



Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

December 2017

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Sexton:

Greg Nikolla

*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 is re-beginning. To open the Christ-Operating System in one's brain yet again, in hopes that we are overcome by our gracious God, and we become restored in a measured, reasoned faith; wherein the joys of God are our constant companions. There is some "shrink back" from a noisy, angry world; and the love of quiet (should I say 'Sabbath'?) to re-anchor us in the movement of God! So we offer our Advent Wreath making on December 3rd after church (and again on Monday at 5:30 PM – bring snacks, and "greens" to share). The wreath can help introduce daily prayer in the home, as God re-orient's our space as God's space. Scriptures and prayer are the ancient path to God's presence. Come along!!!

The liturgy on Sunday will open with quiet symbols of light, and prayer....and hone the themes of sharing God's life. On the afternoon of the 17th, there will be a presentation by the youth to honor God in everyone - and a Christmas cookie sale will sweeten our waiting for the eternal presence. O come, O come let us adore the ONE long expected; venite adoramus Dominum!!

I remain, faithfully yours in Christ,

(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore

October Financial Report

Income

- Income is generally over budget.
- 3rd Q trust income was deposited and will even out over the next two months, but overall the trusts income will be about \$700 over budget for the year.
- The "regular giving" income (non-pledge) is about \$1,800 over budget.
- The current year pledge budget is over-budget adjusting for budgeted unfulfilled pledges.

Expense

Many lines are under budget:

- Oil will be under budget, but funds are held monthly in a sub-fund for large payments.
- Insurance will be under budget, but funds are held monthly in a sub-fund for yearly payments.

Statement of Financial Position

- Changes in sub-funds on the Statement of Financial Position are highlighted to reflect the newly created accounts from the YMCA rent funds.
- With the majority of the kitchen renovation bills paid, we came in very close to budget and we are still on solid ground financially, although the building fund will be nearly depleted when the windows are replaced in the kitchen.

Susan Howland, Treasurer

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.

WINTER COAT CLOSET

Winter coats for men, women, youth and children will be available on Saturday mornings from 9-11 am through December 16. Clean, gently used coats are always in need!

Join us for Family Worship
in Blakely Hall

December 10 & 24

When families come
together to worship with kids in mind.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2—Mary Demers 6—Barbara Kalber 8 - Paige Spooner 8—Carolyn Anderstrom-Wynkoop
17—Hope Wilson 23—Lana Pieczynski 23 - Josh Spooner 25 - Eileen DeMings

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!

THE MISSION PLATE

The Mission Plate for December will continue with collecting donations for hurricane relief. In speaking with Southbridge Community Connections, we learned that Southbridge has had an influx of people who have fled Puerto Rico and are staying with family due to the conditions there. They have come with nothing! Our November collection will go to Southbridge Community Connections to help get the supplies and clothing needed to survive the cold weather here. Let us keep our hearts open, prayers offered, and donations flowing to help ease the trials and tribulations others are suffering.

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

Building Committee Meeting Report

The Building Committee met on November 15, 2017

- We reviewed what has been accomplished this year: undercroft kitchen renovation complete, inspections approved; the 3 windows will be replaced in November-December, and there are a few minor items left to finish in the kitchen. The project came in close to budget.
- YMCA has left, and we can now move forward with improving the classroom wing for possible rental.
- We will be looking for opportunities to re-purpose the classroom space, keeping in mind the current needs of the parish. There has been some interest in the space.
- There are parishioners available to do painting; also Brian, our former sexton, has volunteered to do some minor repairs.
- There was discussion about renting the Undercroft and Parish Hall on an occasional basis to outside groups/people. There needs to be a plan put in place to see if the rental can be overseen by willing parishioners.
- There was discussion about the use of the halls by parishioners and a plan is being put in place.

Other Building repair and maintenance that needs addressed this coming year:

- Quote for ice shield on slate roof.
- Quote for brick pointing on the remaining sides of church and address falling brick at roofline.
- Quote to repair rot at front roofline of church near balcony.
- Quote to paint wood trim on Church.
- Estimate for Thermopane windows in the parish hall.

