local or they may be world-wide. We also have a bottles & can program at Trinity. Parishioners donate their recyclable bottles & cans and the proceeds from this effort are disbursed by the Mission Committee.

Various other groups use our Parish Hall for meetings. Among them are Al-Anon and the Girl Scouts.

***As mentioned at the beginning, Outreach at Trinity is done in many ways—each and every way is meant to show God's love to others.***

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Spiritual Formation at Trinity focuses on our children, and is centered on the Sunday School. The Trinity Sunday School is made up of five classes, meeting on Sunday mornings from September through May. Classes are provided for children from age 4 through eighth grade. The current enrollment is:

Pre K and Kindergarten	13
Grades 1 and 2	15
Grades 3 and 4	12
Grades 5 and 6	11
Grades 7 and 8	11

Sunday School begins at 9:45 AM, fifteen minutes before the start of the Eucharist. At approximately 10:30, the children join their families in church for Communion. More than half of the children in the Sunday School come from Milford and Hopedale. The rest come from surrounding towns: Mendon, Upton, Uxbridge, Bellingham and Holliston. Each class has one or two teachers, and the program is coordinated by a volunteer Sunday School superintendent.

For the past two years, grades 1 through 8 have used the *All Things New* curriculum from the Morehouse Group. We chose this curriculum because it allows us to share stories from the Bible with the classes, and because it allows (because it is not tied to the lectionary) the teachers to focus on a single story or lesson for more than a single week. The pre-k and kindergarten class uses the *Discipland* curriculum through the Bible Publishers, because it provides better hands-on learning opportunities.

On the first Sunday of the month, the entire Sunday School meets together in the Lane Memorial Chapel to worship. The abbreviated service consists of :

- ◆ The Opening Collect (paraphrased by the seventh and eighth grade)
- ◆ The Kyrie or Gloria
- ◆ An Epistle reading, a Psalm
- ◆ A Gospel reading
- ◆ The Creed
- ◆ A prayer of thanksgiving
- ◆ A prayer for birthdays
- ◆ The Lord's Prayer
- ◆ Dismissal

This year we have benefited from the talents of a parishioner who is a recorded children's musician who provides the chapel with the opportunity to sing together.

Based on the Bishop's visitation schedule, Trinity holds a Confirmation Preparation class every other year. The current class is preparing nine teens for Confirmation in May. The Confirmation class uses the curriculum *I will, with God's Help*, from the Morehouse Group.

Adult Christian Formation at Trinity has taken the form of evening or Sunday morning classes, led by the rector or by laypeople. The classes are Bible studies; others relate to church history, contemporary issues or other aspects of God in our lives. Our most recent parish-wide survey has confirmed a strong desire for adult spiritual formation at Trinity.

# PARISH LIFE

Our weekly Sunday coffee hour provides an informal opportunity for parishioners to welcome newcomers and visitors, as well as a time for parishioners to catch up on events of the week and enjoy each others company.

A more formal parish-wide communication takes place through the weekly service bulletin and the monthly newsletter which is now sent to most parishioners via email. Our parish website, <http://www.lightband.com/~trinity>, provides detailed service information in addition to church history, parish organizations and activities.

We joyously participate in the following events:

## Diocese

- ◆ Alleluia Fund golf tournament
- ◆ UTO Breakfast
- ◆ Wardens and Vestry Day
- ◆ Annual Convention
- ◆ Deanery Meetings
- ◆ Bishop's Dinner for Wardens



## Trinity:

- ◆ End of Summer Barbeque
- ◆ Book club
- ◆ Rummage sale
- ◆ Yard sale
- ◆ Newcomers Annual Dinner
- ◆ Potluck suppers
- ◆ Ski trips
- ◆ Youth Group
- ◆ Bake sales
- ◆ Christmas Fair (traditionally raises between \$8,000-\$10,000)
- ◆ Women's Christmas Dinner
- ◆ Chocolate Fest
- ◆ Walking in the way
- ◆ Simple suppers



## Covenant with St. Mary's

- ◆ Two evening prayer services and a pot luck supper

In addition to these activities, other social events are enjoyed as the spirit moves us. Anyone with a new fellowship idea and a willingness to participate is encouraged to share it with a member of the Vestry.

