



*The Transfiguration of Our Lord – August 6
Painting by Ben M. Betsalel*

TRINITY MATTERS AUGUST 2017

Vacation Reflection

I have always been thankful that my profession allowed me vacation time. As a young assistant at St. Paul's in Brockton, Massachusetts, in 1968, I can remember parishioners working in factories given the first two weeks in July as time off. The factories would use the time for maintenance and retooling. This gave workers a needed break. Now as a retired old guy vacationing with family in Surf City, New Jersey, I still benefit from the time away from work. And here is why. Vacations offer a person an opportunity to "break the rhythm of work." That phrase was the main teaching in a pre-sabbatical workshop I attended some twenty years ago and it has stuck with me. For me, it is based on the reality that one cannot say "yes" unless one can say "no." That is, choosing and deciding brings definition: one or the other. My work days are enriched by those days that I intentionally do not work, where I spend physical, mental and spiritual energies in a way different than my work day schedule. That time apart clears my head, body and spirit as I separate myself from the concerns and tensions of work, refreshes my perspectives and allows all of me to recharge.

We live in turbulent times intensified by digital connections, twenty-four-hour news cycles, financial uncertainties, and demands of work and family. Disconnecting from the concerns of work, family, politics, and environment in our digital, high speed time become more and more difficult... and necessary.

I encourage you to embrace some time apart. Take a break to step back from what you are doing, face a different direction, take a deep breath and disconnect. This may take the shape of a vacation away with family and friends or it may take the shape of stepping away from your workspace for fifteen minutes. And with all the digital connections we have, time away may take the shape of unplugging one's electronics for as little as fifteen minutes to a whole day. "Break the rhythm of work" was good advice for me. I offer it to you.

And by the way, I'll be back at work the first Sunday in August.

Ron Crocker

TRINITY EVENTS IN AUGUST

Friday, August 4 – The Parish Office is closed today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 6 – The Transfiguration of Our Lord – Coins for IHN

9 am Holy Eucharist

Thursday, August 10

6:30 pm Vestry Meeting

Members of Trinity are welcome to attend monthly vestry meetings.

Friday, August 11 The Parish Office is Closed Today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 13

9 am Holy Eucharist

Friday, August 18 The Parish Office is Closed Today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 20

9 am Holy Eucharist

Monday, August 21

Gift Cards for St. Anne’s School Supplies must be received by today.

Thursday, August 24 – St. Bartholomew

Friday, August 25 The Parish Office is Closed Today for “Vacation Day Friday”

Sunday, August 27

9 am Holy Eucharist

Warden Report – August 2017

Goodness, summer is fleeting!

During Fr. Ron’s vacation in July, we were blessed to welcome Rev. Meredith Ward, our Diocese Urban Missioner, Rev. Warren Hicks, Executive Director of Worcester Fellowship, and Rev. Al Zadig to our sanctuary. We took worship outside our walls to Dean Park in a shared service with Mt. Olivet. We celebrated a lay-led Morning Prayer. It was a month of new experiences of worship for our parish, designed with the intention of planting seeds of ideas to help us identify our mission in our community.

Thank you for responding to our Service Time survey. The Vestry discussed the results at our July meeting and will continue the discussion in August. While we don’t have an announcement to make yet, we do want to you to know that we take this decision seriously, weighing pros and cons carefully. We don’t want to make a change for the sake of change. We do want to make a decision that will move us forward as a parish and allow opportunities for reaching our goals of being sustainable and mission-driven. Please feel free to discuss it with me, or any member of the Vestry.

Enjoy this last month of Summer – may you see shooting stars, fireflies and laughter with friends and family.

Pax - *Catherine*

**The Vestry met on July 13, 2017 at 6:30 pm.
Here are condensed highlights of the meeting:**

Warden Report

- We renewed the rental agreement on the Rectory for another year.
- We've postponed the children's play area clean-up until fall, however we'll ask the Facilities team to make sure the play equipment is safe or take it down before then. The Labyrinth needs a little brick work that can wait.
- Main St. Renovation Project has awarded Trinity \$1K compensation for taking a bit of frontage for sidewalks. The Treasurer will claim it and get it deposited.
- The vestry will be getting bids, comparing costs and selecting a vendor to remove the big pine tree from in front of the church and possibly to prune dead branches from other trees on the property.

Update on Mutual Ministries

- Mount Olivet has invited Trinity to worship with them on July 16th outdoors at Dean Park and to share a pot-luck brunch following the service. The event is over by this writing.
- We have paid the fee to participate in the in the Spirit of Shrewsbury in September. We will likely pair up with Mount Olivet for some of the activities. We will have an update at the next meeting.

Treasurer Report

- Y-T-D Income and Expenses are on target and the budget appears to be in good shape.
- Pledge Secretary reports that 50% of total year pledges are current.
- The 1st invoice for Christmas Trees will be coming very shortly.

Old Business

- The Worship Service Time Survey is finished and results have been examined. It is not surprising that the results were too close to be definitive and more due diligence has to be performed. The Vestry hopes to make its recommendation following the August Meeting.

