



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,

March finds us in the midst of Lent. But like in the life of our Lord, we sense there are new vistas before us. The winter has done its worst. Lion-ing in, only to lamb-it-out. What we thought was cold or ridged, we discover can be re-cast in a new form. It is possible to do something new; in fact, essential to do the "New!!!" The life hidden in 'tradition' is made current by finding its latest complement in the here and now.

It is no accident the old English word, "Lent," means SPRING!!! It refers to the time the snows melt, and the bulbs and seed casings moisten and swell, and cease to be hard and defined. They are ready to break apart for the sake of something green to seek the warm sun beating on the surface of the ground. Insect larvae also begin to stretch, seek nutrients, and busily churn the ground and make ready the soil with their nitrogen.

And God's people, having studied the contours of the world around them, and the challenges of life in community, too, are ready to shed the old and let the new adventures commence: for God on the cross pins our own flesh; and we, too, are set to rise in newness of life. Pray through Lent and Holy Week for the coming graces; all Creation eagerly awaits with you!!!!

Blessings to you all in the turning of the year in the goodness of God!!!

I remain,

Faithfully yours, (The Reverend) Richard S. Signore

Senior Warden Speaking

We welcome two brand new vestry members this year, Bobbie Helbig and John Grant – they have joined a now seasoned vestry each with at least 1 year, some with many more, under their belt, Peg Nelson, Pam Graham, Ellen Lincourt, Anita Bullard, Susan Howland, Jean Frost and Nancy Waugh – thank you all for serving as our vestry for 2015.

This time last year the parish embarked up a survey Realizing Goals, Identifying Time and Talent for 2014, the vestry used the information gathered to connect those with similar interests and from there some teams formed whether they were Family Worship Lay Leaders or those interested in hospitality. The information is still referred to and used. If you have an interest in joining others in ministry please let Fr. Richard, Nancy or Tamsin know.

The vestry has started this year discussing a diocesan document, The Marks of Congregational Vitality and the Holy Trinity Clergy, Lay and Congregation Position Description document. These discussions will help guide us as we prepare for the parish mutual ministry review that will start in the early summer. We expect that the mutual ministry process will lead us to confirm Fr, Richard as our Rector. Stay tuned for more information.

I would like to thank all that helped with the Mardi Gras Pancake Supper – what a huge success it was - guests, parishioners, their families and friends enjoyed festive decorations, music, games, great food and lots of fun. What is the difference between Mardi Gras and Shrove Tuesday? The former is a PARTY! Be sure to join us next year.

With so much snow on the ground and Easter so early this year, it is hard to imagine bulbs getting ready to burst forth and flower in time for Easter, but we, already warm inside, are getting ready to burst forth and share the Good News of the love of God and Jesus Christ His son. We have much going on this lent, this March there are many opportunities to share Gods Love – UNTANGLED, a lively book discussion, Kids Crafts for Christ, an American Red Cross Blood Drive, a Community Yoga Class. Palm Crosses, a Good Friday Children and Family Stations of the Cross – we’ve got it all!! Read all about these opportunities and more in this issue of Tidings!

Please remember in your prayers; Fr Richard, Nina and their family, all the Lay Leaders and those involved in ministry at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, pray for each other, the Hamilton Street neighborhood and the communities that we live in.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions please do not hesitate to talk with Fr. Richard, Nancy Waugh or myself 774 200 4279 or abritinusa@gmail.com.

Looking Forward....

With gratitude and blessings

Tamsin Lucey

HELP CATHOLIC CHARITIES BY SHOPPING!!!

Did you know that when you do online shopping on Amazon for the holidays and all year long you can help Catholic Charities? It's easy...just log onto **www.smile.amazon.com** to sign up. Enter in Catholic Charities Diocese of Worcester Inc. and we will get 0.5% of your eligible purchases. This is just another way for you to help us continue our mission of providing crucial services to our neighbors in need.

Please spread the word. Thank you!

