



THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Trinitarian

April 2021

A REFLECTION FROM YOUR INTERIM PRIEST

The Lord has risen! The Lord has risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

In preparing to write this month's reflection, I read some pieces on Easter that I wrote for newsletters throughout my years of ministry. This brought home to me how different this year is. Even last year, when we intentionally planned a simple Easter with online worship, I wrote: *The breathtaking joy of Easter will be more muted this year, but we look forward to an exuberant celebration of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst for the "birthday of the church" on the Feast of Pentecost on May 31st.*

Our hope is less naïve this year and yet it is more intense. We can feel it welling from deep within us. We plan the simplest gatherings with a sense of wonder, and we look forward to traveling with a poignant mix of vulnerability and glee. We *will* worship together again soon, in a way that is more inclusive than ever before. We will have to wait a bit longer to share coffee and simple suppers together, but they too will again be regular rituals. At the same time, I pray that we will have the grace to become a new Body, humbled and awed by what we have experienced during the past year: the wonder of love that persists through obstacles and errors, the sweetness of casual conversations, the longing for what lies just beyond our grasp, the bone-wearying loneliness of days without a touch or a voice, the confidence that God is forming us into new people who will become a new community.

May the joy that we share this Easter be made deeper by our vulnerability.

May we welcome the grace that will continue to surprise us.

May we allow the resurrection to take place in our hearts, embracing what Robert Farrar Capon has called an *incautious and extravagant hope*.

This meditation by Steven Charleston describes what Easter means to me this year:

Awake you winter sleepers, you tired and burdened believers, for the ancient season of renewal, this brightening time of green shoots and first flowers. This is the sign from deep within that life is never ended, that change is never complete, but forever making itself over, finding a fresh start. Life is rising out of the cold ground of the past to discover the sun waiting once again, a different way of being, but being all the same stronger for the struggle, more grateful for the warmth, drinking in hope like rain, rising up to be seen once more, joyful and refreshed.

From Ladder to the Light p. 156

Mother Judith+

DURING THIS TIME – APRIL 2021

Our focus will be to prepare for a return to in-person worship.

We expect to have an outdoor service of Holy Communion on Sundays in the parking lot beginning on Easter. Because our sanctuary is small and public health protocols have not changed, there are a number of different things we must do to make it a safe gathering place for worship. **We will need volunteers to help set up the parking lot for outdoor services and to assist with hybrid worship. Please watch for more information on how to sign up.**

The Sanctuary

- Consider what limited occupancy would look like and consider ways to expand participation through scheduling or using the Parish Hall and Lane Chapel.
- Enhance ventilation with new filters for the furnace and consider purchase of stand-alone HEPA air purifiers.
- Consider installing plexiglass shields at the lectern and pulpit (on the recommendation of the Health Department).
- Consider purchasing CO2 monitors.
- Consider using this time to repair damaged wood in the altar rail and pews.

Worship

- Purchase a more sophisticated computer, camera, and software for livestreaming interactive hybrid worship.
- Develop and train a technology team.
- Plan for outdoor Holy Communion in the parking lot through the summer.
 - Consider purchasing a tent or canopy for worship in all weather.
 - Plan for coordinating with ongoing Zoom worship and virtual social interaction.
- Plan to incorporate recorded instrumental and choral music into live worship.

Sunday School/ Lane Chapel

- Enhance ventilation in the Lane Chapel.
- Arrange furniture in the Lane Chapel to accommodate children following public health protocols.
- Plan for hybrid Sunday School that will remove any barriers to youth participation.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT TRINITY

Saturday March 27th

Noon Blessing of the Palms: Covenant Service with St. Mary of the Assumption Church

Sunday March 28th - Palm Sunday

9 am Morning Prayer with a Reading of the Passion Gospel

10-11:30 am Private Holy Communion & Distribution of Palms at the church

Monday March 29th

7:15 am Zoom Meditation

Wednesday March 31st

10 am Morning Prayer on Zoom

7:30 pm Zoom Meditation

Maundy Thursday April 1st

7 pm Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar on Zoom

Good Friday April 2nd

Noon – Ecumenical service of the 7 Last Words: Video available on YouTube & Trinity website