<http://www.lightband.com/~trinity>

## STEWARDSHIP & EVANGELISM

The Parish has made great progress in stewardship over the past few years. Through the generosity of current members, and the addition of new members who pledged almost immediately upon joining us, pledge receipts for 2005 exceeded the budgeted pledge figure by \$9,000.

In addition to Treasure, our Stewardship Campaign included a survey to help parish members to reflect prayerfully on how they could offer their Time and Talents at Trinity. Many of these were returned with new and more seasoned members offering their services (Time and Talent) in areas that interested them. Also, new for this year, was a series of sermons from Vestry Members highlighting where Stewardship is found daily in our Parish and what Stewardship means to them.

Trinity is fortunate to have a few parishioners who are heavily involved at the Diocesan level. Beth Washburn, one of our most active, frequently attends Diocesan events and brings back communications and news about the Diocese. She is a Deputy to the 2006 General Convention. Beth also provides us direction for growing in the area of Evangelism. In addition, our Vestry Leadership; Senior Warden, Carol Cormier and Junior Warden, Verna Kosiba, are also active in participating and supportive of Diocesan Events. They strongly encourage all of Leadership to attend and they lead by example.

Our Vestry subsidizes attendance at the Province Stewardship and Evangelism Conference, and we send leaders every year. Trinity is hoping to find a new rector who will give us direction in making stewardship and stewardship education an ongoing, year-long process and who will provide leadership in helping us grow in the area of Evangelism.





## PASTORAL CARE

While pastoral care is commonly associated with the clergy, it is also seen as an important lay ministry at Trinity. Thirteen Eucharistic Ministers, including three youth members, regularly serve Trinity at both the 8:00 and 10:00am services.

In recent years, under the leadership of our Parish Nurse, a team of six Pastoral Eucharistic Ministers was organized to bring the Sacrament to an average of 15-18 homebound parishioners on a regular basis. The team is complimented by several Lay Visitors who:

- ◆ Stop in at private homes or nursing homes
- ◆ Delivers Christmas Poinsettias and Easter lilies
- ◆ Make friendly check-in phone calls

One new way that we have recently discerned as a Parish to keep our family connected and supported is a program we have undertaken called “Healing Dinners”. It is designed to assist parishioners in crisis, emergency or serious illness by providing pre-cooked, frozen meals for a short period of time.

We are fortunate to have a parishioner who is a retired clergyman. He visits the local hospital daily and checks the admission roster for any individual who might like spiritual comfort.

The goal is to keep our Trinity family connected.

# PARISH NURSE

Trinity is Proud and Blessed to have a Parish Nurse. A Parish Nurse is a part of the Leadership Team of a church and has a prayerful and God-Centered focus in their personal life. They demonstrate an understanding of Holistic Nursing and bring light to the fact that the Church is a place of healing. The Parish Nurse has many roles:

- ◆ Integrator of faith and health
- ◆ Educator
- ◆ Personal health counselor
- ◆ Advocate
- ◆ Referral agent
- ◆ Coordinator of volunteers and developer of support groups



For our current Parish Nurse, each of these roles has special meaning. She believes that our spirituality is part of who we are as people, as children of God. She believes that in order to be whole, in order to be everything that God wants us to be, we must have a relationship with Him. She supports an individual's relationship with God or at least supports a person's search for that relationship. She encourages people to ask God for healing, to completely believe He is capable of miraculous healing, and that God wants us to be healed.

As an educator our nurse holds classes on health and wellness as the congregation expresses an interest for a certain topic. It may be nutrition, stress management or a class about diabetes. As a personal health counselor, the most important thing is to be available to listen without judgment - to just be with someone in their environment. As an advocate, she offers community services to those in need and reaches out to those who may not be strong enough to ask for help. As a referral agent she is aware of what services are available in the community from the church and beyond the church and how to access them. As a coordinator of volunteers she is limited to coordinating jobs in the church that would come under pastoral care, such as Lay Eucharistic Visitors. Finally, as a developer of support groups our nurse has to be in tune with the church to see what those needs are as they develop and either facilitates the group personally or finds a qualified person to take the lead.

