



MARCH TIDINGS

Volume 2, Issue 3



March 2020

Holy Trinity Church
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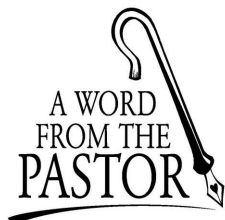
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Rev. Richard Signore—Rector

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Diane Nichols—Sr. Warden

Lynn Garland—Jr. Warden



Dear friends,

Henry David Thoreau got it right, in Walden, when he wrote, "What are we but a mass of thawing clay?" Thoroughly Biblical and apt for Lent as we recall that we are reconstituted dust and ash. God raised the dust of the earth and formed us into living beings. God honored us with control of all creation, and then all manner of confusion set in. We are still deceived by the devil, trying to figure out

issues of justice, and fairness. Trying to articulate what it looks like when all share in the prosperity of society, which takes ALL OF US to bring into existence, yet sadly some remain in debilitating poverty. Made "ruler upon earth over all things visible" and "companion to the angels" (Byzantine vespers) but deceived by the serpent with food (the apple) and the subtle promise of wisdom (you will think and be like God). The CLAY struggles to thaw, to shape, to reveal the yearning heart of God with tears in our eyes.

Lent has an organizing principle; with scripture and prayer, fasting and mercy; we can remember what God made us to be, and our prayer echoes vespers again: "But in compassion, O Savior, call me back [to Your life] again!" So revisit the ancient practices of personal formation, make a Holy Lent, and rise with Christ into the life of God!!!

I remain,

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



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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!

Simple Soup Suppers

Would you like to live "Unafraid" with courage and hope in an uncertain world? (Based on Adam Hilton's Book, Unafraid) Please join us on Wednesday evenings from March 4 through April 1 from 6:30-8pm.

Join us for food, fun, and discovery. This is a **free** event and open to everyone. Please bring a friend. As this is a collaborative event with area churches. HTC is leading the event on March 25. We will be

responsible for set up, clean up, and food. A sign up sheet will be placed on the back table. Come to one, come to all! Just come!

Location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 345 Main Street, Sturbridge.

Music Notes from Anne

Choir is rehearsing after church during March. Sunday, March 8, I will be away and there will not be any rehearsal. Rehearsal begins at 11:15 after church until 12:00. All are welcome. Hope you can join us as you are able.

I am looking for a volunteer to help me with the music library here at the Holy Trinity. I have run out of room to file some music so we are going to archive some of the music

that will not be used in the near future to make room for the recently purchased music. If you are interested in helping please contact the office or Anne of your interest. We will wait until the weather gets better to work in the choir closet since it is mighty cold in there.

Thank you to the person who left me something on January 5. I was very moved to receive an acknowledgement that I am appreciated for

the work I do every Sunday morning. I have never been surprised like that before. Thank you.



Survey Opportunity

Opportunity For the Tri-Community (OpT) is based in Southbridge. OpT is a small group of people working together with organizations, agencies, individuals, town officials, and business owners, with a vision to help lift folks in Southbridge, Sturbridge & Charlton out of poverty by increasing opportunity. OpT requires data so statistics can record

poverty rates now and in the future in order to track success. In order to do this, a survey has been developed. ALL residents of Southbridge, Sturbridge and Charlton are encouraged to take this survey. It will take just 5 minutes. Hard copies of the survey are available on the table at the back of the church, in the narthex, or from Tamsin Lucey or

Susan Howland. If you prefer to take the survey on line, please contact Tamsin Lucey or Susan Howland who will email the link to you. The survey is available in both English and Spanish.

~Tamsin Lucey & Susan Howland
abritinusa@gmail.com
howlands@charter.net

Notes from the Senior Warden

Typically, this time of year is a time of transition for any parish as the newly appointed vestry member assume their positions and duties after the Annual Parish Meeting. There was a fair amount of shuffling within the Leadership Team and we appointed one new member - Robin Yates. We are looking for one more member for the vestry team and hope that our prayers will be answered and the spirit moves someone to feel called to serve.

Our long time servant, Susan Howland, stepped down as Treasurer, but has been called to fulfill a new role as Assistant to the Parish

Secretary/ Bookkeeper and Liaison to the Vestry. As well as administrative duties, Susan has generously agreed to be our Media and Communication Coordinator and will be updating the website and Facebook. Be sure to check out all the new ways Susan will be working to keep the Parish informed and connected.

