



MARCH TIDINGS

Volume 3, Issue 3



March 2021

Holy Trinity Church
446 Hamilton Street
Southbridge, MA 01550
508-765-9559

holytrinitysouthbridge@gmail.com
www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org

Rev. Richard Signore—Rector
(revholytrinity@gmail.com)
Lynn Garland—Sr. Warden
(508-801-4638)



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March Birthdays

- 1—John Grant
- 2—Susan Grant
- 7—Laura Gervais
- 9 – Bridgette Bachand
- 9 – Jack Burns
- 10 – Ben Normandin
- 12—Abigail Bullard
- 31—Christopher Ballou



Dear Friends,

In some ways the Gospel of St. Mark is short and to the point; one just has to remember the author writes from within a "Jerusalem-centered" world. The Old Testament is the full body of scripture. The historical record of charity to immigrants, balances within tension, of a religious practice that was external to the worshiper: offering animal sacrifice, tending the minutia of performing the chores of life without actions that could be construed as work, except in the allotted times. "Washing to the third knuckle" was a law that was external to the pull of the heart; and yet the faithful were filled with a longing for the Love of God, and the blessings of the Kingdom - peace,

justice, and self-determination for a people under military occupation.

And yet in bitterness, Rome destroys the temple (71 A.D.) unHINGING all Jewish worship and ritual. Compare Mark 13:1-2, and the undercurrent of recognition of all that Love and Spirit alone can bring; seeing in sacrifice the eternal mark of Love (Mark 15:39). The Domination of Empire can destroy; only Love can heal.

If you elect to read through Mark (a few times or more) as your scripture discipline for this Lent, keep asking what level of surprise the actions of Jesus caused in the author, and how this impacted his faith, and new found trust in God, as shepherd who "feeds his flock, and guards us as a warrior King." Try to

remember the odd stories of the Old Testament, as they interpret the New Testament (being the tradition in which the N.T. was constructed). E.g., passing through the Red Sea constitutes the marking of a people for God, and underscores the rite of Baptism as passage to a new liberation. The blood of the Passover lamb is still on the door post as we enter for the sacrament of the altar. To our God, "time" is like a compressed accordion. Feel free to play with the ideas and images that played across the mind of the author. Imagination is key, let your mind wander; "read, mark, learn, inwardly digest," that God may feed you with Bread from Heaven. I remain,

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

Mission & Outreach

The Mission Plate funds for the months of March and April will be going to Doctors Without Borders. Doctors Without Borders works to provide lifesaving medical humanitarian care in over 70 countries around the world. They provide aid and access to appropriate medications, vaccines, and emergency food aid to treat malnutrition where the needs are greatest. Doctors Without Borders often go to places where other organizations can't or won't operate.

Doctors Without Borders teams collaborate with community-based organizations on a wide

range of projects in the USA, including those homeless in New York, migrant farmworkers in Florida, and Native American communities in the Navajo Nation, etc.

Currently, teams are responding to the Coronavirus pandemic in more than 70 countries where they run existing programs, as well as opening projects in other countries that have become outbreak hotspots. In addition to treating Covid 19 patients, they are working to provide infection prevention and control measures against the virus worldwide.

Susan Grant

Member of the Outreach and Missions Committee



Update on the Liberian Project

The children in Liberia have not been attending school due to the pandemic. However, they are now back in attendance at school. There is a critical need for school supplies, including: spiral notebooks, binders, folders, writing paper, pens and pencils, markers, erasers, etc. There is also a great need for toiletries, including: shampoo, conditioner, bath (bar) soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body lotion (cocoa butter cream), deodorant, etc. These products

can be purchased in personal, travel, or larger sizes. I personally like to shop at the Dollar Tree Stores or Ocean State Job Lot since the prices are very reasonable.

We are also seeking contributions toward the costs of shipping these materials to Liberia. It cost \$30.00 to purchase a small barrel and \$50.00 for a large one to pack the supplies. The shipping costs are about \$150.00 for a small barrel and

\$250.00 for the larger barrel. We would greatly appreciate any contribution toward the shipping costs. Our goal is to ship out a barrel by the end of March. These donations will be shipped to the "Sons and Daughters of the King" in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County in Liberia. The Episcopal Church in the USA has a long companion relationship with the Episcopal Church in Liberia. The local churches run the schools in Liberia, which have become a

safe haven and means of support for the children. These are our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please donate what you can and pray for them.

*For His Sake,
Susan L. Grant
President of the Daughters of the King, Mary and Martha Chapter*



Don't miss church!
Set your clocks AHEAD on Sunday, March 14 @ 2:00 a.m.

Adult Social Studies Class

The Social Studies group continues our study of the "White Privilege: Let's Talk" curriculum provided by the United Church of Christ. This month the topic focused on ways the concept of whiteness has become entwined in Christianity.

White privilege here is walking into a church and never having to wonder "why doesn't Jesus look like me?" Our images consistently portray Jesus as white, despite the fact that it is more likely that Jesus looked like a Middle Eastern Jew. This led to some interesting discussion.

