



DECEMBER TIDINGS

Volume 3, Issue 12

December 2021

Holy Trinity Church
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Inside this issue:

From the Pastor	1
Prayer from Senior Warden	2
DOK message	2
December Birthdays	2
From the Organist	2
Christmas Memorials	3
Mission Plate	4
Father Richard Celebration	4

Dear friends,

Advent returns with the rumors of new life hidden within the brilliance of God. It is time to return to our favorite prayer discipline, and to feast on the hope of God that sustains to eternity, by reading the scriptures. Try looking up the "Year C" lectionary selections for Advent, found on page 911 of the Book of Common Prayer. The hopes of the Prophets are laid open in the serial readings from Zechariah, Baruch, and Micah and fulfillment in the Isaiah passage for Christmas Day.....taken all together, these readings are fearful of a world full of destructive forces yet harboring the 'secret of God's assurance,' and immutable, Holy, presence in our most mundane activity. To cherish this God, who was always from the beginning

present, but in Christ made pronounced and definite; God occupying the same earthly space in which we live, and love, and share. To wit: Our Advent journey, this year, also harbors "endings and beginnings;" loss that is overcome with hope and new life. A bit exhausted and focused on my family's best directions; yet all the while harboring the assurance that Love has built in strength. Such has also been true throughout my tenure at Holy Trinity, thanks to your wonderful strength of support, for the good of the parish and of each other, and into the larger community. Your gracious embrace has made this offering of ministry a de-

light to share with you. Your gracious embrace is the measure of spirit you brought to the work, and the source of my delight. Thank you!

Still God opens hearts to receive someone new, who will stand during our larger community and point to where we may see Jesus....and the work goes on. The embrace holds fast, love is all in all. With warmest regards and faith in continued Blessings, I remain,

Yours in Christ,
(The Reverend) Richard S. Signore



Prayer for Holy Trinity Transition

The Daughters of The King have provided a prayer to support our parish during this time of transition. All parish members are invited to offer this prayer daily as we say goodbye to Fr. Richard and welcome Mother Judith.

Yours in Christ, Lynn Garland (Senior Warden)

“O ever gracious Lord, guide us in our journey through this time of transition to discern what you are calling us to do. Allow our hearts to be opened toward change as we invite a new pastor into our church family. Give us strength in the knowledge that your presence and love will guide us through this uncertain time of transition. Amen”

Stewardship

The stewardship campaign this year was “Every Perfect Gift” and you are all gifts to this faith community. I want to thank everyone for submitting your pledge cards so promptly. It makes the finance committee’s job so much easier to be able prepare the budget for the coming year.

To date we have 90% of our goal of \$86,495 to have a balanced budget. Thank you for your commitment to Holy Trinity.

Nancy Waugh
Treasurer



2 – Heather Bousquet
4 – Marion Piltzecker
11—Mick Kalber
11—Violet Spooner
11 – Mary Bridget Burns
17 – Bill Pieczynski
25—Jesus Christ
25—Ed Bair

Message from our Organist

Thank you for your support and prayers during this past year. The medical issues our family has dealt with have seemed overwhelming, many times, in the last six months. I know your prayers have helped us through this uncertain time. I appreciate the time that has been given to me to recuperate, by the vestry of Holy Trinity Church, and I thank the church musicians for all the support they have given me. Thank you Father Richard, Susan Howland, Joe DiSalvatore, John Grant, Jean Frost, Lana Pieczynski, and Lynn Garland.

God Blessings,
Anne



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 19**. 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...

_____ 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 offering (no donation is too small), to the church office or drop it in the offering plate by Sunday, December 16. 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 that the Altar Guild can arrange to bring them flowers:

Mission Plate for November & December

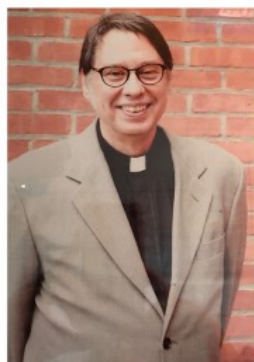
The Mission Plate funds for the months of November and December will be going to "The Episcopal Church in Navajoland." The Episcopal Church began its relationship with the Navajo Nation in the mid 1800's with the establishment of medical missions in Arizona and New Mexico. Today, the Episcopal Church in Navajoland (ECN) comprises three regions within the states of Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico.

There are high rates of poverty, unemployment, and underemployment in the Navajo Nation. Poverty and intergenerational trauma have led to high rates of addiction and suicide within the Navajo People. There is much sickness, job loss and family members succumbing to Covid. Life on the reservation is often surrounded by food insecurity. The purpose of the mission with the Episcopal Church in Navajoland is to aid and partner with the Navajo people themselves to facilitate healing and support spiritual development and to build sustainable strategies for economic development. ECN works to respond to the needs in the community through loving service and programs which safeguard the integrity of creation and the homelands of the Navajo. It supports the spiritual development of Navajo Christians while also honoring Navajo customs and traditions.

Sincerely, Susan L. Grant Member of the Outreach and Mission Committee

Farewell Celebration of Father Richard's Ministry

December 5th, 2021 11-2pm



Holy Trinity Church
Blakley Hall
446 Hamilton St.
Southbridge, MA

RSVP by November 30, 2021

508-765-9559

or

holytrinitysouthbridge.org



You came and
touched our hearts,
Now you leave; it's hard to see.
But wish you happy days ahead,
And a prosperous life
indeed.

We Will
miss
you

*Come Join Us to celebrate
Father Richard*

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**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**



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Tithe.ly—Giving