



# Tidings of Holy Trinity Church

## January 2018

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### 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:

Greg Nikolla

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

## A MESSAGE FROM FR. RICHARD

*"...Your manifold goodness and inestimable majesty sent the Word of salvation from heaven, that he should be made flesh by taking a human body, and should care for that which the age had lost and the ancient wounds. Therefore all the angels, with the manifold multitude of the saints, praise him with unceasing voice, saying "Holy!" (Gallican liturgy, 7th Century France)*

Dear Friends!

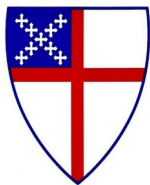
Liturgy is a wonderful gift, the door we pass through to discover our eternal reality. The reality fused with the wonderful promises of God. We make the shouts of Holy Praise and sing of joy come to earth; and this has given rise to a million festal trees, and billions of colored light bulbs, holy banquets shared, and gestures of care, embrace, and earnest affection.

Like those twinkling on-and-off light bulbs, we too stand against the dark that shrouds the world - but cannot overcome the light breaking through: for God takes flesh and walks the earth. The "perfect man," the Son of God, invites the bonds of fellowship, and with God's strength and abiding presence.....we are called to resist dominating, inequitable behaviors and embrace the way of kindness and generosity of spirit.

The reality which God authors for us, defeats "what the age had lost, and the ancient wounds." The Holy Birth binds the fate of humans to the plans of God. And that's worth shouting about!!

May all have a Blessed and happy Christmas!!

I remain, your friend and Rector,  
(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore



**ECW (Episcopal Church Women)  
Potluck Luncheon**

**To thank founding member  
Bobbie Helbig**

**All women of the church are invited!**

**Sunday, January 14 @ Noon**

**The Kalber Home  
37 Finlay Road, Fiskdale, MA**

**R.S.V.P Barbara by January 12  
(508) 347-3412 or [bkalb@aol.com](mailto:bkalb@aol.com)**

**Please let me know if you will be bringing a  
salad or dessert to share. The entree and  
beverages will be provided.**

**LOVES AND FISHES**

Dear All,

I would like some help from everyone to try to revive our ministry to the local food pantry. One thought that I have been mulling over is to involve the children in the process by having them carry food items up to the altar during the offertory.

Another part of their involvement could be to have them copy Bible verse messages of hope and love onto construction paper that could be attached to the items before they are brought up to be blessed to be brought over to the pantry. Then the people who use the food pantry will receive more than just food for their bodies; they will receive nourishment for their souls as well.

To begin this activity, I would like to challenge us all for this next few months to donate a non-perishable food item that you would like to find available at the food pantry if you were in need of a comforting meal and had no money to buy ingredients. Bring in one of your favorite foods, or a food that you find comforting to eat, or a favorite ingredient that would help you feel better; try to think of something that would nourish your stomach as well as nourish your soul. Another idea might be to bring in something more unusual that one does not typically find in a food pantry.

*Sincerely, Rose Reith*



**CHILDREACH SPONSOR CHILD  
FOR 2018**

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 2018. The sponsorship is \$33.00 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.

**WINTER COAT CLOSET**

Winter coats for men, women, youth and children will be available for the last time this season on Saturday, January 6, from 9-11 am. Clean, gently used coats will be collected all year long!

**Join us for Family Worship**

**in Blakely Hall**

**January 14 & 28**

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

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

3-Harry Theodoss 4-Roy Baum, Jr. 19 - Pam Graham 28 - Jonathan Khattar

*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

There are so many deserving places where our donations can make a difference that it is hard to decide. But with winter upon us, I am reminded that the temperatures on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation can be bone-chilling. This is a hard season for them and spring seems a long way off. Please, on your way to the altar for the Eucharist, place your coins and bills in the mission plate so that we can provide warmth and caring to those on the reservation.

May God bless you and keep you warm in His love in the New Year.

*Suzy Sharp, Green Valley, Az. [774-230-3426](tel:774-230-3426)*

#### **Sunday Services Inclement Weather Closure Plan for Winter 2018**

Every Sunday in January, weather permitting, there will be a service of Holy Communion at 9:30 a.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—Nancy Waugh 413-245-3307 or 413-883-4491

or

Jr. Warden—John Grant 860-923-9691 or 860-576-2148.

#### **ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS**

If you contribute to the Annual Meeting Report – please know that this is the time to write your piece! It takes some time to compile, format, print and collate this report. We would like to have it available for parishioners to review on January 14 therefore.....**All reports are due to Chris Bolte, the Parish Secretary, BEFORE January 7.** Thank you.



#### **BIBLE AND WINE: A BIBLE BOOK STUDY**

**An Introduction to the Gospel of John  
Wednesdays from 7:30-9PM**

January 3 @ HTC – Read John 9:1-41

January 17 @ BLC – Continuation of John 9:1-41

January 31 @ HTC – Read John 11:1-44



## **Please Join Us**



### **EPIPHANY POTLUCK SUPPER “Festival of Kings”**

Including Family Eucharist, in the Parish Hall

**JANUARY 6, 2018**

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

**4:30 p.m. – Gathering Music**

**5:00 p.m. – Service**

**5:30 p.m. – Potluck Supper**

Please bring a dish to share (main, side or dessert). Beverages provided. This service and potluck supper celebrates the Eucharist in an informal, early Christian format. This invitation is open to parishioners, their friends and family, and the community. Please join us at whatever time works for your schedule.