Holy Saturday April 3rd

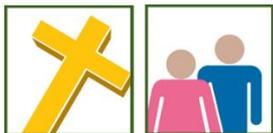
10 am & 10:30 am – Easter Egg Hunt

8 pm The Great Vigil of Easter: A Diocesan Celebration on Zoom

Easter Sunday April 4th

9 am Holy Communion on Zoom

10:30 am Holy Communion Outdoors in the Trinity Parking Lot



Sr. Warden's Report

So don't fret about tomorrow. Let tomorrow fret about itself. The troubles that the day brings are enough. [Matthew 6:34]

I have come across this reading a few times over the past month, and something just sticks. We can look at things in so many ways. We can throw caution to the wind, live each day to the fullest because we just never know what will happen tomorrow. On the other hand, we can be a bit more pessimistic

in our thinking that the day is so overbearing that it is hard enough to get through that, let alone think about what comes next. But what comes next seems to be on all our minds, probably many times a day I imagine.

This past month, the vestry has been thinking a lot about what comes next, and most of that is still so unknown and out of our control right now. It is hard not knowing what comes next. What we do know is that we have many things to think about, a lot of decisions to make, and lots of preparation to do. We want to be thoughtful and considerate of how we will come together in worship once again. We want to make sure we are preparing our space in anticipation of a new rector. We want to make sure we are preparing and ready to go with a technology plan that will bring our worship to everyone, no matter where you sit on Sunday morning. We want to make sure we are keeping everyone informed as we move through the next several months. Some days, I think about all that work to get ready for “what comes next” and I think it would be so much easier to just enjoy the day in front of me!

Mother Judith shared preliminary plans and thoughts with everyone this past week as we look to opening our doors. What I know is that there are going to be many small steps to get us to what comes next. What is most important though is that we hear and understand what is important to you, what are you most looking forward to, what are you anxious about as we look to return to worship. Please reach out to Mother Judith, me, or Lisa.

There is a lot to do around the church to prepare our space – that might mean some rolling up our sleeves, cleaning spaces, or helping to reorganize. Look for notices on how to help or connect with Lisa.

We will be having our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 3rd. For so many reasons, we are “eggcited” about this. A bit of tradition, the hint of spring, and most of all a chance to witness our Trinity children and friends back in our yard. There is a box at the church for drop-off of filled eggs (wrapped candy only please) for donations.

As we turn the corner to the first day of spring and keep ourselves on track to enjoy the longer days, I hope everyone has some of those days to not fret about the tomorrow – there are so many great things going on today right in front of us as we all look towards the “what comes next” without worry. From the ways we are preparing for what comes next, to the youth doing our Grab and Go lunches when school is off, to the community dinners that have had to pivot, to our virtual worship and coffee hour. Lots to keep us so grateful about the day in front of us!

With gratitude,

Beth Moeller

ROMEOS LUNCHEONS



The ROMEOS lunch group will meet on Zoom at 12:30 on Friday, **April 9th, 2021**. Mother Judith will send a computer link over email when we get closer to that actual date.

If you would like to attend, please contact Dave Clinkman at clinkman@comcast.net or 508-634-8996 by Wednesday, April 7th. ROMEOS is a social group for retired men and other men who wish

to join us at lunch time.

JULIETs luncheons will resume when we are able to meet indoors at a restaurant. Please contact Pat Keppler for further information.

Attention all graduating high school seniors! Trinity GFS Scholarship applications are now being accepted! Each year, Trinity gives monetary awards to qualified members who are entering an institution of higher education. These awards recognize attendance and service to Trinity Parish during the applicant's high school years. Please go to our Trinity website (trinitychurchmilford.org). At the home page, click Resources- Scholarship - Trinity Episcopal Church GFS to download the form. The instructions are included and it only takes a few minutes to complete.



All applications must be submitted by April 23, 2021.

Please contact us at gfs@trinitychurchmilford.org if you have any questions



Next Meeting: Sunday April 11th @ 7 PM on Zoom

Three of our youth participated in the 30-Hour Famine on February 26th & 27th. Anna Prevelige, Sean Prevelige, and Allison Kee raised \$1080 for World Vision global hunger programs. This will feed 27 people for a month!

In March, we chose our mission projects for the rest of the year. In April, we will help with the Easter Egg Hunt and we will take charge of the Grab n Go lunch on Patriot's Day. We will also collect recyclable containers for the Good News Nursery. In May, we will have a table at the Grab n Go meals with toys and games for children, and in June, we will distribute sunscreen and bug spray to our Grab n Go guests.



