



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

March 2014

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

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A MESSAGE FROM FR. RICHARD SIGNORE

Dear friends,

The theme for the Lenten season is best grasped in the sentiment: "Seek the Lord while He wills to be found." Lent is an opportunity to slow down, (or give some things up – put down altogether) for the sake of making space for quiet, prayer, for listening to God. This never fails to allow God to inform our hearts and Spirits. 'These are restless, unless they rest in God' to paraphrase St Augustine. Reading scripture: perhaps one book savored chapter by chapter for the season to steep oneself in the thought of one of the biblical authors. If you use the lectionary texts appointed in the Prayerbook – test out a theory held by many scholars; who believe the scriptures used in the Jewish synagogue for the same season were replicated by the early Christian community, but now nuanced with the new Christian experience of Baptism and the gift of new life. A fitting preparation for walking with Christ through death and Resurrection!

Now.....match all this with the activity of the created order all around us! Where we now see ice and snow, we shall find melting, moisture, softening ground, increased sun and the sprouts of new growth. The frost just below ground will melt. The insect larvae will swell and burst with life. Yes, the word "Lent" is the old English word for "Spring."

May God bless you richly this Lent. It is your Spring, too!

Father Richard+

SENIOR WARDEN SPEAKING

Please join me in thanking your vestry and officers for 2014 - Nancy Waugh Jr. Warden, Susan Howland Treasurer, Jean Frost Clerk, new to the vestry this year, Pam Graham, Anita Bullard, Bart Krug, returning Ellen Lincourt, Peg Nelson and Mick Kalber. We, the vestry and the parish, look forward to a busy year: If you have any questions or comments please speak with any vestry member, officer or myself

Please remember that Fr. Richard will not be our supply priest during March - for the complete list please look on the last page of this Tidings! FR. Richard will be back in April by which time we hope that we will know when he will be with us permanently!

Included in this Tidings is a copy of Realizing Goals Identifying Time and Talent for 2014 Activities. **"The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ."** Holy Trinity's Mission Statement is "Holy Trinity is called to recognize, communicate and celebrate God's presence within, among and around us"

Your responses and willingness to be involved will ensure that we not hold these principles in our heart but in our actions too. Please turn in your completed paper by March 6th Thank you!

Knowing, that we are guided by the Holy Spirit, that we are moving towards God's Promised and Preferred Future for us as the Hands and Feet of Jesus on Hamilton Street, Southbridge.

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 cannot do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good you can do.

VIGIL LIGHT DURING LENT

During the five Sundays of Lent, flowers will not adorn our altar. We will, however, be accepting Vigil Light dedications. The sheet is located on the back table in the church. Thank you!





BODY COMBAT CLASSES

Mixed martial arts for youth 16–18 and adults. Free of charge. The exercise program will include, but is not limited to, Karate, Kung Fu, and Kick Boxing. Wear loose clothing and sneakers. Bring a water bottle.

SALSA DANCE CLASSES

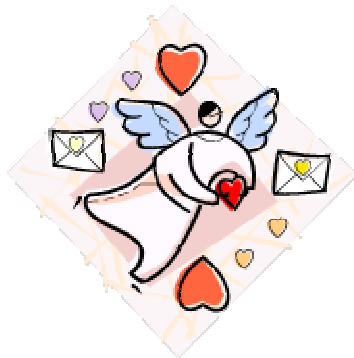
6 week session starts Friday, February 28th.

\$90 per person for the 6 week session.

Individuals welcome.

Sign up Friday, February 28th or call Edwin at 774-318-0669.

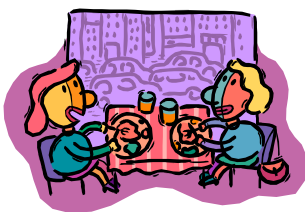
Wear comfortable clothing and shoes.



