



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

December 2018

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*Holy Trinity is called to recognize, communicate and celebrate
God's presence within, among and around us.*

A MESSAGE FROM FR. RICHARD

Dear Friends,

Advent allows us to start fresh to draw near to God, "...while God wills to be found." Deep joy is the result of a faithful Advent. Practicing a waiting Spirit, while God makes the incremental changes every day. We can rule the chaos that seems to overtake life. We find the path that God clears before us. Waiting and watching, "reading the signs of the fig tree," we discover our prayers have made us vulnerable to God, and we are glad. Find new ways to pray, with the words that spring out in natural thanksgiving, or practice sitting in quiet "wordless" prayer all the while knowing God to be present in the silence. Advent starts a wilderness desert, with a lone voice calling to God. We are that voice, waiting while God makes green our path.

So we offer our Advent Wreath making on December 2 after church (and again on Monday at 5:30 PM – bring snacks and "greens" to share). The wreath can help us refocus our daily prayer in the home, as God re-orientes our space as God's space. Scriptures and prayer are the ancient path to God's presence. Come along, and experiment how to share the Love of the Holy One beyond our normal circles.

The liturgy on Sunday will open with quiet symbols of light and prayer, and hone the themes of God sharing life itself with us. O come, O come let us adore the ONE long expected, the Redeemer of Israel!! The Prince of Peace!!!

*I remain, your friend and Rector,
(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore*

FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

crackers
mayonnaise
ketchup
mustard
relish
toilet tissue
soap
dish soap

Join us for Family
Worship in Blakely Hall
December 9 & 23
When families come
together to worship
with kids in mind.



WINTER COAT CLOSET

Winter coats for men, women, youth and children will be available on Saturday mornings from 9-11am, through December 15. Clean, gently used coats are always in need!



Community Blue Christmas Service: A Service of Remembrance & Hope

Tuesday, December 18 @ 7pm

For those who find rejoicing hard work

First United Methodist Church, 449 Main Street, Southbridge



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS



During Christmas services this year, you may wish to have a loved one remembered or to express special thanks to God for His blessings in your life. To do so, please complete this form and return it with your donation to the Church office **by Sunday, December 16**. The money for these memorials is used for flowers given to God's glory as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord.

Exact wording of memorial will be: Christmas gifts for flowers are given to the Glory of God...

If this gift is in memory of one who has died, choose one of the following:

_____ in Thanksgiving for the life of _____

(Name of your loved one or ones)

OR

_____ in Loving Memory of _____

(Name of your loved one or ones)

OR

If this gift is in Thanksgiving of a living person, choose the following:

_____ in Thanksgiving for the Blessing of _____

(Name of person or blessing)

ALL DEDICATIONS: PLEASE NOTE WHO THE MEMORIAL/THANKSGIVING IS GIVEN BY:

Given by _____

(Your Name/Names -Please use exact wording you would like to have published. You may, for example, use "by his family" or "by her husband" followed by your name or you may simply use your name(s).)

Please return this information sheet, along with your offering (no donation is too small), to the church office or drop it into the offering plate by **Sunday, December 16**. Please make checks payable to **Holy Trinity Church** with the notation "*Christmas Memorials*" on the memo line. ****Do you know someone who would appreciate Christmas flowers from the church? Please write their name and address here so it can arranged to bring them flowers:**

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 - Heather Bousquet 4 - Marion Piltzecker 11—Mick Kalber 11—Violet Spooner 11 - Mary Burns
17 - Bill Pieczynski 25—Jesus Christ 25—Ed Bair 30—Ada Mae Crosbie

If you have a birthday this month and are not listed but would like your name to be included in our monthly Tidings for birthdays, please contact the office. Thank you!

HOLY TRINITY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Please join us to celebrate the Birth of our Savior on December 24 at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary at Holy Trinity! At this Family Eucharist Service, the Gospel lesson will be presented as a Children's Nativity by Family Worship members. This lovely candle-lit service with Christmas hymns is the party at which we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please invite your whole family and friends to join us!



There will not be a Christmas Day service.

SAVE THE DATE!

**CELEBRATE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 6, 2019 @ 9:30 A.M.**



**Agape service in the Parish Hall
followed by potluck lunch/
brunch.**



WINTER

Winter Parking on Hamilton Street

From December 1 through April 1, Southbridge limits parking on Hamilton Street.

On EVEN dates: Midnight to 7pm, park on the ODD side of the street;
7pm to midnight park on the EVEN side of the street.

