



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

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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,

The start of another year observes special times to be together. Our Epiphany Agape Eucharist reminds us of the journey we have to make. We make it together. We journey as servants of the rule of God, and therefore stand with those who fight for justice. Paul Stuckey (of Peter, Paul & Mary) has opined that, "if you have been arrested and put in jail for demonstrating, then come on and sit over here. You are a friend of mine." If God calls on us in the flesh, then the material world is of ultimate importance. It is the only place we get to see fairness, equity, equality, tender compassion become realities. Jesus was born in the flesh, to share the death experienced, in pain and privation, when these honorable traits are ignored. To serve the rule of God is to say "no more." Let peace And justice roll down like mighty streams.

The charter of the Church is to call us "out of the world" to be away with Christ; but only to be sent back refreshed and to continue to bear witness. It starts first in our common life; and so I ask you to renew your commitment to the life shared. The Annual Meeting is a unique place in our common life to raise the questions, dreams, and spiritual impulses that give rise to a faithful mission. Let's start a new round of faithful service. All to God's glory!

I remain,

Faithfully yours in Christ,

(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore

Senior Warden Speaking

Christmas is not over, we continue to celebrate for days and as we have now done for several years, we will round it all off on the 12th day of Christmas with a PARTY going all out with much feasting and joyful noise making. Tuesday, January 6th, come and join us in the parish hall for the Feast of Epiphany Celebration, our Epiphany Potluck Agape Meal - details in this Tidings, on the Website and Facebook.

Holy Trinity's Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 18th; details in this Tidings, and on the Web site. Paper copies of the Annual Meeting Report will be ready for Sunday, January 11. Please collect one at that time or let the office know you would like a copy. We will once again hold the meeting within the context of our Sunday Worship Service - your attendance will be a blessing to us all. The vestry looks forward to another exciting year. Two new members will be joining the vestry team and new lay leaders are helping in various ways. We understand now that God has much in store for us - there will be more exciting and new "goings on" for example - Holy Trinity becoming a Blood Donor Site. Details in this Tidings, on the Website and Facebook!

Snow - yes snow, that white stuff, may or may not be on the ground when you read this - please know that we are again implementing an inclement weather plan for the winter, details of which are outlined in this Tidings and on the Website.

In 2014 we challenged ourselves and not only rose to the occasion but raised the bar higher. Your responses, involvement, embracing of new ventures undertaken were heart warming and affirming. The vestry remains mission focused, God centered, committed to being good stewards of time, talent, treasure and our building. Knowing; that guided by the Holy Spirit, we are moving towards God's Promised and Preferred Future for us as the Hands and Feet of Jesus on Hamilton Street, Southbridge.

Please continue to pray for Fr Richard, Nina and family, the vestry and all those that make worship at Holy Trinity possible.

If you have comments, concerns or questions please know that I am always available via email abritinusa@gmail.com or cell phone 774 200 4279.

Tamsin Lucey

You can not do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good you can do.

ALTAR FLOWERS—Please sign up for altar flowers on the sheet in the back of the church. There is a new sheet for 2015. You may provide your own flowers or make a donation to help offset our cost. No donation is too small. Either way your donation can be anonymous.

*Please note that there are only 6 weeks before Lent that flowers may be dedicated.



Join us for Family Worship in Blakely Hall

January 11 & 25

When families come together to worship with kids in mind.





PLEASE JOIN US!



EPIPHANY POTLUCK AGAPE MEAL
Including Family Eucharist, in the Parish Hall

JANUARY 6, 2015

**Friends and Families share supper, hymns, readings, and
communion 'round the same table.**

6:00 p.m.—Gathering Music

6:15 p.m.—Service

6:40 p.m.—Potluck Supper

Please bring a side or dessert to share.

Beverages and meat-dishes provided.

**This service and potluck supper celebrates the Eucharist in an
informal, early Christian format. This invitation is open to
parishioners, their friend and family, and the community.
Please join us at whatever time works for your schedule.**

**RSVP by January 5 (helpful but not necessary)
to Tamsin Lucey or Nancy Waugh**

**ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED TO
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH'S ANNUAL MEETING**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2015

(snow date January 25)

8:45 AM-9:15 AM

Presentation of the 2014 budget, in the Parish Hall

9:30 AM

Eucharist Service incorporating the Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)

11:00 AM

Conversation & coffee in the Parish Hall

**Annual meeting reports available for all attending or by request*

Loaves and Fishes Ministry

Thank you for your donations of food during December. St John Paul II food pantry welcomes everything that we provide. Now January is here, food items like oatmeal, to start the day with, and dried beans, for making hearty soups, are items that can be added to your shopping lists for the food pantry. On January 4 brown paper bags and a suggested shopping list will be on a music stand by the Narthex Doors. Please take a bag and shop from the list as you are able. Food returned by Sunday January 25 will be blessed before going to the pantry that week. Thank you for your continued participation in the ministry.