Loaves and Fishes Ministry

Thank you for your generous donations in February. It seems to me that angels put food in the food pantry basket. Why do I think that, because I never actually see people taking the empty brown paper bags & shopping lists nor putting food into the food pantry basket but you know what: When I check the bags and shopping lists I see that they are depleted and when I check the food pantry basket bags of food have appeared. On behalf of St. John Paul II food pantry - Thank You Angels – whoever you are. On March 1, 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, March 29 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

THE MISSION PLATE

I am excited about the charity we will be giving our donations to this month! TREES, WATER and PEOPLE is a charity out of Fort Collins, Colorado. Their mission is to help the environment, support local communities in Central America and on American Indian reservations, provide training on energy efficient resources, and help both people and the planet.

They do this in several ways: planting trees appropriate to the area to reforest areas devastated by deforestation. This reduces carbon emissions and protects the watersheds. Since most of the native people cook with wood-burning stoves, TREES, WATER and PEOPLE build much more efficient cook stoves like the Justa Stove. Much cleaner and safer. There are the dry composting latrines that each family can use to prevent contamination of water sources, and provide composted, clean fertilizer to grow their crops.

My goal is to send \$200.00 to TREES, WATER and PEOPLE at the end of March. Think of it as a stove for a family or a new latrine! We take so much for granted, but that family receiving and building the stove will be so excited and grateful. Praise the LORD!

Suzy Sharp ([774-230 3426](tel:774-230-3426))

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!

Financial update: January – Income is down due to the weather and cancellations, however finances are stable. ~Susan Howland, Treasurer

CHOIR REHEARSAL

We will sing Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. Please join us for choir practice after church at 11:30 a.m. on Sundays. We will rehearse one evening during the week starting in March, please confirm which day and time with organist Anne Bouvier-Monroe. Sunday morning rehearsals will continue until Easter.

TAKING GOD'S LOVE TO NEW LENGTHS

unTangled

Easter Program

March 29, 2015
4:00 pm

Special worship performance! Enjoy lively skits, music and readings with a new twist on the Easter story.



Refreshments, crafts, and meet the cast following the program!

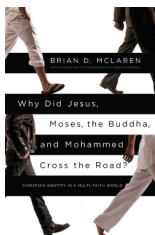


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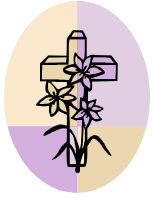
UNTANGLED at Big Bunny

Please help "man" the UNTANGLED table AT Big Bunny Market on Saturday March 28 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please help with the UNTANGLED after party in the parish hall, Sunday March 29 at 5:00 p.m. Please see Eileen DeMings or Tamsin Lucey.

Lenten Book Discussion



Why did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road?, by Brian D. McLaren. Please join us for lively discussion on 4 Tuesdays in March. March 3, 10, 17 and 24. Please join as you are able, for just one week or all 4 weeks - everyone is welcome 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. For March 3, please read through page 155/through chapter 18. For March 10, read through page 208/Chapter 23. For March 17, read through page 265/Chapter 29. March 24 we will discuss and explore how Holy Trinity Episcopal Church/ We might engage, make use of, what we have discovered about ourselves and the culture we live in. Books available - see Fr. Richard or Jean Frost.



EASTER MEMORIALS

During Easter 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, March 29**. The money for these memorials is used for flowers given to God's glory as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Exact wording of memorial will be: Easter 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 use, for example, "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, March 29**. Please make checks payable to **Holy Trinity Church** with the notation "*Easter Memorials*" on the memo line. ****Do you know someone who would appreciate Easter flowers from the church? Please write their name and address here so that the Altar Guild can arrange to bring them flowers:**

VIGIL LIGHT

Please remember that there are no flowers on the altar during Lent. We will, however, accept Vigil Light dedications. Please see the sign-up sheet on the back table of the church.



Please join us immediately following the Palm Sunday Service for Coffee Hour and to make Palm Crosses.



Join us for Family Worship in Blakely Hall

March 8 & 22

When families come together to worship with kids in mind.

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 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!

JOIN US DURING LENT, HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Sunday, March 29 @ 9:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday: The Sunday of the Passion: Liturgy of the Palms & Reading of the Passion narrative, with Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Thursday, April 2 @ 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday liturgy: Stripping of the Altar, and Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9:00 p.m. – 12:00 noon

Overnight Prayer Vigil at Holy Trinity Church: Sign up to serve a one-hour shift, keeping watch with Christ on His last night on earth.