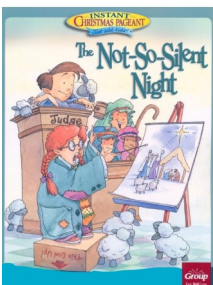
On ODD dates: Midnight to 7pm park on the EVEN side of the street;
7pm to midnight park on the ODD side of the street.



Join us in the age old tradition of greening the church.

Sunday, December 23, 11:00 a.m. — 12:00 Noon

We will decorate the sanctuary with "greens" adorning the windows, pews, advent wreath, lectern and altar. Bringing the symbol of life into the sanctuary is an age old tradition symbolizing the new life in us as we celebrate Christ's birthday. A light lunch of soup and bread will be available for helpers.



Family Worship presents "The Not So Silent Night." Follow three young shepherds who joyfully shout God's praises after visiting the baby Jesus. How were they to know they were "disturbing the peace?" You'll join them in a Bethlehem courtroom for a hilarious trial and a surprising verdict! Our first "coffee hour" matinee!

This year, Family Worship is changing the time of our annual production! After church, please come into the Parish Hall for coffee hour refreshments and the ECW Cookie Sale! The show will begin at 12:00 but feel free to continue your coffee and cookies at the tables!

MISSION PLATE

There are seven Sundays from 11/18 through 12/31/2018, so we have a great opportunity for donations for mission. I have asked Eileen DeMings to talk to our Family Worship children and have them decide how they would like the donations to be used. Maybe they will decide on various animals through ERD Gifts for Life, or to help people recover from the fires in California. Or maybe they will come up with another idea! But it will be just right for this wonderful time of year—celebrating the birth of Jesus and sharing his love for everyone! Eileen and the kids will keep us posted. Wish I could be with you all, and wish I could send you some Arizona sunshine and warmth!

Suzy Sharp
774-230-3426, Green Valley, AZ



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN'S TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 16, 2018
following the 9:30 a.m. service

Please bake some of your favorite Christmas cookies to sell at the cookie sale or come and buy a selection for Advent and Christmas. Leftover cookies will be used for the Christmas Pageant the afternoon of December 16.

Drop off cookies Sunday morning, 12/16, before the 9:30 a.m. service, or by other arrangement.

For questions call or email Susan Howland: howlands@charter.net, 508-612-3198



SHARE ADVENT TRADITIONS & MAKE AN ADVENT WREATH

Brass ring, candles, and oasis supplied.

Please bring a round container no larger than 6"
and some fresh greens.

Sunday, December 2 @ 12:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall
OR

Monday, December 3 @ 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall
Please bring an appetizer/snack to share



Please join us and receive the PEACE LIGHT OF BETHLEHEM

Saturday, December 8 @ 5pm at the First Congregational Church of Brimfield



DONATIONS NEEDED FOR ST. LUKE'S GUESTHOUSE



The Daughters Of The King will be collecting articles for St. Luke's Guesthouse & guests. We are requesting the smaller toiletries, trial size, which will be placed in paper bag. We are looking for the following items to be donated: shampoo/conditioner, toothpaste/toothbrush, body wash, and deodorant. These items will be distributed on the first Sunday of each month. Larger items such as laundry detergent, toilet paper, paper towels & dish detergent can be placed in the plastic St. Luke's bin at the back of the church.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely, The Daughters of the King



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
446 Hamilton Street
Southbridge, MA 01550

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Southbridge, MA 01550

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(trinity)

Office Hours:

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

unless otherwise noted

The Episcopal Diocese of Western
Massachusetts

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Rite II Choral Holy Eucharist

Celebrant and Preacher
The Rev. Richard Signore

Save These Dates

Holy Trinity Church

Saturdays through December 15—9:00 a.m.—Winter Coat Closet

Sunday, December 2—11:00 a.m.—Advent Wreath Making

11:00 a.m.—Children's Choir Rehearsal

Monday, December 3—5:30 p.m.—Advent Wreath Making

Wednesday, December 5—6:30 p.m.—Bible Study

Sunday, December 9—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

11:00 a.m.—Children's Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 12—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Sunday, December 16—9:30 a.m.—Healing Service

11:00 a.m.—ECW Cookie Sale

12 Noon—Family Worship Play

Wednesday, December 19—4:00 p.m.—Daughters of the King

6:30 p.m.—Bible Study

Sunday, December 23—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

11:00 a.m.—Greening of the Church

Monday, December 24—4:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Family Service

Sunday, December 30—9:30 a.m.—Festival of Lessons & Carols



Website



Facebook



Tithely—Giving