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

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

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018**

*snow date February 4*

**8:45 AM-9:15 AM**

Presentation of the 2018 budget, in the Parish Hall

**9:30 AM**

Eucharist Service incorporating the Annual Meeting (Sanctuary)

**11:00 AM**

Conversation & coffee in the Parish Hall

\*Printed annual meeting reports available by request



**Winter Parking on Hamilton Street**

From now 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.



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Confirmation classes will begin January 7, following coffee hour, and continue each Sunday until the Bishop's visitation on March 11. All are welcome; those seeking Confirmation, or to join the Church in official capacity; but also those who would like to renew their understanding of the faith as held and practiced in the Anglican branch of Christ's family. Format will be conversational.

**THANKSGIVINGS FROM THE SR. WARDEN**

I would like to thank everyone who donated Fr. Richard's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination to purchase another Station of the Cross.

I am thankful for the Mutual Ministry Review taking time to look back over the last year and celebrate our successes. The review was certainly a positive experience. We discussed how we can move forward in mission together at Holy Trinity.

At the vestry meeting in December we were planning the Agape Epiphany Supper and following the Mutual Ministry review we wanted to reach out to the community. It was suggested to change the name to the Festival of Kings: Fiesta de Reyes to be more welcoming to our neighbors. In case you are wondering when you see the advertising for the Epiphany supper.

Lastly, I would like to thank the family worship team for all the hard work preparing the children for an exceptional pageant "Heaven and Nature Sing". In addition, thank you to the parents who must have practiced at home for many hours. The play had plenty of biblical content with a little comedy. Blakely Hall was filled with family and parishioners that enjoyed cookies and hot cocoa following the performance. Thank you to the children who worked very hard and delivered their lines perfectly we have many gifted actors and actresses. Thank you for sharing your gifts with the parish.

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

*Nancy Waugh*



## November Financial Report

### Income

- Please refer to the budget vs actual and statement of financial position for details.
- The pledge line is close to budget correcting for the last of the prepaid reserve.

### Expense

- We have some under budget lines.
- Insurance held all year will be paid in December when we get the 2018 bill.
- Oil will come in a little under budget with a good amount of oil in the tank.
- Utilities: All are over budget and we will need to reassess when thinking about rental fees.
- Despite the increase in hourly wage for the sexton, we will be a little under budget because of the two staff changes and the delay in hiring a new sexton.
- The secretary line will go under budget because Chris cut back her hours for the summer from 9 to 6.
- Clergy reimbursables will be under budget.
- The clergy sabbatical and continuing ed budget will be in the reserve fund at year end. You can see the Clergy sabbatical & CE Fund on the statement of financial position. Please talk to me if you want more information on this Fund.

### Miscellaneous Items

- **Kitchen update:** \$21,911 spent to date offset by the grant of \$6,625.
- **Prayer Books update** \$450 spent; \$345 donated.
- **A note on the rental money from the YMCA.** It was the decision of the Finance Committee and Vestry that these funds, minus the cost incurred by the rental and 15% tithed to Mission and Outreach (\$4,095.00), will be put into a "Holy Trinity Savings Fund" and not put toward the operating budget. For healthy church finances our Operating Budget must be sustained by pledges, designated or other gifts, and designated trust income. The "Holy Trinity Savings Fund" can be used for capital repairs over and above the budgeted amount and special projects/initiatives.
- **Computer update:** The new computer was purchased and John Grant set it up and transferred the files; the new computer is networked to the old computer in case there were lingering files than need to be accessed. Chris is now working on the new computer.
  - Office 365 is installed through the "seat" on Fr. Richard's laptop (Gifted from my subscription) Eventually we will apply for a free license through Microsoft.
  - We purchased a 3-seat license for QuickBooks 2018 and that is installed.

Susan Howland, Treasurer.

#### PLEDGE UPDATE:

We have received 33 pledges of \$85,372 which is 85% of our \$100,000 budget.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
446 Hamilton Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550

## Holy Trinity Church

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Web site: [holytrinitysouthbridge.org](http://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**

Tidings of Holy Trinity- January 2018

### Save These Dates

#### **Holy Trinity Church**

Sundays in January after coffee hour—Confirmation Class

Wednesday, January 3—7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine—HTC

Saturday, January 6—9:00 a.m.—Winter Coat Closet

4:30 p.m.—Epiphany Potluck Supper

Wednesday, January 10—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting & Bible Study

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

Wednesday, January 17—4:00 p.m.—Daughters of the King Meeting

7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine—BLC

Sunday, January 21—8:45 a.m.—Presentation of 2017 Budget

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

Sunday, January 28—9:30 a.m.—Family Worship

Wednesday, January 31—7:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine—HTC

VESTRY MINUTES ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR  
WEBSITE [WWW.HOLYTRINITYSOUTHBRIDGE.ORG](http://WWW.HOLYTRINITYSOUTHBRIDGE.ORG)  
/HOLY TRINITY NEWS/VESTRY NEWS