



THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# *The Trinitarian*

February 2018

## ***Notice of Annual Meeting***

### **TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

17 CONGRESS STREET

MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01757

**Sunday, February 4, 2018**

Notice is hereby given for the Call to the Annual Parish Meeting of Trinity Episcopal Church, Milford, Massachusetts, which will be held following the 9 am worship service, in the Upper Parish Hall on Sunday, February 4, 2018.

*The Annual Meeting will include a potluck brunch.*

The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Hear reports of the Rector, Wardens, Treasurer, Parish Mission and Ministry Leaders and other ministers of the church.
2. Conduct elections:
  - a. To elect parish officers for one-year terms: Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Clerk, Steward of the Offering and Assistant Stewards of the Offering
  - b. To elect parish members to fill three full terms (3 year) on the Vestry
  - c. Optionally to elect parish members to fill two partial terms (1 year) on the Vestry
  - d. To elect a young person (between 16 and 20 years old) to fill a one-year term on the Vestry
  - e. To elect three adult and one youth delegate to the 2018 Diocesan Convention.
  - f. To elect two alternate delegates to the 2018 Diocesan Convention
3. To present the 2018 Trinity Parish Mission and Ministry Budget
4. To transact any such business as may come before this Annual Meeting

*Dianne Belamarich*

Clerk of the Vestry

Nominations are open for all positions listed in item 2 above. If you are interested, or know of someone who is interested, please complete a nomination form. Nomination forms may be found in the Parish Hall.



One of the main events of the year as far as church business is concerned is our Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> following the 9am service (*there will be only one Service on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 9am*). This year we will worship in the church and then process up to the Parish Hall for our pot-luck brunch and Annual Meeting. The Annual Report was emailed out last week and copies were available in the Parish Hall last Sunday. The Annual Report includes brief summaries of all our

various ministries as well as the Vestry Approved Mission and Ministry Plan (Budget) for 2018. The Annual Meeting is also the time when we bid farewell to those who have graciously served their term on the vestry and elect and welcome the new members.

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## SUNDAY NIGHT LENTEN PROGRAM

Have you ever wished to deepen your relationship with God? To experience a warm friendship with God? Maybe even fall in love with God – again – or for the very first time?

*Meeting Jesus*  
in the Gospel of John

With a beautiful prayer journal, facilitation guidance for small groups from the Center for the Ministry of Teaching, and videos from the monks of SSJE, Meeting Jesus is a six-week journey and reflection on the Gospel According to John.

We will meet as a group for seven Sundays, starting on the Last Sunday after Epiphany (February 11<sup>th</sup>) throughout Lent, ending on Palm Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. We will meet each Sunday evening from 5pm till 7:30pm.

**Special Note!** This year we will have activities for our young people (toddlers through teens) each Sunday evening. Fr. Mac will facilitate for the adults in the Upper Parish Hall and Rev. Susan will facilitate for the young people in the Lower Parish Hall.

Our meetings will begin with all of us sharing a simple supper (soup, salad, bread and dessert) as we share our experiences of the past week. Following the meal, the kids will go downstairs with Rev. Susan for their own program while the adults meet upstairs. Our time together following the meal will include prayer, and activity and conversation.

All participants are encouraged to subscribe to the daily video and prayer email at <http://meetingjesusinjohn.org/>. Go to the bottom of the page to sign up (right under the heading "Lent 2018: Meeting Jesus"). Below the signup is a wonderful introductory video from our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry (<https://youtu.be/j9xlkCfEGEw>).

Fr. Mac has prayer journals for all participants!

Talk to Fr. Mac with any questions you may have, and know that you can fully participate in this program whether you can join us on Sunday evenings or not.

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## BREAD FOR OUR EUCHARIST



For the past few years we have been using real bread, made by many of our members, and by our Confirmation classes, Family Communion Class participants and Junior Youth Group. For the past year our Junior Warden, Ruth Warner has been our master bread maker! We realize that there are some who prefer traditional wafers, or gluten free wafers, so please know that they are also available at every service, just let Fr. Mac know if you would prefer one of these alternatives when he offers you the bread. This is a wonderful ministry which we would like to share with everyone. If you are interested in making communion bread, there is a recipe on our Trinity website. As Fr. Mac takes his monthly retreat at the SSJE Monastery, he would like to share their recipe and instructions with you. They can be found on the SSJE web site at: <https://www.ssje.org/2017/07/31/altar-bread/>. You can also touch base with Ruth and she will share her bread making experience with you.