For our next meeting we will read Part 3: The Cash Value of Whiteness or Whiteness as a Tax-Exempt Status. If you would like to check it out, this link will take you to the website <http://privilege.uccpages.org>

Our next meeting will be March 17th at 7:00 via Zoom. We would love to have you join us!

Questions?

Lynn Garland, 508-801-4638 lynn24gar@gmail.com

Fr. Richard, 617-281-5183 richard.signore@verizon.net

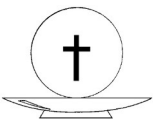
Lana Pieczynski, 704-458-6204 ana.pieczynski@gmail.com

Childreach: Sign up to sponsor Nicholas Onyango Okondo

Please make a \$35.00 donation to sponsor Nicholas in 2021. A reminder card will be sent to you. In order to sign up for a month, please complete the

Doodle Poll by clicking [HERE](#) or call/email the office at 508-765-9559 on Tuesday or Thursday and Chris will help you sign up. We still need sponsors for June,

November, and December. Thank you!



Our next Consecrated Communion pickup will be on Saturday, March 6 from 11:00 to 11:30 a.m. Please check your email for an invitation. RSVP is necessary to make sure we have the hosts ready for you/your family. Thank you!

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas Offers Lenten Retreat

"Lent and the Longing for God"

March 6, 9:30am - 12:00pm Online

These may sound like strange questions to ask during Lent, a season usually associated with self-denial, not desire. But Lent calls us back to our deepest longing, our desire for closer union with the Love that created us and that longs to be set free among us. This morning retreat, conducted online, will invite us to explore our own desires, as well as the desires of the One "to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid." Our time together will include presentations and guided meditation, with options for solitary reflection or for small group conversation. Click [HERE](#) to register.

What do you long for most?

What is most precious to you?

What do you want more than anything?



PRAYER CARD FOR HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

- PLEASE INCLUDE THIS PRAYER IN YOUR DAUGHTERS OF THE KING PRAYER LIST.
- PLEASE INCLUDE THIS PRAYER IN THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING PRAYER LIST AND SHARE WITH THE PARISH .

Prayer List

If anyone is in need of prayers, you may fill out the form above and send it to the church (446 Hamilton Street, Southbridge, MA 01550) to be added to the prayer list. You may also email or contact anyone below from the Daughters of the King.

- Susan Grant—sgrant4810@gmail.com 860-923-9691
- Robin Yates—twoturns@charter.net 508-347-2279
- Lorraine Brumskine—brumskine60@gmail.com 917-676-0754
- Susan Howland—howlands@charter.net 508-248-6112
- Laura Gervais—laurareiki37@gmail.com 774-230-2485



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, contact the office on Tuesday or Thursday (508-765-9559) or send an email. Please then forward a donation to

the church for your Vigil Light. There is no set donation amount. Please donate an amount you are comfortable with.



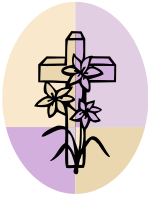
Souperbowl of Caring—Thank You!



Thank you to all who made a donation! We are able to send a check to Foodshare, located at Catholic Charities, in the amount of \$209.42!



EASTER MEMORIALS AND THANKSGIVINGS



During the Easter season this year, you may wish to have a loved one remembered or to express special thanks to God for blessings in your life. The flowers on the altar will be dedicated to all who submit names and will be read during the Easter service. Please complete this form and return it with your donation to the Church office by **Sunday, March 28**.

Exact wording of memorial will be:

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

_____ in Loving Memory of _____

(Name of your loved one or ones)

OR

_____ 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.]

Please return this sheet to the church office by Sunday, **March 28**. You may make your donation by mailing a check with the form, made payable to Holy Trinity Church with the notation “Easter Memorials” on the memo line, or through Tithely. (No donation is too small!)

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NEW Holy Trinity ECW Cookbook...the Journey Continues

The “Holy Trinity Pandemic Cookbook” is still accepting submissions but a draft is now available in a Google document here:

https://docs.google.com/file/d/11WzoLHnByMQMH0Q191h_6lrlwN1lirRv/edit?usp=doclist_api&filetype=msword

and will also be on our website in the ECW tab. We will continue to add recipes until we can meet again in person at which time we will make the cookbook available in a “book form”. The cookbook will be available as a digital download; paper copies will be available for a small fee upon request. This is NOT a fundraiser. There are many ways to submit recipes: email in any form (typed, photo, PDF) to: holytrinityecw@gmail.com You can also submit your recipe(s) by filling out this Google Form: <https://forms.gle/uhTZRhj>



Susan Howland, 508-612-3198

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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

Tuesdays—8:00 p.m.—Service of Compline

Thursdays—8:00 p.m.—Zoom Fellowship Hour

Wednesday, March 17—7:00 p.m.—Adult Social
Studies Group via Zoom



Website



Facebook



Tithely—Giving