

JUNE TIDINGS

Volume 5 Issue 6

June 2023

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Inside this issue:

Priest's Reflection	1
Faith formation	2
HTEC Reading Group	3
Vestry Highlights	3
June Birthdays	3
Statuette of Mary	4
Mission Plate	4
Praying Hands	5
Kitchen Reminder	5
Congrats Graduates	5
Bridge Fridge	6
Book Giveaway	6
Fellowship-Bethlehem	6
St Luke's Car Wash	7
Sundays in June	8

A Reflection from your Priest-in-Charge

"The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit." [John 3:8]

Beginning on June 11th and ending on November 26th, the Sundays in our liturgical calendar are numbered as the *Sundays after Pentecost*. This is also called "ordinary time." The English name "ordinary time" translates the Latin term *Tempus per annum* (literally "time through the year"). Deacon Tom Frankenfield describes ordinary time *a time of quiet hope – a lush green meadow of hope. . . . The liturgical color for Ordinary Time is the color of hope--green. It is a change from powerful "mountain top" liturgical experiences in Christmas and Easter and "deep valleys" during Advent and Lent. Now we are asked to encounter the Lord in the lush green meadow of our lives.*

In these "ordinary" days ahead, let us be open to the surprises of grace that we may encounter when we give ourselves the time to watch and to listen. Your con-

versations about preparing for new ministry offer the perfect opportunity to listen and to surprise each other. Make it a practice to surprise someone you know at least once a week. Each evening write down one surprise of the day. In the words of Frederick Buechner: *Listen to your life. Listen to what happens to you because it is through what happens to you that God speaks. It's in language that's not always easy to decipher, but it's there powerfully, memorably, unforgettably.*

We pray:

*God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit
transform us.
may the gentleness of your Spirit
lead us.
may the gifts of your Spirit
be our goal and our strength
now and always. Amen*

Mother Judith



Faith Formation

Children and Youth

1st Sundays: Family Worship will continue through the summer

June 4th July 2nd August 6th

Teens will meet downstairs after the service.

Children's Chapel 9:15-9:30am on other Sundays

We will have a brief child-centered service of prayer, singing, and learning about our liturgy. There will be no classes on Sundays during the summer.

The Family Worship Team will explore possible plans for a VBS Day in August.

Intergenerational Formation

Mark your calendars:

Intergenerational Evening: Praying with Beads:

Wednesday July 19th 5:30pm – 8 pm



Modelled after our successful Lenten Family Evenings, we will meet for a simple dinner at 5:30, and then 3 groups (adults/teens & tweens / children) will learn about different traditions of praying with beads (the Anglican Rosary, the Catholic Rosary, the mala, and others). Supplies will be available to make our own sets of prayer beads. We will re-gather to close with Compline by 8pm. Watch for more information.

Prayer Partners

Over the summer, we invite everyone to sign up for a PRAYER PARTNER. We all want to stay connected through prayer in the form of letters, emails and/phone calls. If you would like to participate, please sign up on the clipboard at the back of the sanctuary or make a phone call/email to the church office. We will match prayer partners from the list. The hope is to connect generations of the parish through prayer. [All parents of youth will be on the list with their children to ensure safe practices.]



Adults

The Gospel of Thomas is a collection of sayings by Jesus. Some are included in the other 4 gospels, and some are not. We will have a 4-session study group this summer. Watch for more information.

Sacred Ground: A Diocesan-Wide Program beginning in the Fall

Sacred Ground is a film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. The 11-part series is built around an online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories. You can learn more about this excellent curriculum on the Episcopal Church website [Sacred Ground – The Episcopal Church](#) To register contact the diocesan facilitators: Katharine Burnett (Katharine.burnett@gmail.com) or E. Jahn Hart (jahnhart@sbcglobal.net)

The HTEC Reading Group

We will continue to meet on the last Thursday of every month. Here is the list of books for June, July, August, and September. Watch for more information. A more detailed introduction to each book will be available on our website and on parish emails.

June: Joy Harjo, *Catching the Light* [Yale University Press, 2022]

Discussion: Thursday June 29 @ 7pm

We have decided to continue reading meditations from *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer as we read the reflections by Joy Harjo. Both write insightfully and elegantly about how they have integrated their indigenous cultural perspectives with the expectations of the wider American scientific and literary communities.