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## UPCOMING BAPTISM DATES

Our Prayer Book states that “Holy Baptism is especially appropriate at the Easter Vigil, on the Day of Pentecost, on All Saints’ Day or the Sunday after All Saints’ Day, and on the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord (the First Sunday after the Epiphany). It is recommended that, as far as possible, Baptisms be reserved for these occasions or when a bishop is present.”  
*BCP p312*



**Are You Baptized?**

For the coming year, the “recommended dates” are:

March 31 (Easter Vigil)  
May 20 (Pentecost)  
November 4 (Sunday after All Saints)

This year, when Bishop Fisher joins us for Pentecost, Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>, at the 10 am service, we will offer Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows (as well as Baptism, particularly for any adults who wish Baptism and Confirmation).

If you are interested in Baptism, Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation of your Baptismal Vows, talk to me! Throughout Lent we will offer opportunities for adult preparation for these sacramental events.

Infants wishing to be baptized should have their parent(s) contact me about convenient dates.

Blessings and Peace,

*Fr. Mac*



## WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY

In the rare event that the weather prevents Fr. Mac from getting to church and it is necessary to cancel worship services or close the church office, there will be a message on the church answering machine – 508-473-8464. Always exercise caution when driving on the snow!

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## EMERGENCY SUPPORT

If you lose power this winter, we have many parishioners with power and with a willingness to share their homes! If a winter storm should leave you without power, call the church (508-473-8464) and we will find you a warm home in which to weather the storm. Likewise, if you have power and space available to share, call Fr. Mac at the church or on his cell. Also – if you have a spare portable generator to lend for a short time, call the church!



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**Treasurer's Report** – Pledges have been paid to within \$4000 of the amount pledged. We should be even at the close of the year.



### Finance Committee

- Stewardship: The Annual Giving Campaign is about \$3,000 short of what is needed. Everyone will be asked to increase their pledge by \$5.00 a month to fill the gap.
- Capital Campaign – Approximately \$175,000 has been pledged through 18 pledges. The four receptions with information and pledging opportunities for the entire congregation will be held this week. There will be vestry representation at all meetings.
- Budget – The budget for 2018 was presented and approved.

### Leadership - Vestry Positions to Fill:

- One-year Positions: Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer, Clerk, and Youth Vestry Member
- Three-year Vestry Positions: Diocesan Convention Delegates, Alternates and Youth Delegate, Stewards of the Offering

**Annual Meeting** – The annual meeting will be held on February 4. It will begin with a service in the church at 9:00am and then process into the parish hall for the meeting and a potluck brunch. The vestry is asked to set up at 5:00 PM on February 3.

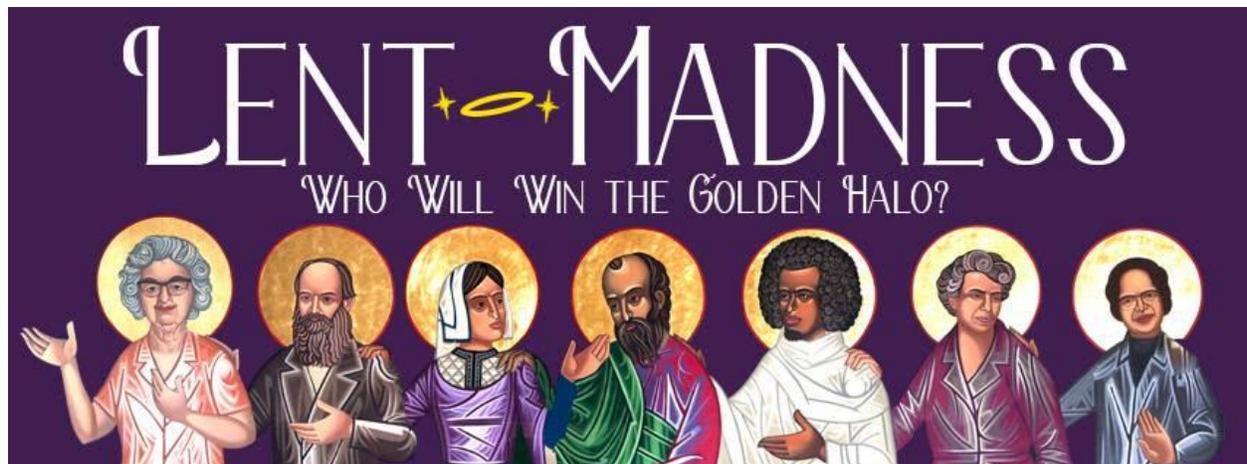
**Safe Church Training** – Peach Warren will tentatively hold a safe-church training in the fall. Vestry members, employees, and volunteers should participate every three years. Employees are required to do a full-day training.