# MEMBER MISSION

In 2005, Trinity took a positive step towards committing to support its members by adopting the concept of “Member Mission”. The idea behind member mission is to extend the vision of "mission" to members bringing love and justice, in deed and word, to their homes, their work, their local communities, the wider world, their leisure, and their church.

Trinity was introduced to the concept of “Member Mission” when Rev. Wayne Schwab, the author of the book “When the Members are the Missionaries”, gave a workshop on member mission at the 2005 Province One Stewardship and Evangelism Conference. Janice Ford, our Lay Pastoral Associate, brought the concept back to Trinity. The first step in the implementation was to introduce the concept to the clergy and vestry who then developed a new mission statement: ***In God’s name and led by the Holy Spirit, we support and equip one another to implement Jesus’ mission in Baptism for all people, in all places, and at all times.***

This step was followed by three meetings with key leaders who brainstormed and developed the following road map for Trinity to help its Vestry support parishioners in their daily mission fields:

Area	Objectives
Worship	Improve presentation of our worship through recruitment and/or training of readers, acolytes, chalcists, ushers, Altar Guild, and better coordination with music
Spiritual Formation	Provide variety and quality in educational and formational activities for adults, youth, and children
Outreach	Continue to offer a variety of ways for the parish to participate in mission activities
Evangelism	Communicate the spirit and purpose of Trinity, both internally and externally
Stewardship	Create a stewardship process that is ongoing and emphasizes time, talent, and treasure
Pastoral Care	Increase our support of parishioners in need
Fellowship	Make Trinity a more welcoming place
Sacraments	Create a better understanding of and participation in the Sacraments
Physical Plant	Keep our buildings safe, efficient, comfortable, and welcoming

The wardens believe that 2006 is not a year during which Trinity is going to stand still—we are going to continue on the course that God has set for us. The wardens engaged the team of Wayne Schwab and John LeSueur for a Saturday session with the Vestry and leaders followed by Sunday preaching and a presentation for the congregation. The next step is to implement the support to the members in each of the areas of their daily lives as Christians from Monday to Saturday—“Members on Mission ... doing Christ’s work in the world”. Our future priest will need to continue to move us in this direction.



# PEOPLE

## **Clergy and Staff**

The core of Trinity's leadership and strength begins with a fulltime rector. Our membership is experiencing growth with a total membership of 350 and we need a rector to guide us. Trinity also employs an administrative assistant, a sexton, an organist and a parish nurse. Each of these indispensable people currently works on a part-time basis.

Trinity has experienced many transitions during the past fifteen years and has emerged a stronger and more vibrant family of faith. New and younger members have come forward and taken on leadership roles. This new energy combined with the wisdom of their predecessors has created an environment in which people come together to work for the common good of the parish. Trinity has strong, dedicated leaders working to guide us in our growth and transition.

## **The Vestry**

Our vestry is comprised of twelve members and a vestry clerk. The makeup of this group is very representative of the entire congregation. Their affiliation with Trinity ranges from four years to twenty-five plus years. Two members have served as senior wardens in the past at Trinity. Many members are professionals representing the medical, engineering, accounting, educational and business fields and a couple of members are retired from their jobs. There are six males and seven females, most of whom are in their thirties and forties. All of them have children, and a couple of them have grandchildren.

The vestry is also comprised of a Senior and Junior Warden and a Treasurer who are currently serving in their second year in these positions. All of these individuals are very dedicated to their responsibilities and have developed a camaraderie that is reflected in their enthusiasm about Trinity.

The vestry meetings are conducted in a manner which encourages all members to contribute their comments and ideas. Our expectations for a new priest will be to guide the vestry spiritually and with enthusiasm for the work God has set for us to do.