Parish Direction

- The Bishop was here on June 18th. He blessed the members of the Vestry and Eucharistic Visitors presenting each with a nametag as a symbol of office. In his visit with the Vestry, he complimented the church's progress and encouraged us to continue to work towards a vibrant parish.
- The Vestry is reading "Holy Currencies," a book by Eric Law. Fr. Ron requested that we prepare to discuss the contents between the August and September meetings.
- The Vestry will create written instructions and provide training for some of the liturgical ministries duties so that those who volunteer understand the expectations of the roles.
- Sunday, July 30th is the last Sunday of Fr. Ron's vacation. The Wardens will conduct a lay service of Morning Prayer.
- The next meeting of the Vestry will be Thursday, August 10th at 6:30pm and anyone from the parish is welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Jackson, Vestry Clerk



TWIM 2017

Paint Night By the Sea



The annual fun weekend for Trinity Women in Maine is happening and the time to plan is now! Can you guess our Friday night activity?

Who: Not-Your-Average Church Ladies and (Lady) Friends

When: Friday, November 10 – Sunday, November 12

Where: The Anchorage by the Sea, Ogunquit, Maine

Cost per participant:

Port Room Lower \$177 ~ Upper Studio Room \$231 ~ Lower Studio Room \$212

Assumes double occupancy for 2 nights and includes Maine lodging tax and 'the kitty' for Friday night supper, continental breakfast Saturday and Sunday and other surprises. Prices for triples and singles on request.

Deadline for RSVP and deposits is September 1! RSVP to Catherine Foster (crfoster99@verizon.net) and mail checks made out to me to 3 Ruth Road, Northboro, MA 01532.

You can reach me by phone at 508-393-2066 or 508-277-5825.

Dinner plans are still in limbo but we would love to hear if you liked the restaurant at the Anchorage because we would be happy to plan with them again and will do so unless we hear otherwise.

Looking forward to hearing from you as we embark on another fun and memory-filled TWIM experience!

THIS MONTH – HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Judith Gramstorff	8/1
Anthony Dalli	8/1
Philip Kasputis	8/1
Gavin McRae	8/7
Kyle Prior	8/10
Clara Boutte	8/13
Michael Rozak	8/16
Marianne Tompkins	8/19
David Thompson	8/20
Judy Pugliese	8/21
Nancy Goodwin	8/24
Gary Tebbetts	8/25
Beth Murray	8/27
Susan Harris	8/29
Shane Gorrie	8/30

And HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Dan & Luanne Morgado	8/4/1979
Philip & Deborah Mudway	9/8/1984
Chris & Francine Estrop	8/17/1992
Ron & Donna Crocker	8/19/1967
Chris & Jen Morin	8/22/1992
Frank & Judy Pugliese	8/30/1975
John & Joanne Tyndall	8/30/1987



Please inform the parish office if any birthday or anniversary information needs correction – or if your special dates need to be added!

IN OUR PARISH FAMILY:

Retirement Time Congratulations:

to *Dave Metcalf* and *Dick Miller* who have recently joined the ranks of the retired but still busy. Enjoy!

Necrology:

Ashli Tefft, daughter of Scott and Tina, on June 28.

Thomas Furey, Anne Morse's father, on July 11.

Francis Warren of this parish on Saturday, July 15.

May the Souls of the Faithful Departed, by the Mercy of God Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

OUTREACH

A reminder about some current outreach opportunities:

Our collection of diapers for Marie's Mission – an initiative we share with St. Michael's, Worcester, is ongoing. Your donations are delivered to St. Michael's as the basket fills!

We are currently collecting gift cards to stores carrying back to school supplies (such as CVS, Staples, Walgreen's, Target, etc.) to assist Shrewsbury Human Services at St. Anne's Church in purchasing supplies for students in need. Gift cards (attached to the tag you selected from the display in the narthex) must be received by the Trinity parish office no later than Sunday, August 21.

As always, thank you for sharing!!



AUGUST SERVING SCHEDULES

DATE/TIME	Lector(s)	EM	Ushers	Altar Guild
August 6 The Transfiguration	Catherine Foster Diane Caron	Jeff Kalb	O'Connor	Catherine Foster Diane Caron
August 13	Jeff Kalb Robert Krey	Chris Estrop	Morin	Anne Morse Sherry Alarie
August 20	Elaine Brouillette Judy Pugliese	Ron Alarie	Tebbetts	Nancy Goodwin
August 27	Hal Marshall Dina Nichols	Catherine Foster	Marshall	Leigh O'Connor Sherry Alarie

** Schedules updated as of July 27, 2017*

Note: Schedules are distributed quarterly, in advance of serving dates; these schedules also appear (without contact information) on the Trinity website – www.trinityshrewsbury.org. Schedules month to month, (see above) appear in the monthly newsletter. Reminders/updates are sent by e-mail a couple of days prior to every Sunday as part of the weekly Trinity E-Update. And if you ever have a question about when you are scheduled to serve, you can always contact the parish office.

Trinity Matters –the monthly newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church
 440 Main Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545
 508-842-6040 Phone/508-842-6730 FAX
Worship with us at 9 am on Sundays

Summer Parish Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm