



TRINITY MATTERS

November, 2017

I welcome you to Trinity's celebration of All Saints Day on November 5. We celebrate All Saints Day every year to remember our ties to those who have come before us and upon whom we build our faith and the Church. Our reading from Ecclesiasticus tells us of famous people, some well-known while others were unknown. They all left a rich heritage for all who follow, including you and me.

We, like them, have been touched by God. We are the saints of God linked together through our baptisms and through God's love for us. We are the branches of a vine linked to one another and to others beyond our walls. We are the vine carrying the simple Gospel message to the people of the world: "You, too, are one of the saints of God, connected to God, blessed by God, loved by God. You are not alone. We all are connected through God and have each other in community."

God has extended to us the profound invitation to enter God's holiness, to experience the divine life and to know God's fulfilling love. And knowing that love, God invites us to serve those whom God dearly loves. In that service, we have a meeting place of God. And in that service, we become more aware of God's love.

The Church teaches us that, given God's purpose as revealed in Jesus Christ, stewardship is grateful and responsible use of God's gifts.* That purpose is to make all creation whole, to bring all creation into unity with God and one another. Christian stewards, empowered by the Holy Spirit, commit themselves to conscious, purposeful decisions. Stewardship is the regular practice of returning to God a portion of all that God has given us. It involves teaching ourselves how to create a life built upon the notion that all that we have is a gift from God. This includes teaching the holy habits of keeping Sabbath and tithing. It includes the concept that giving regularly of our time, talent, and money to God's work is as much a spiritual practice as prayer and worship. It also includes discerning and developing our gifts for God's work of reconciliation in the world. As stewards of the gifts of God, God invites us to participate in God's mission of reconciliation.

*[This definition comes from the Standing Rules of the Ecumenical Stewardship Center.

www.stewardshipresources.org]

Through fellowship, service, study and worship Trinity helps her people carry God's love and word into the world. Every program that Trinity offers requires the time, talent and treasure of its members. God uses our time, talent and treasure to help us create the kind of accepting community that makes God known. God

uses our time, talent and treasure to give us the faith and courage to carry God's reconciling love into the world where we live, work and play. We cannot create a community of reconciliation nor carry the word into the world without God and God cannot accomplish this without our giving of our time, talent and treasure. This is the time of year in which we gather the funds and talents necessary to carry out that ministry through the gifts of the members of this congregation.

So, I welcome you to Pledge Sunday on November 12. This is the time that Trinity offers her people the opportunity intentionally to pledge a portion of his or her life to the service of God through this Christian community. In a sacramental way, we offer everyone the opportunity of placing on the altar a pledge of time, talent and treasure to support the mission of the church and the program of our own Trinity Church. The pledges are expressions of our intention for the year 2018.

Fr. Ron

TRINITY EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 1 - ALL SAINTS DAY

By noon, please have names to the parish office of those to be remembered at the altar when we observe All Saints Day at our 10 am Eucharist on Sunday, November 5

Thursday, November 2 – All Souls Day

Sunday, November 5 – IT'S OVER!!! Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 am – Set Clocks Back

COINS FOR IHN TODAY

All Saints Day Observed

9:15 am	Fellowship Begins
9:50 am	Call to worship and organ prelude
10 am	Holy Eucharist followed by Forum with Fr. Ron: "Narrative Budget"

Thursday, November 9

6:30 pm Vestry Meeting. Members of Trinity are welcome to attend monthly meetings of the Vestry. Common Room

Friday, November 10– The Parish Office is Closed Today in Observance of Veterans Day

Trinity Women in Maine begins – The Anchorage, Ogunquit, Maine



Sunday, November 12 – Trinity Stewardship Journey - Pledge Sunday

9:15 am Fellowship Begins
9:50 am Call to worship and organ prelude
10 am Holy Eucharist – Be with us as we present our pledges at the altar
Trinity Women in Maine concludes

Sunday, November 19

9:15 am Fellowship Begins
9:50 am Call to worship and organ prelude
10 am Holy Eucharist Fall Clean-Up Day follows the Service – See article elsewhere in this newsletter
7 pm Shrewsbury Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service – St. Anne’s, Route 9
Fr. Ron will preach

Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24

The Parish Office is Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving Day
For all our many blessings, let us give thanks!!

Saturday, November 25

7 am EARLY!! Christmas Trees Arrive. See article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Sunday, November 26

We will join our friends from Mt. Olivet for a 10 am Eucharist at Mt. Olivet. No service at Trinity this morning.

Thursday, November 30 – St. Andrew

VESTRY CORNER

The Trinity Vestry met on October 12, 2017. Here are the condensed highlights of that meeting:

Facilities Report

- Allyn Taylor and Dick Miller gave us an overview of what needs to be done to maintain the buildings and grounds. They are gathering quotes for various projects, although our crew will do most of the internal carpentry, etc. The Vestry agreed to use the remaining funds in the Facilities budget for work that can be done now, and budget accordingly for work in 2018. They can use more help; if anyone is available, please contact Allyn Taylor, Dick Miller or Ron Alarie.