Mark your calendars for our last two meetings of the year: May 2nd and June 6th @ 7pm on Zoom.

Thank you to Madelyn Stochaj for designing our flyer for this event.

THE ROLE OF THE PARISH ORGANIST

From the
ORGANIST



PRELUDES and POSTLUDES

The third role of an organist is playing preludes and postludes. Postludes close the service, often as a festive element. Although postludes frequently show the organist's skill at flashy, colorful works triggering applause from the congregation, its function is not necessarily to get that response but to end the service on "a high note." Preludes set the stage for the service, often in a contemplative, reflective mood.

For special Sundays such as Easter, a more celebratory work can be appropriate as a prelude. Celebrating the first Easter with our new Smith and Gilbert organ, I chose Cesar Franck's (1822-1890) "Chorale in A minor," a masterpiece for the organ and appropriate for that day as a prelude to set the tone of the service. With several moods and sonorities from the organ, it has a grand finale, possibly symbolizing the triumph of the Resurrection. Immediately following the last chord, a very youthful voice from the congregation shouted, "Wow!" That moment has stayed with me ever since. Clearly the piece accomplished my intent for this very special Christian holiday and the significance of Easter.

Randy Bloom
Minister of Music

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Church school has been in full swing this past month learning about how Jesus is there for us no matter what. He is there for us when we are sad, when we worry and if we have problems that we cannot solve on our own. Families have also been playing "Lentopoly" at home during the Lent season. We look forward to celebrating Easter and Earth Day together during the month of April!

Rachel Carpenter
Sunday School Coordinator

GOOD NEWS GARDENS AT TRINITY



Bishop Michael Curry instructed us to Pray, Plant & Proclaim in the video he recorded about Good News Gardens. The website for GNG shares specific ways to do each of these tasks.

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/good-news-gardens>

Pray

- a. God, Show me who is hungry...
- b. God, show me the resources, the wisdom, the expertise in unexpected places...
- c. God, remind me to keep my eyes open to see people who have needs, and then see what gifts they long to offer...
- d. God, open my eyes to see when gifts are being offered to me, let me receive them graciously...

Plant

Pick up some of the seedlings with curbside pick up @ Trinity on Sundays, April 18th & 25th and Thursday, April 22nd (4-5 pm). Nurture them and commit to growing them. Ask yourself; Where is the best spot to grow my seedlings? Do you have a sunny spot? Or is it more shady? Plants have preferences and we want you to choose the plant that is best suited to the spot you are going to bring it home to. We will send containers to transplant into as your seedlings grow as well as potting soil and instructions.

Proclaim

We will all be growing together. Share pics and updates on social media using the hashtag #goodnewsgardens. Send them to Beth Stochaj to post on Trinity's Facebook page. Talk to people about the Good News Gardens. I have had some amazing conversations with people since I started talking about GNG. If you have garden wisdom, I encourage you to share it with others. Plan to share your veggies and flowers as things begin to grow and bloom.

GNG offers webinars with all kinds of gardening information. The next webinar is:

The Color of Food: Exploring Race and Justice in Our Food Systems, with Derrick Weston: Tuesday, March 23rd @ 5PM. You need to pre-register at the Good News Gardens website.

Other ways to help out are:

- help to build self-watering containers from recycled pails (you will need saws and drills to cut pvc piping and buckets)
- keep your eyes open for containers, rather than buy new things ~ look for old pots lying around in a shed, or something that would be artsy, like an old kettle
- spread the word, pick up some seedlings yourself at a store and share them with a neighbor. Anna Woofenden who started GNG, started by giving away basil plants.
- think about veggie forward recipes to share when we begin to reap the harvest!

Let's all grow together!

Mary Johnson

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Just a reminder that the deadline for submissions for the May edition of *The Trinitarian* is April 15th. Content that is submitted late may not make it into the newsletter but can be included in the weekly email blast. All articles should be sent to: news@trinitychurchmilford.org.



From the Editor

As I sit here writing this, it's the first day of spring, and what a glorious day it is. The last year has cast a pall over us all, and we need beautiful sunny days to remind us that better times are ahead. Happy Easter and a wonderful spring season to all.

Elizabeth Kfisiewicz, Editor
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