

Trinity Tidings

Fall 2021



A Publication of
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
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There's No Place Like Home... Enjoying the Familiar and Embracing the New

Dear Friends,

As I write to you, I am sitting in the dining room of our house. Theresa and I are home! After fourteen months in temporary housing, packing, unpacking, repacking, and numerous meetings with the insurance company and contractors, our house has been rebuilt (after having been crushed by a large and heavy oak tree) and we have returned to it. It is wonderful to be back in our own confines. So much is familiar and comforting, and yet, it is not quite the same. The walls and ceilings and floors and windows are similar, but not exactly as they were before. The colors are a bit different. The furniture is sort of like our furniture, but not quite. The kitchen is in the same place as before, but the layout is different (still having trouble remembering where we put everything). And yet, it is home, even with the changes.

Many of you have been physically separated from Holy Trinity Church due to the COVID-19 pandemic. You have been with us on Sunday mornings online or Saturday nights by phone, but that is different from being in physical community with each other. We are incarnational people who need to see, hear and be present together in community. Perhaps now is the time to physically return to Holy Trinity. You will find much that is the same – the liturgy, the hymns, the

Sacraments, the building itself, and the familiar faces in the choir and at the altar. But as I discovered when moving home, some things may not be exactly the same. Communion and the offering are received differently. Part of the nave is marked out for social distancing. Because of livestreaming, movement on the altar is a bit more restricted, and there are far fewer in-person meetings and classes. **But God is still with us at Holy Trinity Church, and it is still our spiritual home.**

With vaccinations, safety protocols, and low transmission rates in our area, it is safer to gather in person than it has been for months. (Of course, this can change depending on the virus.) For now, I invite you to come home to Holy Trinity Church on Sunday, September 19 for Celebration Sunday and a special coffee hour. If you are able, come and experience again the familiar and embrace that which is different. Above all, remember, it's all about Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Hope to see you in church this fall season.

Faithfully,

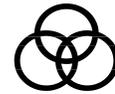
The Rev. Mark H. Chattin
Rector

Upcoming Events (Mark your Calendar Now!)

Sept 19	Celebration Sunday— ThanksChrismEaster Service and Special Coffee Hour See article page 2
Sept 25	St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals 10:30 a.m. on the plaza See article page 2
Sept 26	Special Parish Meeting 10:45 a.m. See article page 2 Parish Meet-Up on the Plaza 4 to 6:00 p.m.. See article page 2
Oct 2	Collingswood Bookfair & Holy Trinity's Used Book Sale 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. See article page 2
Oct 17	Great Cookie Taste-Off During Coffee Hour More information to come!
Oct 20	Boscov's Friends Day See bulletin and website for Information
Oct 24	Special Camden Convocation Meeting Time and Place TBD See article page 2
Oct 31	It's Halloween! Wear your costume to church!
Nov 2	Election Day Spaghetti Dinner More information to come!

Special Classes are Forming Soon Confirmation and First Communion...

Are you interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church? Do you have children interested in receiving First Communion? Special classes for adults, teens, and children will be forming soon. Please let Fr. Chattin or Theresa Chattin know of your interest in any of these classes, which will be both in-person and on Zoom.



Celebration Sunday A Very Happy ThanksChrismEaster!



Over the last many months, many folks may have missed some of the major Church celebrations. So...to kick off the new fall season, we will celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter in one big *Celebration Sunday and Welcome Back Service* on Sunday, September 19 at 9:15 a.m.



This service will include favorite scripture readings, hymns, and carols from these major holy days. Perhaps you missed singing your favorite hymn or carol in church last year? Well, here's your chance to catch up! The choir will be back as will some acolytes to lead the procession. This special liturgy will renew our faith and lift our spirits! A special coffee hour will follow the celebration service. If you are able, please make every effort to be in-person in church on the 19th. For those of you who are not able to return in-person yet, please be sure to tune in as the service will be livestreamed and you can sing along from home. See the link at www.holytrinity.us.



Let's Meet-Up on the Plaza An Event for In-Person & Live-Stream Parishioners

Hello Out There! It's been a really long time since we've been able to get together to enjoy each others company. We thought that a beautiful evening in early fall would be a great time for in-person and live-stream parishioners to get a chance to meet face to face.

Everyone is invited to come to the church plaza for refreshments and conversation with your fellow church goes on Sunday, September 26, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Bring your questions and ideas for Fr. Mark or the vestry, say hi to old church friends, and meet new ones. All outdoor safety protocols will be followed. In the case of rain, we will move into the parish hall. This will be a relaxed time for both in-person and online parishioners. Looking forward to seeing you!

Special Parish Meeting Beginning the Episcopal Election Process...

You may be aware that Bishop Stokes has announced his plan to retire in June of 2023 and he has called for the election of the 13th Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey. The process for electing a new bishop begins with parish meetings to elect six delegates who will attend a special Camden Convocation meeting on October 24 to elect one clergy member and one lay person to serve on the Episcopal Nominating and Election Committee. We will meet after the 9:15 service on September 26th at coffee hour for the sole purpose of electing our six delegates. We ask that everyone make an effort to attend this meeting, which will be brief. If you are interested in being nominated as a delegate, please let Fr. Chattin know ASAP.

For Our Pets & Pet Lovers!

St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals...



Bring your pets and join us for a careful and socially distanced St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals at **10:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 25**. This year's event will carefully adhere to all outdoor safety protocols.

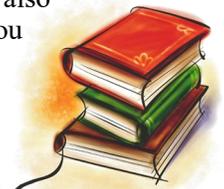
The blessing of pets will be held on the plaza if the weather permits, and in the parish hall if it doesn't. All pets are welcome for the service and blessing. Children are also invited to bring any cherished stuffed animals that might be in need of a blessing. Refreshments and 'treats' for everyone will be served after the service, and an offering will be taken to benefit local animal shelters.

The Feast of St. Francis is a time for us to ask for God's blessing on the pets that so enrich our lives. **It's a great and easy event to share—why not invite a friend?**

The Book Fair is Back! Used Books, Baked Goods & Help Wanted...

On Saturday, October 2nd the Collingswood Book Festival makes its return and Holy Trinity will be there. **Our used book and baked goods sale will be held on the plaza beginning at 10:00 a.m.**

Set-up help, clean-up help and help during the day are needed! Donations of baked good for sale are also needed. Please call or email the church to indicate when you are available to help. You may also contact Patti Anderson if you need more information.



Used books in good condition may still be donated for the sale. You may drop them off at the church anytime before the sale. Please make sure to mark the boxes/bags "Book Sale."