"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me".

With Love, Peace and Joy, Bill Nelson, Joshua Spooner and Tamsin Lucey



Sunday Services inclement weather closure plan for Winter 2013/2014

Every Sunday in January, weather permitting, there will be a service of Holy Communion at 9:30 p.m.

Please know that if, due to inclement weather, it is deemed necessary to cancel the service or hold Morning Prayer instead, and the means to do so is in place, an announcement will be posted on the Holy Trinity Web page, Facebook, and an all parish email sent out.

Please consider the road conditions and parking availability when making your decision to attend the service. If you are in any doubt please contact either the Senior Warden—Tamsin Lucey [508 347 1414](tel:5083471414) or [774 200 4279](tel:7742004279) or Jr. Warden—Nancy Waugh [413 245 3307](tel:4132453307) or [413 883 4491](tel:4138834491).

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

The Lenten program for 2015 will be a study of the book: Why did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed cross the road? by Brian D. MCLAREN. The book helps guide our steps as we represent Christian faith in an increasingly pluralistic culture. The book will help us design mission and outreach strategies that increase and strengthen our connections to our neighbors. This discussion group would be very helpful to any interested in our parish family's long-range planning; to say nothing of just plain being a real interesting read!! No reason not to start now!!! Discussion will be a week-night, likely Monday or Wednesday. More details later!!!

~Fr. Richard

**Please see the
annual report
for the 2014
financial
summary.**

CHILDREACH SPONSOR CHILD FOR 2015

The sign-up sheet has been placed on the back table of the church to help support Nicholas Onyango Okondo. Please consider supporting this important ministry by signing up to sponsor Nicholas for a month (or two) in 2015. The sponsorship is \$30.00 per month. A postcard will be mailed to you as a reminder that your donation is due. Thank you!

Please make sure you note "Sponsor Child" on your check.

“SOUP”ER BOWL SUNDAY



February 1, 2015

following the 9:30am service

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3—Harry Theodoss

4—Roy Baum, Jr.

19 - Pam Graham

28 - Jonathan Khattar

THE MISSION PLATE

As I prepare this note for the Tidings, I am looking out a window on a mild but cool and cloudy day here in Green Valley. But not cold as it has been, and will be, back in MA in January. 60 degrees or even 58 isn't so bad! But it makes me think again, as we did last winter, of families running out of oil and heat.

So.....during the month of January 2015, the mission plate offerings will go towards fuel assistance through St. Vincent de Paul. I can only imagine the gratefulness and warmth that a family will feel as they turn up their thermostat and feel the heat spread through their home. Perhaps it will be a single elderly person on social security, or a family with small children in an apartment too small for them. No room at the inn, and no heat in The Stable.

Let us remember Jesus in the manger, God's love through his gift to us of His Son, and let us provide some warmth with love to someone less fortunate.

I miss you all and wish you a Happy New Year.

Suzy Sharp ([774-230-3426](tel:774-230-3426))
276 A Paseo Sarta, Green Valley, AZ 85614

ECW CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE THANK YOU!

Our 14th Annual ECW Cookie Sale was a huge success! Thanks to all that baked and bought! We brought in \$229.50. The money will be going to Mampong Children's home and their campaign, “Change The Babies”.

This is a ministry spear-headed by the Rev. Betsy Fisher (Bishop Fisher's wife) to collect money for the Mampong Babies Home in Kumasi, Ghana. The home cares for 35 – 40 infants up to age 4 or 5 whose mothers died in childbirth. The money raised will primarily go to buy food. The government and local municipality have provided money for electricity and the babies' food and medical care in the past, but this funding has now been cut so there is a huge need for increased support. Rev. Betsy Fisher has successfully used empty fountain jugs to collect spare change in the past and is asking parish churches to adopt something similar – to collect change to “Change the Babies”. Keep listening in the coming weeks for how our Family Worship children will be getting involved with this exciting ministry! In 2013 Betsy Fisher encouraged the diocese to help raise \$30,000 to allow the Mampong Babies Home to finish a kitchen that will teach young women culinary art skills they can use to support themselves and their families. The kitchen now has a walls and a roof. They hope to have the Culinary Arts Training Facility up and running in 2015.

