



# Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

## May 2017

### In This Issue

A Message from Fr. Richard.....	1
Thanksgivings from Sr. Warden..	2
Family Worship.....	2
Childreach.....	2
May Birthdays.....	2
Bible & Wine Study.....	2
HTEC Lawn Mowing.....	2
Stations of the Cross at HTC.....	3
The Mission Plate.....	3
Community News.....	3
Electronic Giving.....	4
Loaves and Fishes.....	5
Bike Drive.....	5
Community Gardens.....	5
July 2nd Picnic.....	5



### Rector:

The Rev. Richard Signore  
richard.signore@verizon.net

### Secretary:

Chris Bolte  
Office: (508) 765-9559  
Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon  
Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 12 Noon  
E-mail:  
holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com  
Web site: holytrinitysouthbridge.org

### Organist:

Anne Bouvier-Monroe

### Senior Warden:

Nancy Waugh  
Home: (413) 245-3307

### Junior Warden:

John Grant  
Home: (860) 923-9691

### Sexton:

Brian Canty

*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 Risen Christ remains with us as a constant companion. The power of God's presence continues to be shown to us in the care and attention of others, and this makes clear there is no stronger force afoot in all the world than the compelling power for Love. Easter season is a time for serendipitous thoughts and connections. Writing on Easter Monday, we hold the journey of Lent and Holy Week freshly in mind, and with great gladness for the kind acts of so many in our Parish that made our efforts a joyful offering to God. Liturgies, prayers, heart-melting solos and musical peons, laughter and tears shed with the passionate Christ; all contribute to articulate the soul of Christ in our midst. God be praised!

There is a timelessness to this witness. I hold a keep-sake 35-year-old Church newsletter, recently sent me by an old parishioner announcing my date of arrival as Rector in 1982!! My friend's kind words show, like the affection at HTEC, a vibrant embrace of Love that existed before we knew of it, and holds us into our future.

The organizing principle of the cosmos is the life of God, and God is Love. Love discovered as we journey together, while we are at 'play in the fields of the Lord.' May God bless your Easter Season with renewed joy as the Risen Christ makes all things new!

I remain, faithfully yours in Christ,

*(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore*

## THANKSGIVINGS FROM THE SR. WARDEN

Thank you to Fr. Richard and the vestry members that gave of their time on Saturday, April 8, 2017. The vestry retreat was productive as we reflected on how our mutual ministry with a part-time priest is working. We asked many tough questions of ourselves and Fr. Richard: What is working? What is not working? What can we do as a vestry and parish to help Fr. Richard? We would like to hear from you if you think there are things that need to be addressed. Please speak to Fr. Richard or a vestry member with any concerns.

I would like to thank all of you who contributed to the all the Easter week services. Thank you to everyone who donated, cooked and helped with set up and clean up at the Seder Supper. Thank you to Christine Neslusan and Susan Grant for leading the Story Walk (children's Stations of the Cross) and the making of the resurrection rolls. Thank you to all who signed up for the prayer vigil. Thank you to Anne and all our talented musicians who contributed to all the music during Holy Week; the anthems were all special.

Thank you to the angels that just show up and clean up the grounds. Soon our lawn crew will be mowing. Thanks go to all the volunteers who have signed up on the lawn mowing rota.

I am looking for your help. We want to plan a yearlong celebration of our building. The celebration will include a campaign to increase our Building Fund to be good stewards of our building. Our building has been entrusted to us and can be a resource to our community. At present the space is being used to provide affordable daycare to our community. The celebration will kick off with the Bishop's visit in 2018 and conclude on Trinity Sunday in 2019 with a special celebration. I would like to form a committee to help with this event. Please see me if you are interested in helping.

Gratitude for all these blessings and thanksgivings for the time, talent and treasures that Holy Trinity receives abundantly.

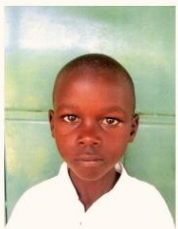
Nancy Waugh

**Join us for Family Worship  
in Blakely Hall  
May 14 & 28**

**When families come  
together to worship with kids in mind.**

### CHILDREACH SPONSOR CHILD FOR 2017

There are 4 months left to help support Nicholas Onyango Okondo. Please consider supporting this important ministry by signing up to sponsor Nicholas for a month (or two).



### BIBLE AND WINE: A BIBLE BOOK STUDY Study Book: The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Bible

By James Stuart Bell Jr. and Stan Campbell  
**Wednesday,**

**Wednesday, May 3, 7:30-9:00PM – HTC**

**Wednesday, May 17, 7:30-9:00PM – BLC**

**Wednesday, May 31, 7:30-9:00PM – TBD\***

*\*Please see Fr. Richard for location!*

### HTEC LAWN MOWING

Spring is here and soon the grass will grow. All we need now are volunteers to cut the grass weekly.

