



NOVEMBER TIDINGS

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November 2019

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Don't Forget!

- * Food pantry items: powdered lemonade mix, iced tea mix, tea, coffee, spaghetti sauce, toilet tissue, soap, dish soap
- * Bring in your soda cans and bottles and donate them to the Mission box in the Parish Hall!
- * If you have a change in address, email, or phone number, please fill out a Welcome Card (in the pew) and put it in the offering box for the secretary. Thanks!



Dear Friends!

It is a great adventure in believing to imagine what the reign of God will be like! What will transpire in our souls; how rejoicing will become our sole occupation. One might expect that every day would see a pure justice that rewards honesty and effort; that, more deeply expressed: would make institutional a Godly rule of mercy. Poverty would cease to plague anyone; the table in every home would be as an altar of offering that becomes the root of living community; and every altar in every church would become a place of numinous "presence" to pierce the veil into the living heart

of the Holy. (Not to go all Hollywood on you, but the visual image I have in mind is a column of pure light focused on the center of the physical altar which reaches to the highest heaven; and is the radical unambiguous living embrace of the "God of all heaven and earth" in tabernacle with God's people.)

In point of fact, many of these blessings are true and real today, or are within reach for those who dare believe. The soul of these remaining days of the Church year is revealed in that they are dotted with harvest festivals. Like: Thanksgiving Day; the day of the All Saints observance of Holy Ones who have jumped the veil before us and who teach us to flex our own pole for the vault; and even the observance of "All Faithful Departed" for

the unsung, unnamed, countless striving people who passed without fanfare or fame to their eternal reward - the same reward we hope and pray will come to us at the final trumpet call. It's not about the mashed potatoes, stuffing and gravy, or Turducken fried in oil. It's about the love that cooked it. It's about the God that stands behind and within. And the eternal hope of those who believe. The year ends December 2nd. Have a go at the question: "What would change in your world if the reign of God suddenly became visible today?" Try some happy play with the idea. It's a theological Rubik's cube that never fails to delight and instruct. But remember, what you seek is already here!

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



Fr. Richard invites all children of any age to wear their Halloween costumes to church on Sunday, November 3 for **All Saint's Sunday.**

Creation Care Corner—We are called to do what is right, even if it requires more effort. Creation Care issues for you to pray about and ponder on.



Nov. 8, 2019 will be the LAST day that stores in Southbridge will be able to give out single use shopping bags because the town adopted a law to restrict plastic bag distribution. This law goes into effect on Nov. 9! Many of the Southbridge stores are electing to charge shoppers for paper bags - as much as 15 cents per bag! So, get ready and remember when shopping in Southbridge, to bring your own re-useable bags OR pay for

paper bags. I believe that this is just the start. In the UK and other countries around the world, grocery stores will no longer use foam trays (commonly used to package meat, and vegetables) and they are reducing ALL single use packaging by 50% by 2021. You can make a difference starting TODAY – think before you buy – ask yourself “does the item I am buying need the

packaging it has, or, can I buy an alternate with more eco-friendly packaging”? Ask yourself, “why is it that paper towel & toilet paper rolls are wrapped in single use plastic? TELL the STORE where YOU purchase these products – every time you purchase them – that YOU WANT paper towel and toilet paper rolls wrapped in paper! They will soon make the change! Remember, there is NO PLANet B! -Tamsin Lucey

Thank you to our Lawncare Angels!

Thank you to the following people who took good care of our lawn this summer and helped make our church beautiful and inviting!!

John Grant, Josh Spooner, Bill Pieczynski, Paul Aloia, Trisha O'Brien-Briere, Dave Monroe, Ray Beaupre, & Bill Nelson



Mission Plate

During November, donations to the mission plate will continue to be collected for a charity for our veterans.

Whether you call November 11th Armistice Day, Remembrance Day, or Veterans Day, it's a time to honor all those who have or are serving our country. We thank them for their service!