In 2019 Joy Harjo became the 23rd Poet Laureate of the United States and the first Native American to hold that post. In 2022 she received the Academy of American Poets Leadership Award. *Catching the Light* is a collection of reflections on the meaning of poetry drawn from her 2021 Windham-Campbell Lecture at Yale University.

July: Shelby Van Pelt, *Remarkably Bright Creatures* [Ecco Press, 2022]

Discussion: Thursday, July 27, @ 7pm

August: Javier Zamora, *Solito* [Hogarth Press, 2022]

Discussion: Thursday, August 24 @ 7pm

September: Nabeel Qureshi, *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus* [Zondervan Press, 2014, 2018]

Discussion: Thursday, September 28 @ 7pm

Vestry Highlights: May 3, 2023

Resolved:

- ⇒ Accepted an undesignated gift for the work of the church
- ⇒ Accepted a gift designated for landscaping
- ⇒ Confirmed approval of the 2022 Audit
- ⇒ Confirmed approval of the 2021 Parochial Report
- ⇒ Approved the amended 2022 Parochial Report
- ⇒ Agreed to change the Vestry meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of the month

Discussion:

Report by Jean Frost on *Loving the Questions*

Report by Lorraine Brumskine on diaconal formation

Update: The Bishop's Visitation on May 14

Update: Preparing for new ministry

- The April 30th Parish Meeting will be followed by table discussions during coffee hour on Sundays beginning on May 21
- Canon Simpson has given us the names of churches to contact to discuss alternative models for ministry
- Data about building costs will be gathered during the summer.



June

BIRTHDAYS

4— Teddy Demings

14 – Joe Pieczynski

22 – Trisha O'Brien Briere

23 – Joe DiSalvatore

Statuette of Mary

When the bishop visited on May 14th, he blessed the statuette of the Madonna that was gifted to Holy Trinity by Fr. Richard and Nina Signore. This sculpture is placed at the entrance to the church as a sign that all God's children are welcome in our sanctuary. It was created by Marc Fuller, who also created our Stations of the Cross. Fr. Richard explains the meaning of this sculpture:

Anglicans have traditionally formed their sense of "the Holy" by starting with Creation. We focus on the "Incarnation," where God is found. God has established the gifts of wheat and bread, of fruits and wine, fish, fowl and meat. A range of gifts from which to choose, to sustain our thankful response to our Creator. We find these gifts from God indicate the love and care of the One who knows our needs before we ask.

We ourselves participate in this larger Love of God for all creation. Our relationships become cells of active, reconciling love: in patience, kindness, listening, welcome and embrace. These relationships sustain our sense of the goodness that surrounds us. There is a light that exists embedded in creation; it is a space for God.

This statuette depicts the Love from God that we share with one another through "the God in whom we live and move and have our being." The eyes of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Mother, fixed upon the child, show the love which is grounded in God's affection. This reflection is a picture of God. The arms of Mary depict the mission and purpose of Holy Trinity Church; to embrace all and everyone, as we allow the Love from God to express our greater calling.

The prayer of blessing: Almighty God, whose Son our Savior manifested your glory in his flesh, and sanctified the outward and visible to be a means to perceive realities unseen: Accept, we pray, this sculpture of Mary, that every child of God who enters this sanctuary may share in the tenderness and courage of her faith, and grant that when we look upon this image our hearts may be drawn to things which can be seen only by the eye of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



May & June Mission Plate

Our Little Roses Foreign Mission Society

The May and June mission plate collection will go to **Our Little Roses Foreign Mission Society** who run an orphanage in San Pedro Sula in the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras. <https://www.ourlittleroses.org/>

Our Little Roses was founded in 1988 by Diana Frade, wife of then Bishop of Honduras, Leo Frade, in an attempt to break the cycle of poverty in one of the poorest countries in Central America. The majority of people in Honduras live in abject poverty: no adequate housing, potable water, nutritional diet, access to medicine, or medical care.