Warden Report

- Welcoming Sunday on September 10th, which began a new worship time at 10 AM, was successful. People did show up for coffee and fellowship at 9:15 AM and the rest of the morning went very well. We still looking for additional help to supply the new Hospitality Teams.
- The dumpster was delivered early on Saturday, September 9th and picked up full by noon. We got rid of a lot of “stuff” that has been in the way for a while
- The Trinity Church sign in the front of the church, was updated to reflect the 10 AM Worship Service. Barry Aslanian, Linda Jackson’s son, donated the sign and the labor.
- Trinity’s Fall Thrift Sale is on Saturday, October 21st. Set-up begins after church on Sunday, the 15th and will continue all week. Leigh O’Connor is chairing the event again this year; June Coolidge has all the advertising in place already.
- On October 15th, we will worship with Presiding Bishop, The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry and our Bishop, The Right Reverend Douglas J. Fisher as we ‘live-stream’ the service from Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield, MA in celebration of their 250th Anniversary. Following Bishop Curry’s homily, we will cease streaming and continue with Holy Communion at Trinity.

- The Finance Committee of Jeff Kalb, Catherine Foster, June Coolidge, Dan Morgado and Fr. Ron have begun to meet to prepare the Trinity Church Budget for 2018.

Priest-in-Charge Report

- Fr. Ron complimented the Vestry on the high level of cooperative energy during Vestry Meetings.
- We discussed the “The Currency of Truth” from the book, Holy Currencies.
- The Vestry voted to accept the Vestry Responsibilities and Vestry Norms as written and to incorporate them into our monthly process.

Stewardship

- Dan reported that the Stewardship Committee is attempting to recognize “time and talents” that may be available within the parish to participate in the stewardship of our church. “Who” and “Where” are the real resources to share in this important effort?

Treasurer’s Report

- The treasury is in pretty good shape compared to the budget, in spite of our not taking a collection the week we shared our service with Mt. Olivet in Dean Park.
- The budget preparations for 2018 are in progress.

Mutual Ministries

- The Spirit of Shrewsbury event in September went well, especially the balloons and the creation of a banner by both children and adults. We split the banner with Mt. Olivet and a portion has been hanging over our altar for the past few weeks.
- Carolann reported that Trinity and Mt. Olivet are discussing plans to host each other over the Advent Season, partly to cover planned absences by Fr. Ron and Pastor Andrew. A schedule will be posted, as usual, in Trinity Matters.

New Business

- Christmas Service Schedule is in the planning and will be published soon.

Upcoming Meetings

Members of the parish are welcome to attend Vestry Meetings.

- Thursday, November 9th at 6:30 PM - Vestry Meeting
- Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 PM – Vestry Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Jackson, Vestry Clerk

IN OUR PARISH FAMILY

Congratulations to:

Our Entire Parish – for working together in many different ways, tackling several varied tasks, and accomplishing a great Fall Thrift Sale on October 21. Special thanks to ***Leigh O’Connor*** for coordinating, getting others involved, and taking the lead in making it happen and to ***June Coolidge*** for a great promotion effort.

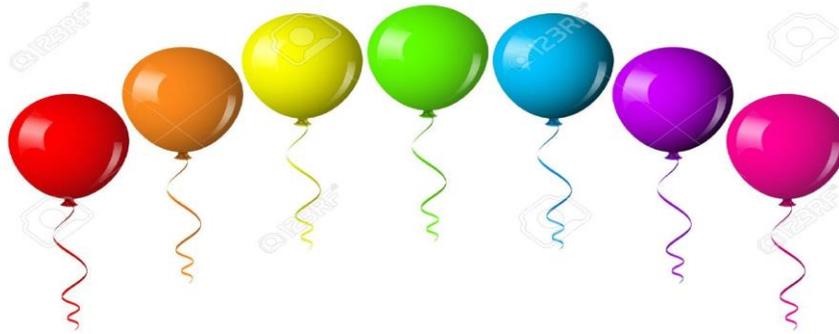
Thanks also to **Davidian Brothers Farms of Northborough** for their generous – and delicious – donation of apple dumplings for that ever-popular bake table!

At this writing, net proceeds are \$2597.86. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to IHN, the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

TRINITY FALL CLEAN-UP



The Facilities Ministry will be holding the 2017 Trinity Fall Clean-Up following the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 19. Everyone is welcome to help us rake, clear, clean, sweep, chop, cut, and whatever else needs to be done. We will also be moving the Christmas tree stands closer to the parking lot as we prepare for this year's tree sales. Bring along your favorite rake, shovel, or wheelbarrow and wear your work clothes to church!