November Birthdays

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



Thanksgiving Pies

We will once again be offering homemade pies for sale in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. The selection will be at least the same as last year – traditional apple and Dutch apple pies, pumpkin pie, pecan pie, and meat pie. Please look for order forms in the Narthex and in the bulletin and place your orders early. Don't forget to invite neighbors, friends, family, and

co-workers to place an order as well! Baking dates and times have yet to be confirmed. If interested in joining the pie baking team, please speak with Joe DiSalvatore or Cat Reith-Lowery. Donations of ingredients to help offset the costs are always welcome. We are looking for the following ingredients: flour, butter, lard, dark brown sugar, eggs, apples,

pecans and evaporated milk. Gift cards to local grocery stores are always welcome. Look for ingredient stickers on a board at the back of the church. Thank you!





NOVEMBER 16 FROM 3:00PM-5:00PM

At Holy Trinity Church in the Undercroft



BRING A CULTURAL DISH & DESSERT TO SHARE!

This is a potluck dinner. Please bring enough to feed 5 people.

Beverages provided. You may also wear a native costume, if desired. If you have a special song, poem, one-man monologue, or comedy from your heritage, please share!

Bring a friend or family member—the more, the merrier!

RSVP on the table at the back of the church by November 3.

Any questions, please see Lorraine Brumskine (917) 676-0754



Help is needed to set up before the event, and clean up after the event. If you are able to help in one or both of these areas, please sign up at the back of the church. Thank you!

Stewardship Ingathering and Harvest Service

Sunday, November 24

@ 9:30 am

Once again we have moved through the seasons and have come again to the time of harvest. In Thanksgiving we, as a country, celebrate the ingathering of the crops and abundance of food supplies that will carry us

through the coming winter. In the same manner, as a church community, we joyfully celebrate the ingathering of pledges that will allow Holy Trinity to continue to shine the light of Jesus on Hamilton St. Please join us for this special service, during which pledge cards will be collected with the

offering and placed on the altar. (Pledge cards will be mailed to households separately & are available on the Narthex table.) Everyone is invited to enjoy brunch in the parish hall after the service.



You're Invited!

ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO THE STEWARDSHIP INGATHERING BRUNCH ON NOVEMBER 24, FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

Gathering of the Great Bounties for the Harvest

We will be adorning the Sanctuary with Fall Harvest Bounties on Sunday, November 17. Come one, come all, and bring a little touch of fall with you to help decorate! We are looking for contributions of pumpkins, gourds, squash, corn stalks, bales of straw, mums, kale, colored leaves, anything that reminds you

of the Great Harvest! We will also be taking non-perishable contributions for the St. John Paul II food pantry, and perishable contributions (i.e. potatoes, sweet potatoes, yams, dried cranberries) to go to an organization making Thanksgiving baskets!

Decorations must be dropped off no later than Thursday, Nov. 14.

Perishable and nonperishable food donations may be brought on Sunday, Nov. 17. If you would like to help with decorating, please see Diane Nichols.



The United Thank Offering

Dear Thankful People at Holy Trinity,
Our combined United Thank Offering of \$728.19 was taken to the UTO ingathering held during the Diocesan Conventions Eucharist...Thanks be to God!



Thanksgiving
Service

An Ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held at Holy Trinity Church on Tuesday, November 26, at 7:00p.m. It is a beautiful and uplifting service. We encourage you to attend! Bring a friend!

A Note from the Treasurer

We have just completed the 3rd quarter of 2019 and financially we are stable.

Income

- The pledges are behind \$5,700 after the budgeted arrearage. We hope this will correct by year-end.
- The "Plate Offering" is \$1,886 over budget.
- The "Other Income" is \$923 over budget.

Fundraising is under budget because we did not have a VBS fundraiser, nor did we have a large VBS expense, so this will even out.