Friday, April 3

A Children and Family Stations of the Cross Service @ 10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist from the Reserve Sacrament @ 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 5: Easter: the Sunday of the Resurrection

9:30 a.m. - Festival Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with music

OVERNIGHT PRAYER VIGIL AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Can you spare just 1 hour of your time for prayer this Lenten season?

We will start our prayer vigil immediately following the Maundy Thursday service on April 2 and will continue in 1 hour increments into Good Friday. We need all slots to be filled and you can feel free to come alone or bring a friend, spouse, other family-member etc. The church is kept securely locked throughout the vigil with the person in the church only opening the door to their successor. This can be a very powerful moment of prayer, reflection and meditation and an integral part of the Easter experience for you individually, and for Holy Trinity as a church body.

Devotional materials, prayer booklets, and other helpful meditational reading will be left in the sanctuary for your use and each prayer volunteer is encouraged to leave prayer requests that others, who follow, will pray for. Look for the sign-up sheet at the back of the church!

-Lana Pieczynski



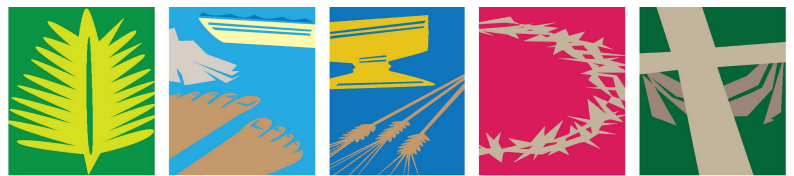
GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

The Good Friday Offering will support the work of the Bishops, Priests and people of the Province of Jerusalem.



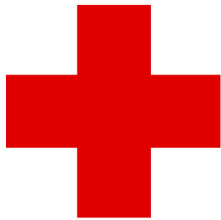
EASTER EGGS

Children will be handing out Easter Eggs after the 9:30 a.m. Easter Service. Please join in filling these eggs at 8:45am on Sunday, April 5, in the Parish Hall.



LENT

Lenten materials for individuals and packets for families are available on the table in the Narthex.



**American
Red Cross**

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday March 28

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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**

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Friday, April 3, HTC will have a Good Friday service for families at 10:30 am. Make this a meaningful "day off from school" for your children. We will do Stations of the Cross and make Resurrection Eggs which will tell the story of Jesus and His final days. Please collect empty egg cartons for us!! We need them for the activity.



FLOWERING THE EASTER CROSS

If you have any artificial flowers that you would like to donate to flower the Easter Cross with, please bring them to church by Sunday, March 28th. Thank you!

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

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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. - 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, March 3—7:00 p.m.—Lenten Book Discussion
- Sunday, March 8—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship
- Monday, March 9—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting
- Tuesday, March 10—7:00 p.m.—Lenten Book Discussion
- Wednesday, March 11—7:00p.m.—Lent Evening Worship @ BLC
- Saturday, March 14—10:00 a.m.—Community Yoga Class
- Tuesday, March 17—7:00 p.m.—Lenten Book Discussion
- Sunday, March 22—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship
- Tuesday, March 24—7:00 p.m.—Lenten Book Discussion
- Wednesday, March 25—6:30 p.m.—Bible Literacy Bible Study
- Wednesday, March 25—7:00 p.m.—Bible Literacy Bible Study
- Saturday, March 28—9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.—Red Cross Blood Drive
- Sunday, March 29—9:30 a.m.—Palm Sunday Service
- Sunday, March 29—11:00 a.m.—Making of Palm Crosses
- Sunday, March 29—4:00 p.m.—unTangled Performance
- Thursday, April 2—7:30 p.m.—Maundy Thursday Liturgy
- Thursday, April 2—9:00 p.m. to Friday 12:00 Noon—Overnight Prayer Vigil
- Friday, April 3—10:30 a.m.—Children & Family Stations of the Cross
- Friday, April 3—7:30 p.m.—Good Friday Holy Eucharist Service

Class Information

- Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.—Yoga
- Fridays @ 7:30 a.m.—TaiChi (no class the last Friday of the month)