~Bobbie Helbig

Sunday Ministries?

You may well be asking - what are Sunday Ministries? Quite simply they are the behind the scenes activities that are taken on quietly and diligently with love and care. They allow our worship service to be all that it is. They include; Altar Guild - who prepare the altar and sanctuary for every worship service, Eucharistic Ministers - who help the clergy at each worship service, Readers - who read the lessons and psalms at each service and Ushers - who greet everyone attending services, give out the worship bulletin, as well as bringing the sacraments to the altar and passing the offering plate during the service. If you, adult or child, are at all interested in finding out more about any of these ministries or would like to be more involved, please speak with Fr Richard or the ministry contact person listed.

Altar Guild - Peg Nelson, 508 347 7886 or Nancy Waugh 413 245 3307

Ushers - Mick Kalber 508 347 3412

Eucharistic Minister and Readers - Jean Frost 508 347 0812

UNFROZEN - THANK YOU

First and foremost, a huge thanks go to all those that made UNFROZEN happen!

The Cast:: Princesses - Cat and Lana; Narrator – Josh; Prince – Nate; Leader – Eileen; Readers - Bobbie, Diane and Fr. Richard; the 3 Shepherds; Musicians - Anne and Josh; and also the behind the scenes people who made it a huge success: Sound - Ellen and Olivia; Bakers extraordinaire - Hope, Nancy, Bobbie and Tamsin; the Big Bunny Crew - Bobbie and Beverly; Costumes – Nancy; Set - Josh, Eileen, Tamsin; the advertising team - Ellen, Peg, Josh, Eileen, Chris (our secretary) AND all those that put up flyers!

Thank **YOU** for making it all possible, for allowing us to bring the message of Hope, Love and Joy to the community around us.

Thank you for coming to see UNFROZEN. The church was filled with guests laughing, oohing, aahing, sighing, singing and reading psalm together and at the end, APPLAUDING.

Afterwards, as cast and guests gathered in the parish hall, there was much merry making as children of all ages enjoyed hot cocoa (with whipped cream), melting snowmen cupcakes, snowmen (marshmallow and white chocolate) pops, snowflake cookies, crafts and conversation.

You won't want to miss the next production - look for information about **UNTANGLED** coming to Holy Trinity soon!!

SAVE THE DATE!

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER Tuesday, February 17, 2015



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday January 24

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**ALL donors will receive a \$5.00 Gift Card
to Dunkin Donuts**

In December the Vestry discussed the opportunity for Holy Trinity to become a host site for Blood Drives. This is another opportunity for us to connect with our neighborhood and use our building for Community Outreach. We will be advertising this and future blood drives, inviting those around us to join our effort to support the Red Cross in their life saving work of collecting blood. January is ***National Blood Donor Month*** and perfect time, for Holy Trinity to become actively involved to supporting those offering a lifelong commitment to blood donation. We invite you to join our effort to support the Red Cross and either make an appointment to donate blood or help on the day, or provide a snack. Please see Tamsin Lucey for more information. Look for more details coming soon on the web site, Facebook, the Sunday service bulletins and flyers.

There is always a need for blood donors to help prevent a shortage. Here's how you can help the patients in need:

1. **Make an appointment to donate blood.**
2. **Share this information with everyone you know. Let them all know their help is needed now.**
3. **Bring a friend! If every donor brought a friend to donate, we could help prevent a shortage.**

To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800 RED CROSS or visit <http://www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation-v6> and enter

Sponsor Code: **HTCSB**



For information on the blood donation process and tips for a good donation, please visit <http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/donation-process>

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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

Tuesday, January 6—6:00 p.m.—Epiphany Potluck Supper

Sunday, January 11—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Monday, January 12—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Sunday, January 18—Annual Meeting

8:45 a.m.—Presentation of 2015 Budget

9:30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist and Annual Meeting

11:00 a.m.—Conversation & Coffee

Saturday, January 24—9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.—Red Cross Blood Drive

@HTC

Sunday, January 25—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Class Information

Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.—Yoga

Fridays @ 7:30 a.m.—TaiChi (no class the last Friday of the month)