Eileen DeMings has also assumed a new role as Family Worship Liaison to the Vestry. This is an important role as our young church members and their families discern how to move forward and provide new opportunities for youth leadership.

These are perfect examples of how church members can use their gifts and talents to assist the vestry, the parish, and Father Richard as we invite Jesus to allow us to see the fathomless relationship between ourselves, the parish and the community.

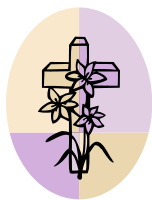
~Diane Nichols

*"May the favor of the Lord our God
rest upon us;*

*Establish the work of our hands for
us –*

*Yes, establish the works of our
hands."*

EASTER MEMORIALS



This Easter, 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, April 5**. The donations collected for these memorials are used to purchase the flowers that decorate the sanctuary on Easter Day.

Exact wording of memorial will be:

Easter gifts for flowers are given to the Glory of God...

_____ 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 person who is living, choose the following:

_____ in Thanksgiving for the Blessing of _____

(Name of person or blessing)

given by _____

[Your name(s) – please use exact wording you would like to have published. You may, for example, say something like “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 donation, to the church office or drop it in the offering plate by **Sunday, April 5**. Donations of any amount are appreciated and will offset the cost of the flowers for decorating the church on Easter Day. Please make checks payable to Holy Trinity Church with the notation “Easter Flowers” on the memo line.

Do you know someone who would appreciate Easter flowers from the church? Please write their name and address here so arrangements can be made to bring them flowers:

Vigil Light

During Lent, a solemn time, flowers are not placed on the altar. A vigil candle dedication may be given as a memorial for the

deceased or to burn as a special intention or prayer request. To give a Vigil Candle dedication, one may sign the sheet provided in the back of

the church or include the information on a slip of paper with your check and place it in the offering basket. There is no set donation amount.

Please donate an amount you are comfortable with.



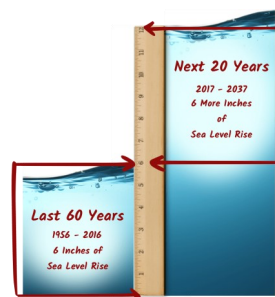
Creation Care Corner

This month I will talk to you about another “in phrase” definition I recently learned about at a workshop about Communicating About Creation Care—**Rising Sea Levels**. Last month you read about global warming and the temperature rise of the oceans. It is worth noting that with the increase in water temperature comes the melting of ice. 71% of the earth is water. 98% of that water is sea (salt) water. Of the 2% fresh water

(non-salt water), 90% is frozen (glaziers, ice caps etc.). As the temperature of the earth’s water rises, the frozen water is melting. With that melting comes a rise in sea levels. Check out Sea Level Rise.org <https://sealevelrise.org/forecast/> and you will read that on average the sea level has risen 6 inches since 1950 (70 yrs.). The conservative forecast is that sea level will rise 6 inches by 2050 – that’s just 30 years from now!

As the sea level rises, the coast line will change as well as the water table which will also rise and areas that flood once in a while will be permanently flooded.

*With every
best wish
and
blessings,
Tamsin*



Souperbowl of Caring

Thank you to all who made or purchased soup! We are able to send a check to Foodshare, located at Catholic Charities, in the amount of \$259.00!



March Birthdays

- 1—John Grant
- 2—Susan Grant
- 7—Laura Gervais
- 9—Bridgette Bachand
- 9—Jack Burns
- 10—Ben Normandin
- 12—Abigail Bullard
- 13—Sof Kollios
- 31—Chris Ballou



Mission and Outreach

The mission plate collection for the months of March and April will be going to “New Hope.” “New Hope” works with those affected by domestic and sexual violence and serves 41 communities throughout South-Central and Southeastern Massachusetts. “New Hope” provides emergency shelters for women and their children, and works to end domestic and sexual violence at the individual, family, and community levels. For more information, please visit <https://www.new-hope.org/about-us/>.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Women News

For Advent we started reading Things Seen and Unseen by Nora Gallagher. The book follows Nora through the liturgical seasons for one year in the Episcopal Church.