New Prayer Card Ministry

We now have pre-printed and stamped postcards at the back of the church that you may use to let others know that we are praying for them. As you fill in prayer requests on the prayer sheet for the worship service on Sunday mornings please feel free to take one of the cards provided, address the face of the card and, on the message side, fill in the name of the person(s) you are praying for, sign and date it then drop it in the mailbox. This is a great way to let others know that they are cared about and it encourages them in the power of prayer as well. Any questions? Ask Lana Pieczynski:

lholland@rocketmail.com or 704.458.6204.



Church Ladies Lunch

Sunday March 23rd 11:30/noon till 2:00-ish

Nana B's Tea's

12 Crane Street (off Hamilton St)

<http://www.nanabtea.com/>

Let us get together for lunch and conversation.
Food, coffee/tea & dessert approx. \$15 per person.
Each table will get a check, maximum per table 4.

We can carpool from church for easier parking.

Need a ride PLEASE let me know, we will make it happen!

RSVP to Bobbie Helbig by Sunday, March 9th.

[508- 347 -9374](tel:508-347-9374) or bjvsh@yahoo.com

*If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten
that we belong to each other - Mother Teresa*

LOAVES AND FISHES MINISTRY

Thank you for your contributions to the Food Pantry at Blessed John Paul II. We delivered 4 large bags of groceries at the end of February. On Sunday, March 2nd and 9th, brown paper bags with suggestions for donations will be placed at the back of the church. Separate lists will also be available. Please take a bag and give as you are able. Please return the bag with your donation before Sunday, March 30th, when bags will be blessed.

*"With Love, Peace and Joy, Service & Ministry.
Tamsin Lucey."*

Soup-er Bowl Sunday—Thank You

A big thank you goes out to all the soup makers who kindly donated their time and talents with wonderful soups. On Soup-er Bowl Sunday we were blessed with the following delicious soups: Cabbage with beef, Hamburger and vegetable, Split pea with ham, Mixed bean and vegetable, Corn/potato chowder, Tomato basil, Green chili. Thanks to all who purchased soup for their family and friends, we were able to raise \$154. Donations of \$77 were made to each food pantry. When spent at the Worcester food bank, these funds will yield an even higher return! Thanks again to everyone who participated.

STAY CONNECTED - LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! HOLY TRINITY CHURCH SOUTHBRIDGE

Youth Christian Formation

Join us for Family Worship
in Blakely Hall
March 9th & 23rd.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

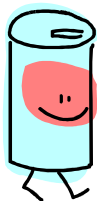
- 1—John Grant
- 2—Susan Grant
- 4—Ellen Anderstrom
- 7—Laura Gervais
- 9 - Bridgette Bachand
- 9 - Jack Burns
- 10 - Benjamin Normandin
- 12—Abigail Bullard
- 13—Sof Kollios
- 31—Christopher Ballou

If we are missing anyone or have the wrong date for this month's list, please contact the office.

Yoga Time

Welcome Spring with yoga on Wednesday evenings! Yoga improves balance, strength, flexibility, and promotes healthy functioning of all bodily systems. New 8-week session begins February 26th and runs through April 16th, 6:30 - 7:45 pm. Cost for 8 weeks is \$80 or \$12 drop-in fee. Instructor Linda Davis. Contact her at 508-615-3568 or karayogi@yahoo.com
www.yogatimecharlton.com

**VESTRY MEETING MINUTES AND
FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE
BY REQUEST. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A
COPY, PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BOLTE,
PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY,
DURING OFFICE HOURS 508-765-9559
(TUESDAY & THURSDAY 9AM-1:30PM)
OR BY EMAIL.
HOLYTRINITYSOUTHBRIDGE@GMAIL.COM**



Can & Bottles, Mission & Outreach

Did you know that Holy Trinity Church collects redeemable cans and bottles? The money collected goes into the Mission and Outreach plate. You can support the Mission and Outreach plate by bringing in your redeemable cans and bottles! Please place them in the very large silver box that is in the parish hall. Thank you.

SHROVE TUESDAY Invitation to a free **PANCAKE SUPPER**



WHO: All reading this, their families and friends

WHAT: Pancakes and sausage, juice, coffee, and tea

WHEN: Tuesday, March 4th food served 5:30 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

WHERE: In the undercroft (downstairs)

Holy Trinity Church

446 Hamilton Street Southbridge.

www.Holytrinitysouthbridge.org

Facebook Holytrinitysouthbridge

Phone 508 765 9559

A free will offering will help support outreach.

Prayers to Partake and Participate

We give you thanks, O God, for you bless the Church with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Help us support one another, to be respectful of our differences and to work for the unity of all those throughout the world who call upon Jesus as Lord. Help us by your grace to continue praying the prayer of your Son that we may be one, that we may draw ever closer together and recognize our unity is that of Yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

~Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute

We would like to print prayers each month that readers can partake of and participate in saying together.

If you have a prayer you wish to share please send it to the church for the attention of Parish Administrative Secretary.

Many thanks!

"BABY DIAPER" DRIVE



Holy Trinity Church will be joining the EFC churches and area residents during March to collect packages of baby diapers. Any make,



any size package for any weight baby boy or girl, are appreciated. Local Family agencies will be distributing them to those who need them in our community. Please place your donation in the large box in the Foyer any time during the month of March.

BCH CAMP 2014

*Children's Summer Camp Program
A Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of MA*

Registrations due by April 30th.
Camp brochures located on the Narthex table.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

A Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes will be observed on
Wednesday, March 5th at 12:00 Noon and 7:30 p.m.

Ecumenical Fellowship Community

This year's EFC Lenten program will take place on Sunday mornings. We and members of other EFC churches are invited to attend the Sunday morning service of a fellow EFC church and meet afterwards for coffee and conversation. The first church to host on March 9th is Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Sturbridge. (The Lutheran and Episcopal churches have full pulpit exchange – the priests of both denominations can preach and lead worship in each other's churches.) Please join the EFC Lenten program and explore your faith through the lens of a different denomination and consider attending BLC on Mar. 9 @ 9:30 p.m. St. Joseph's Catholic Church Charlton on Mar 16, @ 10:00 a.m. Christ our Refuge Fellowship Sturbridge on Mar. 23 @ 9:30 a.m. First Congregational Church Brimfield on Mar 30 @ 10:30 a.m. and Holy Trinity Church on April 6 @ 9:30. It may be very affirming! Please contact Eileen DeMings if you have any questions.

FAMILY WORSHIP NEWS



Hello Families! We've had a wonderful Epiphany season so far. We made candles, drew pictures and explored how we are the "salt of the Earth". Our parishioner led volunteers are doing an outstanding job and the kids are getting to know their "big church" family one Sunday at a time. Our song this season is "This Little Light of Mine". Please continue to sing it at home! (I have to play the YouTube Veggie Tales version because I have NO singing ability whatsoever.) Perhaps we'll be ready for a musical offering soon...Someone other than me for that one, please!

For the month of MARCH, Family Worship will raise money to support our parish child from Africa- Nicholas. We ask that families bring in an offering to support the monthly sponsorship. Our goal as a Family Worship Ministry together is \$30. Bring in those coins, kids!!!! We will send Nicholas some pictures and a letter at the end of March and let him know how we are doing!

It's time to think EASTER. We hope to participate in services leading up the BIG DAY. We are in the planning stages with Father Richard, so stay tuned and stay connected via email, Facebook or phone. Also, look for an Easter Party in April.

I'm always looking for ideas for lessons, fun and faith filled activities and events to open ourselves up to the community. If you have anything you'd like to share, please contact me. I'm thinking we need a field trip soon....

March Reminders:

- ♥ Family Worship - March 9 and March 23
- ♥ Bring in offering for child reach sponsorship (No amount is too small!!!!)
 - ♥ Email or call Eileen with ideas or just to say hello
 - ♥ Invite a family to come and worship with us

Yours truly,

Eileen DeMings
eksullivan99@dpcv.org or 617-429-1798

Lent, Family Time!