## **Eucharistic Ministers**

Trinity has thirteen trained Eucharistic Ministers who serve on a rotating basis assisting each Sunday. This group is comprised of parishioners of varying ages each bringing individual enthusiasm and style to this important ministry. In addition, we have five trained Pastoral Eucharistic Visitors who see that communion and loving spiritual attention reaches members who are unable to attend services.

# PEOPLE

## Ushers & Acolytes

All who enter Trinity Church are given a warm and friendly welcome by one of our ushers. This group of usher volunteers is currently twenty-eight strong and always welcomes new people to join. These people have a very important ministry at Trinity as they are often the first people one encounters as they enter the church and they are the people that we rely on to make a good first impression.

Our Acolytes serve on the altar, assisting clergy and they are currently 21 strong. Many of them are young adults or youth (ages 8-18) and it has provided an opportunity to integrate them into the service in a more meaningful way.

## Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is comprised of five members. The Guild is responsible for Eucharistic setting up for Sunday & Wednesday services (and other services through the year), polishing the brass, laundering linens, cleaning priests vestments, ordering altar supplies, ordering flowers for holidays and other services as required and overseeing the Holiday decorating of the church.

## Trinity Statistics: 2005

Total Membership	350
Average Attendance (Sunday services)	150
Marriages	8
Burials	6
Baptisms	19
Confirmation/Reception	2





## PARISH HISTORY

On May 17, 1863, Rev. Reese F. Alsop conducted the first Episcopal service in Milford. The followers rapidly grew to two hundred in number and, on March 13, 1864, Trinity Parish was organized. The first Wardens of Trinity Parish were Charles Dove, a boot-packer from England, and George Parker, a lawyer who later became Milford's representative in the Legislature.

The Church was erected in 1867 and was consecrated by the Right Rev. Manton Eastburn on March 21, 1871. By 1877, the bell tower and the Hook and Hastings organ, which are both in service today, were added. The sanctuary and its antique organ have been refurbished.

By 1895, Trinity had surrendered its stipend from the Board of Missions and had become self-supporting. In 1902, the Diocese of Massachusetts split, and the Diocese of Western Massachusetts named Trinity its easternmost parish.

In 1914, the Armenian community in Milford experienced a devastating fire. The parishioners of Trinity embraced the Armenian families, conducting a memorial service for those lost in the fire, and helping the families move forward. As a result of this, Trinity has become the spiritual home of many of Milford's Armenian families.

1961 saw the demolition of the old parish house and the construction of the Lane Memorial Parish House, adjacent to the church. This new parish house and the sanctuary are handicap-accessible.

The rectory, located in Hopedale, Massachusetts, was purchased in 1967.

In 1972, Trinity and St. Mary of the Assumption entered into a covenant, **which is today the oldest Anglican Roman Catholic covenant in the world**. In addition to regular prayer for each other and shared social events, the two churches have worked with the Episcopal Migration Ministries to sponsor two Bosnian refugee families coming to Milford.

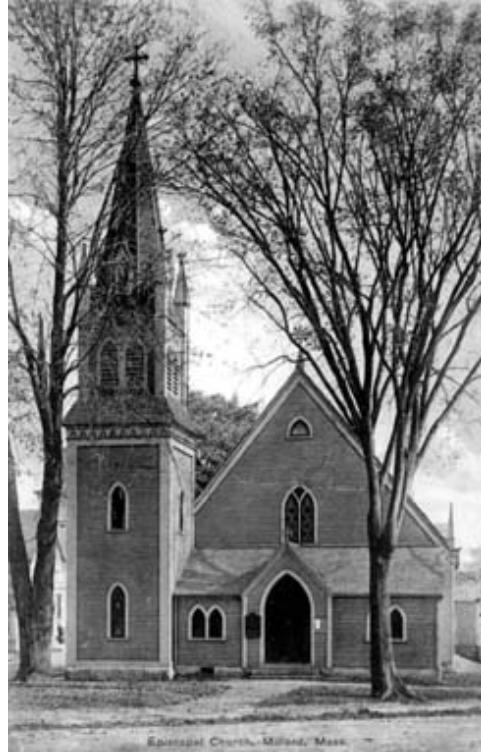
Trinity proposed a resolution to the Diocesan Convention in 1993 which would allow each Parish to add to their existing convention delegates a youth delegate, and an alternate between the ages of 16 and 20. The proposal was accepted, and, in 1996, Trinity sent its youth delegate and its alternate to Convention.