THIS MONTH – HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Craig McDonough	11/6
Catherine Foster	11/7
Benjamin Harris	11/8
Randall Boutte	11/10
Sandy Polhemus	11/12
Scott Goodwin, Jr.	11/18
Mary Rhodes	11/20
Tom O'Hara	11/22
Steven Rozak	11/23

And HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Dave & Barb Metcalf	11/16/71
George & Beth Medlinskas	11/14/87
Jason & Vanessa Parker	11/21/09

If any birthday or anniversary information needs to be updated, please call the parish office.

Thanksgiving Outreach with St. Anne's Human Services

This year, St. Anne's Human Services Food Pantry will again be assisting families, helping to provide a brighter Thanksgiving holiday. And we can help!

Trinity has committed to 10 tags each bearing the code and size of various families on the tag. **LOOK FOR THE TURKEY ON THE TABLE in the narthex!** Please take one and return with your gift card contribution to a local to Trinity no later than Sunday, November 19. (Donations by check can also be mailed or delivered directly to St. Anne's.



WARDEN REPORT

Fr. Ron, Jeff Kalb, John Tyndall and I attended our Diocesan Convention this past weekend. The theme was Taking Risks for the Sake of the Gospel. Throughout the day, we were inspired by stories of how other parishes are taking risks to live out the message of God's love in their communities. It got me thinking of the risks we've taken at Trinity so far this year – changing the Service time, worship in Dean Park, our Spirit of Shrewsbury booth, activities with Mt. Olivet and Wellspring, hanging a Pride flag, training Eucharistic Visitors, hiring Fr. Ron – to name a few. All were spirit driven and perhaps seemed wild and crazy to us until the decision was made to move forward.

The message of the Gospel is that God loves us and we are to spread that love to each other. To paraphrase one speaker, God loves us as we are, but loves us enough to not let us stay that way.

It all got me thinking of some of the risks I've taken this year too, and why I tend to put myself out there at the risk of my dignity and possible embarrassment to those I hold dear. For instance, you may have noticed that I've been wearing pink Converse sneakers this month at every opportunity – at Church, at the Convention, in public places. This may be unseemly for a 'woman of a certain age' and a Senior Warden! But – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The pink sneakers my way of honoring breast cancer patients (those who have won and lost the battle, many of whom I pray for daily) as a reminder to get those mammograms. Looking at it this way, it's a way to share the Gospel call to love one another.

We're now moving into 'No Shave November'. The goal of *No-Shave November* (quoting the website) is 'to grow awareness by embracing our hair, which many cancer patients lose, and letting it grow wild and free.' This again takes a risk as it throws out grooming in a way which may not fit the rules and norms of our lives. The particular focus is men's health care. I'm not capable of growing a mustache (Thank You , Mom!), so I haven't decided yet how I'm going to participate. But I do encourage you to take a risk in November to spread God's love. Pray for each other, especially those who are cancer patients, those who have survived, the families of those we have lost, and those who are doing the research. Get that preventive testing done.

Take a risk for the Gospel. Make your actions be a way to spread God's love. Let me know what happens.

Pax –

Catherine Foster, Senior Warden



CHRISTMAS TREE UPDATE

Our Christmas trees will be arriving at 7 am on the morning of Saturday, November 25. Please mark your calendars and prepare to help get this popular and fun annual fundraiser/fellowship event underway by helping unload the trees when the truck arrives. Early birds can come at 6:15 to help put the stands in place and string the lights. We are getting really good at doing this quickly so we can expect to be done by 9:30 am (10 at the latest). Please come with dates/times in mind so you can be scheduled for 2 or more selling time slots that fit with your schedule. Please contact me at anytime (ataylor@townisp.com) (508-842-2434).

See you on the 25th! Thank you!

Allyn Taylor



November SERVING SCHEDULES

DATE/TIME	Lector(s)	EM (s)	Ushers	Acolytes	Altar Guild
November 5 10 am All Saints Observed	Marianne Tompkins Diane Caron	Catherine Foster	Team 1	Evan Jarrell Cameron Lewis	Linda Taylor
November 12 10 am Pledge Commitment Sunday	Ron Alarie Linda Taylor	Jen Morin	Team 2	Jake Morin & Victoria Marshall	Nancy Goodwin
November 19 HE 10 am Fall Clean Up	Judy Pugliese Robert Krey	Jeff Kalb	Team 3	Mark & Sam O'Connor	Anne Morse
November 26 Service off site at Mt. Olivet	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

** Schedules updated as of October 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 is the monthly newsletter of Trinity Episcopal Church
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508-842-6040 Phone/508-842-6730 FAX***

***Join us for fellowship on Sundays at 9:15 am
Holy Eucharist 10 am***

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