If you are called to this ministry, please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church by May 14.



## MAY BIRTHDAYS

4 – Aliana Bousquet    12 – Gordon Adams    12 – Anne Bouvier-Monroe  
15 – Sally Baum    28 – Mary Hicks

*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!*

## Stations of the Cross at Holy Trinity

The Stations of the Cross are a series of scenes of Christ's sufferings and death. They are commonly placed on the walls of the nave for people to symbolically make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem while meditating on Christ's Passion.

Three years ago Fr. Richard discovered the first three of fourteen Stations of the Cross. The Stations are sculpted in bas-relief from an original design by Marc Fuller. Marc is an artist, sculptor, musician, and friend of Fr. Richard, who lives on Cape Cod. The vestry committed to continue to add stations until all fourteen were purchased. This is made possible through Memorial and other donations for the stations.

While his artwork speaks for itself, it is interesting to note that Marc is the grandson of Meta Warrick Fuller (1877-1968), a black female artist who specialized in sculpture. In 1914 she created her signature piece, *Ethiopia Awakening*, and in 1930 her version of the Pieta. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meta\\_Vaux\\_Warrick\\_Fuller](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meta_Vaux_Warrick_Fuller)

In 1950 she went into retirement to care for her husband. After her husband's death, inspired by the civil rights movement, she returned to sculpture in the 1960's, creating tributes like the sculpture *Emancipation*, which can be seen in the Harriet Tubman Park on Columbus Avenue in Boston, MA <http://www.publicartboston.com/content/emancipation>



We now have 12 of the 14 stations. This liturgical art is a stunning addition to our sanctuary. Take a minute to look at them up close; they are impressive and moving. Only two more images of the Stations of the Cross remain to be purchased; they cost \$500 each. The vestry invites anyone who would like to help purchase additional Stations to make a donation to the Holy Trinity Memorial Fund, which can be used to purchase more Stations over time. If you would like to contribute, make your check to Holy Trinity Church with "Memorial Fund: Stations" in the memo.

### THE MISSION PLATE

I am in a quandary about the collection for May. I have been thinking about Vacation Bible School and giving them some financial support. But maybe you have other ideas! I will be back very soon and will ask you, the parishioners, and the vestry where you think the mission plate should be directed. There are so many options. Please tell me your thoughts. It will be so good to see you soon.

Suzy Sharp

### BEING WIDOWED

Being Widowed is a free bereavement support group for men and women, held on Thursdays from 2-3:30pm from May 4 to June 29. Southbridge Rehabilitation & Health Care Center, 84 Chapin Street, Southbridge. To register, please call Rita Lamontagne at 508-765-9133 or Mary Poole at 413-244-0942.

### HEMOCARE AIDES NEEDED

A hemocare program is looking for aides to care for elders and the disabled in surrounding towns. Aides provide light housekeeping, laundry, and shopping. Paid training, mileage reimbursement, and a schedule to meet your needs. Please call 800-649-4364.

## Footnotes from the Treasurer... Electronic Giving

There are many ways to give to the church without bringing your checkbook or wallet! We can now offer electronic giving options as a convenience for parishioners and others. Rest assured, giving by check, cash and with pledge envelopes will always be an option.

### Bill Pay

Most banks offer a bill pay service where a one-time or recurring check can be sent by mail directly from your bank account. If our bank account number is required, we can provide that.

### Direct Debit Giving

Direct debit is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account. We can provide the church bank account number.

### Online Giving

Holy Trinity has contracted with a company called Tithe.ly for online giving. You can visit the Holy Trinity website at [www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org) or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitysouthbridge/> at any time to donate. When you click the "DONATE" button it takes you to our secure donation page with Tithe.ly. There are several fund options like: Pledge, Flowers, and Mission etc. to make a one time or recurring donation from your bank account, debit card or credit card. There is also an option to cover the small fee the church pays. You will receive an immediate email acknowledging your donation and the donation will be included with your end-of-year giving report. Tithe.ly has an app for iPhone and Android which can be used to locate our giving page to donate from your phone.

### Questions?

I am sure there will be many questions and I am available to answer all questions and do tutorials.