We are currently in a period of growth at Trinity. Our membership has been rising steadily. The number of parishioners attending Sunday services and participating in our diverse programs is also consistently rising. As we look to the future, we share the excitement of our founding fathers!

# PARISH HISTORY



**TRINITY CHURCH  
1882**



**TRINITY CHURCH 1910**



**TRINITY CHURCH  
NOW**



**SANCTUARY  
1910**



**SANCTUARY  
NOW**



## WHAT TRINITY IS EXPECTING

Trinity Episcopal Church is expecting the following qualities and capabilities in our new Rector:

- ◆ A True love for our Savior, Jesus Christ
- ◆ A Spiritually grounded individual with an active prayer life from which his/her preaching, pastoral care, liturgical leadership and spiritual guidance flow.
- ◆ A Rector who proclaims the Good News in a personal way, with joy, wonder, intelligence and a sense of humor.
- ◆ An ability to deliver Sermons that are instructive and illuminating, relating the Scriptures to daily life and current events. Good Preaching should challenge the congregation spiritually and intellectually.
- ◆ A commitment to Pastoral Care, Counseling and Visitation while working hand in hand with the Parish Nurse.
- ◆ An advocate for effective church school and youth programs, lending support, guidance, and perspective to these critical ministries.
- ◆ A love of liturgy and an ability to preside with ease and grace.
- ◆ A comfort level with liturgical exploration and the discussion and opinions that surround it.
- ◆ A nurturer of Adult Spiritual Formation and an active promoter of its expansion.
- ◆ An embracer of diversity. We welcome all of God's people in all of their wondrous diversity.
- ◆ A leader in the community with a willingness to be involved in the local community and our covenant with St. Mary's Parish.
- ◆ A strong understanding of family and relationship dynamics.
- ◆ A skilled guide and pillar in crisis.

Our next Rector will feel comfortable working with the Vestry and delegating authority to the staff and committees. We look to the Rector to build consensus on challenging issues, rather than dispense with controversy autocratically. Strong communication skills are a must. We seek a person who is genuine, warm, a person who is excited with the joy and love of Christ, one with a gentle sense of humor, and a willingness to try to move us and make us think at the altar.



## WHAT OUR NEW RECTOR CAN EXPECT

We are empathetic and understanding of the unique challenges which face clergy in our times. Therefore, we have taken several steps to ensure that our Rector can focus on her/his true calling.

Trinity has an infrastructure in place to support the Rector in the day-to-day oversight of organizational details and the general operation of the Parish. Our part-time Parish Administrator is dependable, caring, creative and well-acquainted with both the administrative and more personal needs of the parish. Because the parish values its Music Program and Pastoral Care program and understands the particular demands of these ministries, we have on staff a talented, experienced choir director/organist and Parish Nurse. In addition, we have many dedicated volunteers on committees, led by the Vestry, who work together to oversee the running of many of our various and successful programs.

The spiritual nourishment of our Priest is very important to us. We encourage our Priest to attend retreats and special gatherings provided by the Diocese. We provide time off for continuing education and we budget monies each year for the same. Our Diocese also offers grants to clergy and to lay people for continuing education and has a sabbatical program that provides for sabbaticals after five years of service.

Because we are sensitive to the personal needs of our clergy, given the demands of this calling. We will offer our new Rector a fair and competitive compensation package, including two personal days each week, four weeks vacation and ample time away for spiritual reflection and renewal.