**Calendar/Website** – The calendar is online and the updated web site has many new features.

**Church Directory** – Wayne Stochaj and Barbara Chambers are planning a sign-up sheet for times for picture-taking.

**Advertising** – The vestry voted to use \$175 to advertise on placemats at Johnny Jack's Restaurant.

**Wardens** – The vestry offered special thanks to Dwight Kee and Ruth Warner for their dedication and hard work over the last three years.



**Lent Madness 2018**  
***The Sainly Smackdown is Back!***

By now you've heard that Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day coincide this year. The real Lenten *love*, however, kicks off the next day on February 15. Why? Because for the ninth year running, people of faith are gearing up for Lent Madness, the beloved "sainly smackdown!"



With its unique blend of competition, learning, and humor, Lent Madness allows participants to be inspired by the ways in which God has worked through the lives of saintly souls across generations and cultures. Throughout Lent, thirty-two saints will do battle to win the coveted Golden Halo. Based loosely on the NCAA basketball tournament of a similar name, this online devotion pits saints against one another in a bracket as voters choose their favorites throughout this penitential season.

Here's how to participate: on the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at <http://www.lentmadness.org> about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Sainly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo.

The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

This year Lent Madness features an intriguing slate of saints ancient and modern, Biblical and ecclesiastical. 2018 heavyweights include John the Evangelist, Margaret of Scotland, Richard Hooker, Katharina von Bora, and the apostles Peter and Paul.

The full bracket is online at the Lent Madness website <http://www.lentmadness.org> and, while not necessary to participate, you can order *The Sainly Scorecard: The Definitive Guide to Lent Madness 2018* at <http://www.forwardmovement.org>. This companion guide includes

biographies of all 32 saints, a full-color bracket, information about how to fully participate, and a series of Pocket Lent trading cards.

Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck, an Episcopal priest and rector of St. John's Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. In seeking a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women who make up the church's calendar of saints, Schenck devised this devotion. Combining his love of sports with his passion for the lives of the saints, Lent Madness was born.

Starting in 2012, Schenck partnered with Forward Movement (the same folks that publish *Forward Day by Day*) executive director Scott Gunn, to bring Lent Madness to the masses. Schenck and Gunn form the self-appointed Supreme Executive Committee, a more-or-less benevolent dictatorship that runs the entire operation.

The formula has worked as this online devotional has been featured in media outlets all over the country including national television, the Washington Post, NPR, USA Today, and even Sports Illustrated (seriously). More importantly thousands of people have been inspired by the saintly stories of those who have come before us in the faith.

Eleven "celebrity bloggers" from across the country have been tapped to write for the project: the Rev. Amber Belldene of San Francisco, CA; the Rev. Laurie Brock of Lexington, KY; the Rev. Megan Castellan of Kansas City, MO; Anna Fitch Courie of Honolulu, HI; Dr. David Creech of Morehead, MN; Neva Rae Fox of Somerville, NJ; the Rev. David Hansen of Woodlands, TX; Emily Miller of Chicago, IL; Carol Howard Merritt of Chattanooga, TN; The Rev. Marcus Halley of Minneapolis, MN; and the Rev. David Sibley of Manhasset, NY. Information about each of the celebrity bloggers and the rest of the team is available on the Lent Madness website.

If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to get closer to Jesus Christ?

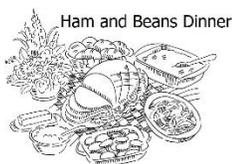
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## MISSION COMMITTEE REPORT

Thank you again to everyone who helped with the Jesse Tree, from picking up the items to helping to sort - everyone helped make it a success.

- *Trinity Mission Committee*

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Ham and Beans Dinner

There will be a ham and bean supper on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall. Along with the ham, macaroni and cheese will be served for the younger attendees. I will make the baked beans and bake the hams with brown sugar, molasses, and maple syrup. A \$5.00 donation for adults and \$2.50 for children is suggested. We will do a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds will go to the fund-raising account in the general fund to help to balance the budget. Coleslaw (homemade), bread, drinks, and dessert will be included. Come and enjoy a New England Tradition. Dinner will be served from 5:30-7:30pm.

Thanks.