Tamsin Lucey, Susan Howland, Jean Frost and Nate Lowery

Choir News

Welcome to Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, a most joyous time of year. We gladly welcomed new members to the choir as we sadly said goodbye to Kurt Frisch. Our choir is constantly evolving in many exciting ways. I am looking forward to many musical times this season. The choir will be singing some anthems. We have a special soloist for Christmas Eve that Joe DiSalvatore helped us find. I am truly looking forward to playing all the traditional Advent and Christmas music, along with some new Advent hymns that are quite nice.

Please come to church on Sunday mornings to see what we are doing, you may be surprised, and the joyous anticipation of our Lord will be felt by all. Looking forward to my third holiday season with Holy Trinity.

Anne Bouvier-Monroe



HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN'S
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE
SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 2017
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 17.

Drop off cookies Sunday morning, 12/17, before the 9:30 a.m. service, or by other arrangement.

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

BIBLE AND WINE: A BIBLE BOOK STUDY

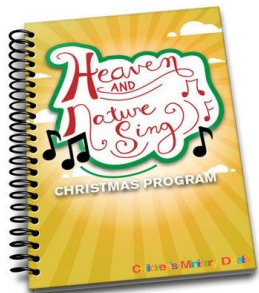
An Introduction to the Gospel of John
Read John 6:25-59 – What does it mean that Jesus
is the "Bread of Life?"
Wednesday, December 6, 7:30-9PM @ BLC



Please welcome our new Sexton,
Greg Nikolla, to Holy Trinity
Church.



Join us in the age old tradition of greening the church.
Sunday, December 17, 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.



Family Worship will be presenting a Christmas play
again this year! Please mark your calendars for
Sunday, December 17, at 4pm and join us for a great time!
Cookies and cocoa will be served after the play.
Please bring a friend!



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.

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 17**. 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, "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 17**. 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:**

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 3 @ 12:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall
OR

Monday, December 4, at 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall
Please bring an appetizer/snack to share

SAVE THE DATE!

EPIPHANY POTLUCK AGAPE MEAL
JANUARY 6, 2018



The office will be closed
the day after Christmas.



Holy Trinity 2018 Draft Budget

	2017 Budget	2018 Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Unfulfilled Pledges	-4,400.00	-4,400.00
Income All Other	900.00	700.00
Fundraising- Operating Budget	1,250.00	1,250.00
Rental Income	6,500.00	3,000.00
Flowers	500.00	500.00
Pledge Offering	99,978.00	100,000.00
Plate Offering	3,325.00	4,425.00
Trust Income	17,248.00	17,248.00
Total Income	125,301.00	122,723.00
Expense		
Reserve Fund	5,600.00	0.00
Evangelism	900.00	900.00
Liturgical	880.00	880.00
Office Expense		
Christian Formation-Youth	1,500.00	1,425.00
Christian Formation-Adult	2,017.00	2,047.00
Staff		
5118 · Workers Comp	512.00	640.00
Total 5107 · Sexton Salary	7,071.00	7,772.00
Total 5103 · Secretary Salary	8,384.00	8,537.00
Total Staff	15,967.00	16,949.00
Church Repair/ Maintainence/Improvement/Utilities	33,036.00	33,143.00
Music Program	12,280.00	12,488.00
Total Clergy	40,077.00	41,459.00
Flower Expense	500.00	500.00
Diocesan Assessment	9,354.00	9,542.00
Total Expense	125,301.00	122,723.00
Excess/Deficit	0.00	0.00

14-Oct-17

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
446 Hamilton Street
Southbridge, MA 01550

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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

Saturdays December (through 12/16)—9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.—

Winter Coat Closet

Sundays in December—11:15 a.m.—Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 3—12:00 Noon—Advent Wreath Making

Monday, December 4—5:30 p.m.—Advent Wreath Making

Wednesday, December 6—7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine—BLC

Sunday, December 10—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Wednesday, December 13—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Sunday, December 17—9:30 a.m.—Healing Service

11:00 a.m.—ECW Christmas Cookie Sale

11:00 a.m.—Greening of the Church

4:00 p.m.—Family Worship Christmas Play

Wednesday, December 20—4:00 p.m.—Daughters of the King

Sunday, December 24—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

4:00 p.m.—Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 31—9:30 a.m.—Festival of Lessons and Carols

VESTRY MINUTES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR
WEBSITE WWW.HOLYTRINITYSOUTHBRIDGE.ORG
/HOLY TRINITY NEWS/VESTRY NEWS