Expenses

- Many lines are under budget.
- The phone bill is under budget because Verizon has given us a better loyalty credit; also we have a Verizon rewards account with cash rebates of \$60.
- The repair and maintenance budget has been spared this year, but we will have some annual fall expenses: boilers cleaned (already done, but not paid), fire alarm and fire extinguisher check, and the building inspections.
- The hospitality line is over budget from the 150th celebrations, but we moved money from savings.
- The Capital Improvement line is over budget and we moved money from the building fund and savings to fund those expenses.
- The reserve fund is almost \$5,000 to fund the under budget lines.
- The annual and large periodic expenses are in reserve funds (see statement of financial position).

The oil tank is full

A comment about the Non-Operating Budget:

- \$771.31: Mission plate offerings for 2019
- \$514: Food Share donations: (\$171 was from SouperBowl)
- \$266: Sponsor Child
- \$1,313.48: Additions to the Organ Fund in honor of Anne Bouvier-Monroe's birthday
- \$25: Good Friday Offering
- \$1,000: Memorial Gifts Received (for purchase of Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal)
- \$120: Additions to the Legacy Fund
- \$306.09: Change the Babies (Mampong Babies Home, Ghana)
- \$1,207.59: Parrettie Fund supporting people in need
- \$1,350.00: Clergy Discretionary Fund for people in need

The finance committee met on Tuesday, October 15, to work on the 2020 budget. A draft budget is included in this *Tidings*.

The Vestry will be conducting staff reviews October-November.

We contracted with an architect to help us to understand and discern how we might use our classroom wing downstairs. That process is wrapping up and we should have a report fairly soon.

Looking to the future: Fr. Richard will be eligible to take his 6-week sabbatical after June 2020; this is in addition to his 4-week vacation and 1-week continuing education week.

All the best blessings,
Susan

	2020 Budget Draft	
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Total Flowers	500.00	
Total Fundraising- Operating Budget	650.00	
Total Income All Other	500.00	
Total Plate Offering	6,310.00	
Total Pledge Offering	90,024.00	Needed to balance budget
Total Rental Income	3,500.00	
Total Trust Income	18,719.00	
5600 · Unfulfilled Pledges	-4,500.00	
Total Income	115,703.00	
Expense		
Total Christian Formation-Adult	1,590.00	
Total Christian Formation-Youth	1,000.00	
Church		
5201 · Utilities - Oil Church	10,500.00	
5202 · Utilities - Gas Church	500.00	
5203 · Utilities- Electric Church	2,400.00	
5204 · Utilities- Water/Sewer Church	900.00	
5206 · Trash/Recycle	552.00	
5252 · Telephone Church	1,300.00	
5278 · Organ and Piano Maintenance	700.00	
5301 · Church Repair/Maintenance	5,000.00	
5302 · Church, Capital Improvement	3,500.00	
5317 · Building/Liability Insurance	8,158.00	
Total Church	33,510.00	
Total Clergy	35,907.00	
Diocesan Assessment	9,352.00	
Total Evangelism	200.00	
Total Flower Expense	500.00	
Total Liturgical	730.00	
Total Music Program	12,708.00	
Program		
5221 · Office Supplies	450.00	
5222 · Postage	400.00	
5224 · Copier Expense	1,554.00	
5299 · All Other Program Expense	150.00	
5303 · Sexton Supplies	500.00	
Total Program	3,054.00	
Staff		
Total 5103 · Secretary Salary	8,715.00	
Total 5107 · Sexton Salary	7,937.00	
5118 · Workers Comp	500.00	
Total Staff	17,152.00	
Total Expense	115,703.00	
Net Ordinary Income	0.00	

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(trinity)

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

Saturdays in November—9 to 11:00 a.m.— Winter Coat Closet

Sunday, November 3—9:30 a.m.—All Saint's Sunday

Wednesday, November 6—6:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine Study-HTC

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

Saturday, November 16—3:00 p.m.—International Dinner

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

Wednesday, November 20—6:30 p.m.—Bible & Wine Study-HTC

Sunday, November 24—11:30 a.m.—Stewardship Brunch

**Tuesday, November 26—7:00 p.m.—Ecumenical Thanksgiving
Service at HTC**



Website



Facebook



Tithely—Giving