*Dave Scott*

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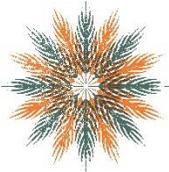
## MEAT RAFFLE

Trinity is having another Meat Raffle on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 starting at noon in the upstairs hall. There will be 20 games for \$2 each OR buy the whole sheet of games for \$35 for a \$5 savings. Meats included are racks of ribs, chicken wings, pork butts, and more. If you're not able to come but wish to play/support Trinity, you can buy a sheet ahead of time and we will have volunteers play for you. Sheets will be available to buy on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. We can also fill you in with details as to how a Meat Raffle works. This event is open to the community and it's so much fun! There will be a concession stand selling snacks and soft drinks as well. Only 100 seats are available, so come see what it's about.

Interested in volunteering or looking to earn community service hours? Email me at [misstraceyngcc@gmail.com](mailto:misstraceyngcc@gmail.com)

*Tracey N. Morse*

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Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.

—*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*

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We probably think of romance when Valentine's Day comes. That's fine, but there's more to the story than that.

St. Valentine was a Christian priest and martyr who lived about A.D. 270. The Roman emperor at the time was Claudius II. Claudius had been a successful general. He would not allow his soldiers to marry, because he wanted to make sure they could go to battle quickly. He thought family ties would make the men reluctant to leave home. Because Valentine promoted marriage and family life, he was jailed and later convicted of going against the orders of the emperor. He was martyred on February 14, the day we remember him and our loved ones.

While he was in jail, the jailer's daughter befriended him. He wrote her a letter of appreciation and signed it "Your Valentine." The tradition of exchanging valentines grew out of that heartfelt gesture.

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## GIVING UP GUILT

Rev. Greg Boyle, a Jesuit priest who ministers to high-risk youth in Los Angeles, once quipped, "I don't do guilt. I gave it up for Lent years ago." Many Christians give up something for Lent but usually not guilt! Rather, Lent is seen as a time to somberly examine our sinful nature.

Having witnessed sin's tragic effects through addiction, violence and gang warfare, Father

Boyle realizes that dwelling on guilt doesn't lead to hope or healing. Instead, he helps young people discover their God-given strengths and their ability to make life-affirming choices. His nonprofit Homeboy Industries provides positive alternatives for teenagers, who are reminded not of their guilt but of their identity as God's beloved children.

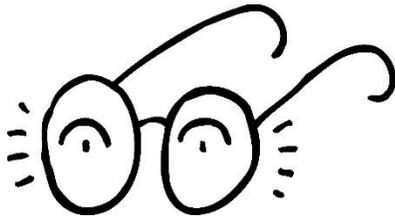
On Good Friday Jesus conquered sin and death so we *don't* have to wallow in guilt. Giving our lives to God frees us to live in the joy of forgiveness.



## ROMEO'S LUNCHEON

The Romeo's group will meet for lunch at the Willowbrook Restaurant, Route 16, Mendon, at 12:30 PM on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact Dave Clinkman at [clinkman@comcast.net](mailto:clinkman@comcast.net) or 508-634-8996 by January 31<sup>st</sup> if you wish to attend so we can make reservations. Romeo's is a social group for retired men and other men who wish to join us during their lunch hour.

## EYEGGLASS RECYCLING



Trinity's participation in the Milford Lions Club eyeglass recycling program continues. The total number of glasses collected by Trinity parishioners for people in need is 273. Anyone with eyeglasses, glasses cases, or gently used sunglasses that they no longer need, can put them in the collection box near the piano in the parish hall. Thanks to all who have contributed so far!



COMMUNITY DINNER

Trinity Church serves free dinners in a clean, pleasant, and friendly environment. Anyone who is hungry or lonely is welcome. There are no eligibility requirements. All are welcome to come enjoy fellowship with a satisfying meal.

Our upcoming dinners will take place on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, and February 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping to prepare and serve the dinner, please contact [communitymeal@trinitychurchmilford.org](mailto:communitymeal@trinitychurchmilford.org) to serve in this meaningful mission.



Just a reminder that the deadline for submissions for the March edition of *The Trinitarian* is February 15<sup>th</sup>. All articles should be sent to: [news@trinitychurchmilford.org](mailto:news@trinitychurchmilford.org). Please **do not** send articles to the church office.