Observing Lent

Christians have, for centuries, marked the season of Lent by "giving up" something or by "taking on" intentional practices. Examples of things people often give up for Lent include sweets, meat (for all or some meals), alcohol, movies, TV, or similar entertainment.

Giving up something for Lent can be made even more meaningful if the resources of money and time we save through these acts of self-denial is used for some constructive purpose. (Extract from Lenten Brochure Rev. Judith Freeman Clarke)

To help you and your family mark the season of Lent, a variety of Lenten materials that will be available in the Narthex from Sunday March 2nd.

Please take whichever you feel will help you the most:

- † "Keeping Lent" the brochure from which the above passage is taken
- † The Adult Lenten booklets
- † The family Lenten booklets
- † Any of the materials found on the new "spinning" track rack.

Other activities you and your family can embrace include but are not limited too;

- † Join us for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in the Undercroft.
- † On Ash Wednesday March 5th ask each member of the family to pick out a day during lent that will be their special day. On that day that person will be expected to be especially kind, helpful and complimentary to other members of the family!
- † Donate time to serve an organization in your local community.
- † Provide food to your local food pantry, brown bags and shopping list at HTC March 9th.
- † Attend worship together on Sunday's either at HTC or an EFC church.
- † Share a "simple" meal of 1 or 2 basic foods once a week, talk about how people who have less all the time might cope. Calculate the money you have saved by serving a simple meal and donate that amount to Food Share – our offering plate on the second Sunday in each month.

Serving Christ, serving Holy Trinity, Serving the Community
Tamsin Lucey

FINANCIAL REPORT

We started 2014 in a good financial position. Last year we instituted a "Fund Accounting" system where the checking account is divided into sub funds to track money that is designated for a particular purpose, as those funds are commingled in the checking account. Looking at the "Statement of Financial Position" will tell the story. The budget is divided into "operating income and expense", and "non operating income and expense." The financial reports are emailed with the *Tidings*, are on the website, or are made available by the secretary on request.

For January

- Total operating income was \$9,741.33, off by \$ -1,695.61 from the budget of \$11,436.94.
- Total operating expense was \$9,063.87, off by \$ -808.87 from the budget of \$9,872.74
- The Mission and Outreach plate for January was \$71 and went for fuel assistance in the community.
- \$17 was in the loose plate on "Food Share Sunday," the 2nd Sunday of the month.
- Sponsor Child support is up-to-date.
- We move \$1,166 into a fuel fund monthly to "save up" for large purchases of oil.
- We move \$450 into the building insurance fund monthly to "save up" for the once a year payment.

Holy Trinity Church, Episcopal
446 Hamilton Street
Southbridge, MA 01550

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446 Hamilton Street
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Office Phone: (508) 765-9559

E-mail: holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com

Web site: holytrinitysouthbridge.org

Office Hours:

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 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

3/2 – The Rev. Kathryn White

3/9 – The Rev. Meredyth Wessman Ward

3/16 – TBA

3/23 – The Rev. Meredyth Wessman Ward

3/30 – The Rev. John Hooker

Save These Dates

Holy Trinity Church

Tuesday, March 4—5:30 p.m.—Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Wednesday, March 5—12:00 Noon & 7:30 p.m.—Holy Eucharist
& Imposition of Ashes

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

Monday, March 10—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Saturday, March 15—8:30 a.m.—Vestry, Wardens, Leaders Day

Monday, March 17—7:00 p.m.—Stewardship Prayer Group

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

11:30 a.m.—Church Ladies Lunch

Saturday, March 29—9:00 a.m.—Vestry Workshop—BLC

Class Information

Mondays @ 1:00 p.m.—Zumba Gold

Mondays @ 2:15 p.m.—Line Dancing

Wednesdays @ 9:00 a.m.—Yoga

Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.—Yoga

Thursdays @ 3:45 p.m.—ChiKung/TaiChi

Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m.—Body Combat—Ages 16+

Fridays @ 7:30 a.m.—TaiChi (no class 3/28)

Fridays @ 6:30 p.m.—Salsa—individuals welcome