Finally, we do not ask the Rector to sustain alone the spiritual needs of the parish. Volunteer support includes a Director of Children's Spiritual Formation, several Lay Eucharistic Ministers and visitors, an Altar Guild, a Children's Choir Director, a volunteer in charge of the Greeters and Acolytes and a parish tradition of active lay leadership/participation.

Trinity is looking forward to a long and supportive relationship with its New Rector!

# FINANCIAL

<b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006 Budgeted</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Pledges	\$124,000	\$111,000
Plate Offerings & Special Days	\$9,750	\$10,500
General Investment Income	\$8,000	\$11,500
General Purpose Income	\$15,000	\$32,000
Total Income		
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$156,750</b>	<b>\$165,000</b>
Diocesan Assessment	\$13,059	\$13,814
Church Programs	\$11,676	\$12,750
Salaries/Benefits	\$108,331	\$101,000
General Operating Expenses	\$15,859	\$15,774
Property	\$20,224	\$21,662
Total Expenses	\$169,149	\$165,000

Trinity Episcopal Church uses Church Windows for its membership, pledging and financial tracking and accounting. We have a Treasurer who works part time as a Volunteer and she is an elected officer of the Vestry. We also have a Collector and an Assistant Collector who are elected and serve on the Vestry as well.

Trinity recently further embraced technology with high speed DSL and a network for the Church computers.

# VESTRY MINISTRY SYSTEM

Name	Term. Exp	Area	Objective	Reporting Groups/Individuals
Priest		Sacraments	To create a better understanding of and participation in the Sacraments	
Cormier, Carol	January-07	Sr. Warden	To manage and support Vestry and Parish in fulfilling their missions & to chair Vestry meetings	
Kosiba, Verna	January-07	Jr. Warden	To support and assist Sr. Warden and to chair Vestry meetings in his/her absence	
Kalns, Lee	January-07	Clerk	To record and post minutes of all Vestry meetings	
Taylor, Cheryl	January-07	Treasurer	To manage and report on all financial matters of the parish	
Anzalone, Marcia	January-07	Outreach, Mission	To continue to offer a variety of ways for the parish to participate in mission	Mission Committee
Cote, Katherine	January-07	Worship, Assist	To improve presentation of worship through recruitment, training, & coordination	Altar Guild, Ushers, Welcoming Committee
Jackson, Touie	January-07	Stewardship, Assist	To create & maintain a stewardship process that emphasizes time & talent as well as treasure	Christmas Fair, Chocofest
Sweet, Paul	January-07	Physical Plant, Primary	To keep our buildings safe, efficient, comfortable, and welcoming	Sexton
McCarthy, Jack	January-08	Evangelism	To communicate the spirit and purpose of Trinity both internally and externally	Newsletter, Bulletins, Publicity
Jones, June	January-08	Fellowship	To make Trinity a more welcoming place & to provide opportunities for social interaction	Coffee Hour, Prayer Shawl Ministry
Gorham, Ron	January-08	Physical Plant, Assist	To keep our buildings safe, efficient, comfortable, and welcoming	
Timpany, Scott	January-08	Stewardship, Primary	To create & maintain a stewardship process that emphasizes time & talent as well as treasure	Fundraising
Yaroshefski, MaryEllen	January-09	Spiritual Formation, Children	To provide a variety of educational and formative activities for children	Sunday School, Confirmation Class
Washburn, Beth	January-09	Spiritual Formation, Adult & Youth	To provide a variety of educational and formative activities for Adults & Youth	Youth Group, Bible Study
Piesecki, Walter	January-09	Worship, Primary	To improve presentation of worship through recruitment, training, & coordination	LEM's, Acolytes, Organist, Choirs
Torian, Mary	January-09	Pastoral Care	To increase our support of parishioners in need	Parish Nurse, Home delivered meals, LEV's



## WEB LINKS & WEBSITE

<http://www.diocesewma.org>

<http://www.milford.ma.us/>

<http://www.hopedale-ma.gov/home/>

<http://www.blackstonedaily.com/tg-index.htm>

<http://www.nps.gov/blac/home.htm>

<http://tinyurl.com/z8gfb>

<http://tournewengland.com/>

<http://tinyurl.com/fxqut>

<http://www.gonewport.com/vtour.aspx>

<http://www.visitnh.gov/>

<http://www.vermontvacation.com/index.asp>

<http://www.collegeboard.com>

<http://www.resourcelinks.net/indexma.htm>

<http://www.mass.gov>

<http://tinyurl.com/h9ujp>

<http://www.boston.com>

<http://www.telegram.com>

<http://www.milforddailynews.com>

Diocese of Western MA

Milford Homepage

Hopedale Homepage

Things to do in Blackstone River Valley MA.