We will meet again on Sunday, March 8 2:00 pm at Susan Howland’s house, 132 Osgood Rd., Charlton 01507 howlands@charter.net 508-612-3198 to talk about the Epiphany and Lent chapters at Susan Howland’s house, 132 Osgood Rd, Charlton 01507 howlands@charter.net 508-612-3198. There is more information on the Holy Trinity ECW Facebook Group. If you are not a group member, email Susan and she will get you connected.

For Lent we offer the idea of reading The Poetry of Lent: A Lenten Companion to Mary Oliver's "Devotions". The ECW purchased a group license to download and print this devotional guide. The guide is on the ECW Webpage: <https://www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org/episcopal-church-women-ecw/> You will need a Bible, and a copy of Oliver’s poems, *Devotions*. The poems can be found online. All information will be posted to the Facebook Group, or contact Susan directly for information (contact above) or to get a printed copy.
Blessings in Christ, Susan Howland, For the ECW

The Cookbooks of Holy Trinity Church

It appears that four cookbooks have been compiled since Holy Trinity became a mission in 1905:

- Holy Trinity Mission Cookbook 1912
- Holy Trinity Church Bicentennial Cookbook 1975
- Holy Trinity Church Cookbook 1990
- A Taste of Heaven Cookbook 2000

Marilyn Theodoss lent me possibly the only surviving copy of the Bicentennial Cookbook and we now have a digital copy. As Marilyn looks through the cookbook, she remembers fondly the contributors, many no longer with us, but they live on through their recipes. Marilyn told me to be sure to read Will Hick's recipe for Southern Fried Chicken as it was very amusing. It is printed here for your enjoyment, amusement and possibly some good eating. I will be including recipes from the various cookbooks in Tidings this year. If you have a favorite from any cookbook let me know I will be sure to include it.

SOUTHERN FRIED CHICKEN

Will Hicks

1 or more chickens	1 tsp. salt per chicken	
1/2 c. flour per chicken	1/4 tsp. pepper per chicken, preferably fresh ground	1 pinch garlic salt may be used but don't let anyone catch you
Lard or cooking oil to fill frying pan 2 inches deep		

Relatively young birds should be used and any which appear to have died of natural causes should be rejected. Joint chickens, separate legs from thighs. Everything except neck and feet can be used, including whatever internal parts you ordinarily eat. Rinse pieces; drain but don't dry. Put remaining ingredients in poke bag and shake to mix. Add chicken pieces 2 or 3 at a time and shake until completely dredged. Use deep fry pan or soup kettle; fill with oil deep enough to cover chicken completely. Heat until oil just begins to smoke, then back off a hair. Oil level should be at least 1 inch from top, else it will boil over when you add chicken. If it should spill over the whole pan full will ignite. Don't be alarmed; don't panic, and don't use water to douse fire or you'll likely burn your house down. Just put top on pan and wait for the spilled oil to finish burning. Add chicken a piece at a time at intervals of 5-10 seconds to minimize boiling. Cover pan, leaving it slightly cracked for steam to escape. Cook 15-20 minutes. If oil only half covers pieces, turn them once. Remove top

last 3 minutes. Remove chicken and lay out to drain on paper towels or brown paper bags. After 30 seconds turn them over to drain other side. Sponge them carefully with paper towel to remove all excess oil. Southern fried chicken, like all southern food, should not be greasy. Only Yankees and other foreigners who open restaurants in the South serve greasy food. Can be served hot or at room temperature, on picnics and the like. When eating fried chicken, lips should be retracted in the manner of Pres. James Carter so one doesn't need to use a napkin.

New!! E-Newsletter for Holy Trinity



mailchimp

Sometimes there is important and/or interesting news and information that comes to light between the issues of Tidings. We now have an e-Newsletter that will go out to all parish members with an email address. If you don't get email, call the parish secretary, Chris Bolte, 508-765-9559, and she will print you a copy when one is emailed.

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Office Phone: (508) 765-9559

E-mail: holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com

Web site: holytrinitysouthbridge.org
(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

Wednesdays in March, 6:30 p.m.—Simple Soup Supper—BLC

Wednesday, March 11—7:00 p.m.—Vestry Meeting

Sunday, March 15—9:30 a.m.—Healing Service

Spring Ahead! March 8 @ 2am



Website



Facebook



Tithely—Giving