Two questions I will address now:

**Will my online donation be secure?** Tithe.ly was recommended by the diocese and primarily services churches. All financial information is encrypted and stored by the Tithe.ly banking partner to PCI DSS Level 1 compliant standards. PCI DSS Level 1 compliance is a set of rules stated by credit card companies and audited by an independent third party. It is the highest possible rating one can get in the electronic payment processing industry. Additionally, all transmission to the Tithe.ly banking partner and on their site is via an encrypted 256-bit HTTPS SSL connection.

### If I give electronically, what will I do when the collection plate is passed?

We have this covered. The diocese is providing us with laminated cards that say "**Electronic Gift Blessing Card**". You can either have your own cards or pick one up at the back of the church when you arrive for the service.

Thank you for traveling with us as we enter church giving in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Blessings,

Susan Howland, Treasurer

P.S. The monthly financial reports are available on our website: [holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://holytrinitysouthbridge.org), are emailed with *Tidings*, and are available by request from the Parish Secretary, 508-765-9559 or [holytrinity-southbridge@gmail.com](mailto:holytrinity-southbridge@gmail.com)



## LOAVES AND FISHES

On the table at the back of the church is a sign up sheet where you can signify that you will donate food for a month. The food donated can be one item, multiples of one item or everything needed for a meal or more, You choose what to give! More than one person can sign up for a month and you can, of course, sign up for multiple months. Please know that you do NOT have to sign up to bring food; anyone can donate any food at any time! As we go to press, one person has signed up for May! If you have any questions or comments, please talk with Tamsin Lucey, [774 200 4279](tel:7742004279) or [508 347 1414](tel:5083471414) or [Abritinusa@gmail.com](mailto:Abritinusa@gmail.com).



*COULD YOUR UNUSED BIKE CHANGE A LIFE?*

# BIKE DRIVE



Sponsored by the Claire Birtz Trustees & Southbridge Recreation

**SUNDAY, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

**SOUTHBIDGE TOWN COMMON - 1:00pm TO 4:00pm**

### *WHAT HAPPENS TO THE BIKE I DONATE?*

Each year Bikes Not Bombs collects roughly 6,000 used bicycles and used parts from our supporters around Greater Boston and New England.

We ship most of these bikes overseas to economic development projects through our International Programs in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Bikes that don't get shipped, often land in our Youth Programs where teens learn bicycle safety and mechanics skills in the process of earning bikes to keep for themselves.

Our retail Bike Shop also reconditions and sells some of the donated bikes that we receive, employing many graduates of our programs. The Shop's profit from the bicycle sales, parts sales and repairs goes towards funding our youth and international work.

### *HOW CAN I HELP?*

We can use both adult (preferred) and children's bikes. On May 21st from 1 - 4 pm on the Southbridge Town Common, 1 Mechanic St, we will be accepting both working bikes and bikes that can be used for parts. Heavily rusted bikes are not suitable for our program. For more information what can be accepted go to <https://bikesnotbombs.org/help-out/donate-bikes> or call the numbers below.

We also accept monetary donations by cash or check. A \$10 donation is suggested for each bike donated to defray program costs.

Receipts will be given for both bike and monetary donations. All donations are tax deductible to the amount allowed by law.

Any questions contact Scott Benoit (508)765-3784 or at [earthhouse@hotmail.com](mailto:earthhouse@hotmail.com)  
Or Steve Roenfeldt (508)764-6459 or at [reccommittee@southbridgema.org](mailto:reccommittee@southbridgema.org)



### **SOUTHBIDGE COMMUNITY GARDENS**

Following on the success of the Southbridge Community Gardens last year, Holy Trinity & Bethlehem Lutheran Church are teaming up again to help beautify the gardens and provide plants and soil for our neighbors on Cross Street and Worcester Street!

We have a tentative date of **Saturday, June 3**, to plant. All materials are being provided through a grant received by Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We just need the volunteers to help! Please consider helping. The beds are ready for planting.

This is a great opportunity for us to support our neighbors by providing them with the means to have fresh vegetables this summer, and to build community.

If you have any questions, please see Tamsin Lucey or contact her at 774-200-4279 or [abritinusa@gmail.com](mailto:abritinusa@gmail.com).

More details to follow in the bulletin and by all-parish email.



### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Our annual summer picnic will be on Sunday, July 2nd this year! Please mark your calendars and look for more information in the June Tidings!



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
446 Hamilton Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550

## Holy Trinity Church

446 Hamilton Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550

**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**

**Wednesday, May 3**—7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine Study—HTC

**Wednesday, May 10**—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting & Book Study

**Sunday, May 14**—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

**Wednesday, May 17**—4:00 p.m.—Daughters of the King

7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine Study—BLC

**Sunday, May 28**—9:30 p.m.—Family Worship

**Wednesday, May 31**—7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine Study—TBD