Blackstone Valley Calendar of Events

Boston Tourism

New England Tourism

Mystic Seaport CT.

Newport R.I.

New Hampshire Tourism

Vermont Tourism

College Searches

Mass Business Listings

All Local Town and State Information

Worcester County Private Schools

The Boston Globe

Worcester Telegram and Gazette

Milford Daily News

<http://www.lightband.com/~trinity>

# WEB LINKS & WEBSITE

## Trinity's Website

<http://www.lightband.com/~trinity>



**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
Milford, Massachusetts

*In God's Name and led by the Holy Spirit, we support and equip one another to implement Jesus' mission in Baptism for all people, in all places and at all times.*

### Parish Information

What is the Episcopal Church?  
First time at Trinity?  
Directions to Trinity  
Worship at Trinity  
Vestry and Leaders [LINKED](#)  
Parish Photo Album [LINKED](#)  
History  
Diocese of Western Mass  
Links to Other Sites  
Parish Newsletters

### Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Program  
Parish Nurse  
Lay Eucharistic Visitors  
Lay Pastoral Care Team  
Prayer Chain

### Outreach

Milford Food Pantry  
Mission Committee  
Trinity/St Mary's Covenant  
UTO

### Parish Programs

Acolytes  
Altar Guild  
Building and Property  
Choir  
Christmas Fair  
Covenant Committee  
Lay Eucharistic Ministers  
Nursery Care  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Stewardship  
TECW  
Trinity GFS Awards  
Ushers  
Walking in the Way [NEW](#)  
Welcoming Committee

### Christian Education

Sunday School  
Sunday School Calendar  
Youth Group  
Adult Education  
Trinity Library

### Contact Information

Trinity Episcopal Church  
17 Congress Street  
Milford, MA 01757

(508) 473-8464

[trinity@lightband.com](mailto:trinity@lightband.com)

URL:

<http://www.lightband.com/~trinity/>

<http://www.lightband.com/~trinity>

### Worship Schedule

#### Sunday

8:00 Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:45 Sunday School  
10:00 Holy Eucharist Rite II - Child care available

*Join us for fellowship after the 10:00 service.*

Is this your first visit to Trinity? If so, you may be interested in the [answers to frequently asked questions](#).

#### Wednesday

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

### Lent and Holy Week Schedule

3/1 Ash Wednesday 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM  
4/13 Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM  
4/14 Good Friday 7:00 PM  
4/15 Holy Saturday 7:00 PM

### How to Find Us

Trinity Church is located at the [corner of Exchange Street and Congress Street](#) in downtown Milford. Our telephone number is (508) 473-8464.

The Parish office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM until Noon.

You can also reach us by email at [trinity@lightband.com](mailto:trinity@lightband.com) or send us a fax at (508) 473-2609.

### Handicap Accessibility



Trinity's sanctuary is wheelchair accessible by means of the side door. There is one reserved parking spot on Congress Street, directly in front of the side door. The upper hall is accessible via a chairlift (1/2 flight), and has an accessible restroom. The lower hall is accessible by means of a portable ramp to the back door. It also has an accessible restroom.

### About Trinity

Trinity Episcopal Church, a parish of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, serves Christians in the greater Milford area. United by a desire to worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,



THANK YOU!



MISSION STATEMENT  
Trinity Episcopal Church, Milford MA

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and led by the Holy Spirit,  
we support and equip one another  
to implement Jesus' mission in Baptism  
for all people, in all places and at all times.**