Our Little Roses is committed to transforming the lives of about 70 Honduran girls to be integral members of society by creating an atmosphere of love, self-reliance, and respect. **Our Little Roses** is further committed to strengthening the ministry by providing each girl the best education possible. **Our Little Roses Foreign Mission Society** will be good stewards of our dollars, committing over 80% of their total expenditures to support the needs, programs, and services of the girls and ministry at **Our Little Roses** and the community the ministry serves in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Because of your support, girls rescued from abject poverty, neglect and abusive conditions are kept safe and secure in a loving environment.

Susan Howland, for the Mission and Outreach Committee



Praying Hands Ministry

Our Praying Hands Ministry makes prayer shawls and lap blankets for anyone in need of prayer and comfort. Our prayers are “woven” into the shawl/blanket.

There is a basket with blessed prayer shawls at the back of the church. Shawls can be taken for anyone in need of prayer, love, and comfort. A card is attached to write in the person’s name...

22 shawls were blessed in May: 16 for adults and 6 for children. Every person being confirmed and received was presented with a shawl.



Introducing Sue Smith. Sue was a recipient of a prayer shawl in 2019 and it was very meaningful. She is now making shawls for the Praying Hands Ministry.

Have you considered learning to crochet a prayer shawl?

Contact Susan Howland, coordinator, to learn more howlands@charter.net 508.612.3198

Kitchen/Food Reminder

From our ServSafe kitchen expert Tamsin Lucey:

Please DO NOT leave any leftover food in the small kitchen refrigerator. If you must: leave food in the original container and date it. If not in original container food must be tightly covered labeled and dated. The best practice is:

IF YOU BRING IT IN AND IT’S NOT USED– TAKE IT HOME WITH YOU!

Thank you all for your cooperation.



Congratulations to our Graduates

Some of our young people are making major transitions this year:

Braden Bullard Graduating from high school

Leenah Gossman From 8th grade to high school

Teddy DeMings, Emilynn Bousquet, and Jack Burns

From elementary to junior high school

David DeMings From Kindergarten to Elementary school

Briella Bousquet From pre-K to Kindergarten

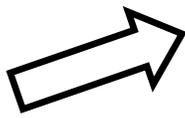
Addelyn Palato will begin second grade at a new school next year.



Food Collection

Bridge Fridge

The Food Pantry collection of non-perishable items for the months of June, July and August will go to the Bridge Fridge, located at 11 Sandersdale Road, Southbridge. This project provides food for anyone in the community with food insecurity and is always open. Karron Lacey will be delivering the items collected on Mondays. Please see her for more information or go to www.wellstorminc.org



*Happy
Father's
Day!*

Book Giveaway

Sundays through June 30th: In the Parish Hall you will find books that have been on the shelves of the Rector's Office and in the Parish Hall. These books will be available to anyone until the end of June. Any books that remain at the end of June will be donated.

Fellowship with Bethlehem Lutheran

Friday Night Fires: S'mores & More

June 30th at 6PM
July 21st at 6PM
August 18th at 6PM
September 8th at 6PM



Following up on our Lenten discussions, Bethlehem Lutheran invites us to join them for fellowship on these Friday nights during the summer. They have a firepit in their side yard, playground equipment, and room for yard games. Our children can play while we chat, or we can play together.

St. Luke's Guesthouse **FUNDRAISER** **CAR WASH**

Every car washed receives one
ticket for a chance to win a
free gutter cleaning

SATURDAY
JUNE
10TH
9am-1pm

"FREE CAR WASH"
DONATIONS ACCEPTED



Sponsored by Holy Gutters, Inc.
& Southbridge Credit Union

155 MAIN ST, SOUTHBRIDGE MA 01550
(SOUTHBRIDGE CREDIT UNION PARKING LOT)

Consider standing with St. Luke's Guesthouse Temporary Shelter
as we serve the homeless in our community.

Holy Trinity Church
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Sundays in June



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

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The Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

The Rt. Reverend Douglas Fisher

Sunday Services

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

The Rev. Dr. Judith Lee
Priest in Charge

J

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- June 4th** **Trinity Sunday: Family Worship**
Teens meet after the service
- June 11th** **Second Sunday after Pentecost**
9:15 am Children's Chapel
- June 18th** **Father's Day**
Third Sunday after Pentecost
Prayers in observance of Juneteenth
9:15am Children's Chapel
- June 25th** **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
Prayers for victims of gun violence
9:15am Children's Chapel



Website



Facebook



Tithely—Giving