**Thursday, February 1**

2pm Cadette Girl Scouts Mtg.  
5pm Laundry Love  
7pm Yoga Class

**Friday, February 2**

12:30pm ROMEO's at Willowbrook Restaurant

**Saturday, February 3**

8am Prayer Group  
8:30am Al-Anon Meeting  
5pm Worship Service

**Sunday, February 4**

8:15am Choir Rehearsal  
9am Combined Worship Service  
9am Confirmation Class  
9am Children's Program  
10am Annual Meeting and Pot-luck Brunch

**Monday, February 5**

6:30pm Senior Girl Scouts Mtg.  
6:30pm AA – Women's Meeting  
6:30pm Al-Anon Group Reps Meeting  
8pm Al-Anon Meeting

**Tuesday, February 6**

7am Networking Meeting  
12pm AA Meeting  
6:30pm Tai Chi  
7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, February 7**

9am Eucharist & Fellowship  
12pm AA Meeting  
6pm Children with Special Needs Support Group

**Thursday, February 8**

7pm Yoga Class  
7pm MAHC

**Friday, February 9**

**Saturday, February 10**

8am Prayer Group  
8:30am Al-Anon Meeting  
10am Cadette Girl Scouts Mtg.  
5pm Worship Service

**Sunday, February 11**

8 & 10am Worship Services  
9am Kitchen Crew Meeting  
9:15am Choir Rehearsal  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:30am Youth Choir Rehearsal  
11:30am Family Communion Class  
5pm Lenten Program

**Monday, February 12**

6pm Senior Girl Scouts Mtg.  
6:30pm AA – Women's Meeting  
7pm Vestry Meeting  
8pm Al-Anon Meeting

**Tuesday, February 13**

*Shrove Tuesday*  
7am Networking Meeting  
12pm AA Meeting  
5pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
6:30pm Tai Chi  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, February 14**

*Ash Wednesday*  
9am Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Imposition of Ashes  
10am Staff/Leadership Meeting  
12pm AA Meeting  
12pm Ash Wednesday Liturgy  
7pm Ash Wednesday Liturgy

**Thursday, February 15**

*Newsletter Deadline*  
2pm Cadette Girl Scouts Mtg.  
7pm Yoga Class

**Friday, February 16**

6pm Scrapbooking Group

**Saturday, February 17**

8am Prayer Group  
8:30am Al-Anon Meeting  
10am Book Club Meeting  
5pm Worship Service  
5:30pm Ham and Bean Dinner

**Sunday, February 18**

8 & 10am Worship Services  
9:15am Choir Rehearsal  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:30am Youth Choir Rehearsal  
11:30am Confirmation Class  
1:30pm Smitten with Knittin'  
5pm Lenten Program

**Monday, February 19**

*Church Office Closed*  
6pm Senior Girl Scouts Mtg.  
6:30pm AA – Women's Meeting  
8pm Al-Anon Meeting

**Tuesday, February 20**

7am Networking Meeting  
12pm AA Meeting  
6:30pm Tai Chi  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, February 21**

9am Eucharist & Fellowship  
12pm AA Meeting  
5pm Laundry Love  
6pm Children with Special Needs Support Group

**Thursday, February 22**

4:30pm Community Dinner  
7pm Yoga Class

**Friday, February 23**

4:30pm Community Dinner

**Saturday, February 24**

8am Prayer Group  
8:30am Al-Anon Meeting  
10am Cadette Girl Scouts Mtg.  
5pm Worship Service

**Sunday, February 25**

8 & 10am Worship Services  
9:15am Choir Rehearsal  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:30am Youth Choir Rehearsal  
11:30am Family Communion Class  
12pm Meat Raffle  
5pm Lenten Program

**Monday, February 26**

6pm Senior Girl Scouts Mtg.  
6:30pm AA – Women's Meeting  
8pm Al-Anon Meeting

**Tuesday, February 27**

7am Networking Meeting  
12pm AA Meeting  
6:30pm Tai Chi  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

**Wednesday, February 28**

9am Eucharist & Fellowship  
12pm AA Meeting  
4:30pm Community Dinner



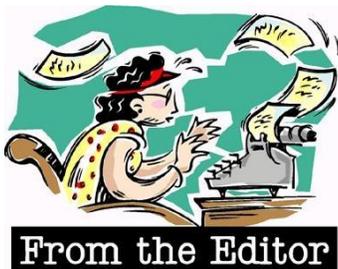
**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
17 Congress Street  
Milford, MA 01757

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Email (Fr. Mac) fr.mac@trinitychurchmilford.org  
Email (Rev. Susan) rev.susan@trinitychurchmilford.org  
Web www.trinitychurchmilford.org  
Worship Schedule Wednesday, 9am  
Saturday, 5pm  
Sunday, 8am and 10am

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February, 2018

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



The sun is shining and it's crisp and chilly out there, but we are past the Arctic freeze. Only two more months of this to get through. Take some time and enjoy the natural beauty of the winter season, even if you are cross at the weather forecast.

*Elizabeth Klisiewicz*  
Editor  
news@trinitychurchmilford.org