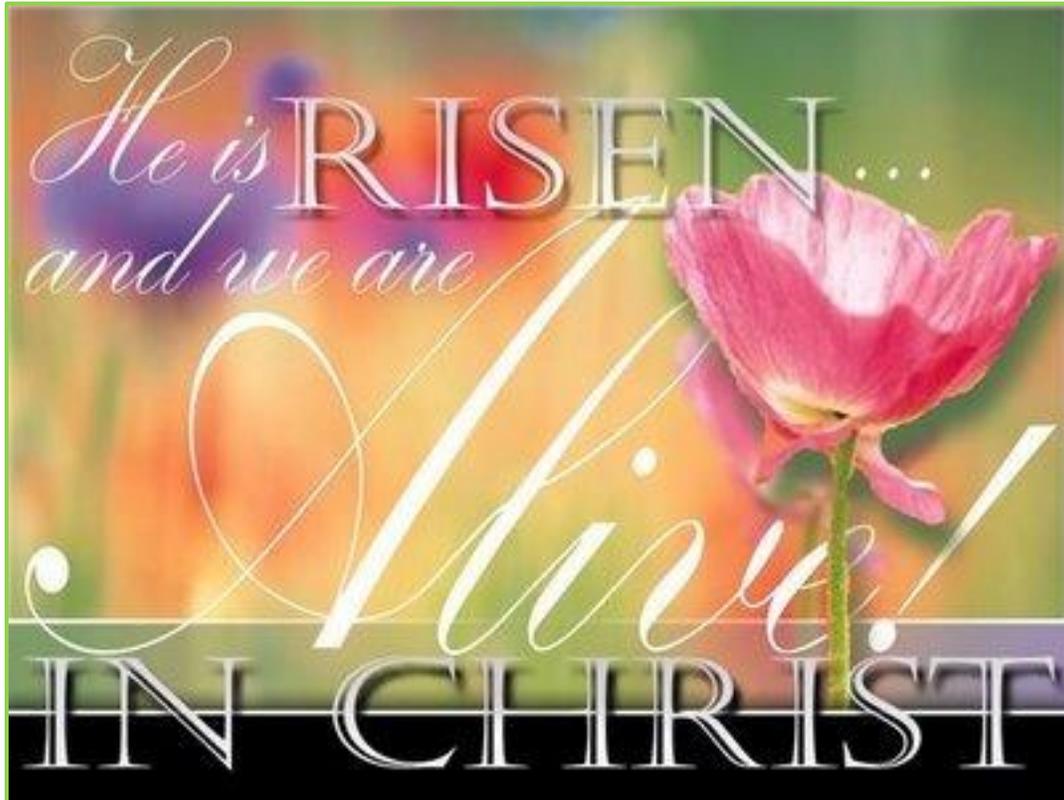


# TRINITY MATTERS

April 2018



*Alleluia!! The Lord is risen indeed!*

## FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

During the days of Lent this year, I have enjoyed participating in *Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John* offered by the Society of Saint John the Evangelist. Six days a week I had the opportunity to listen to a three-minute reflection and then take time to meditate about what the brother had said. This last week pointed to the Church's Holy Week/Easter experience raising some new insights and challenges for me. Let me share two quotes. The first helped me to understand the practical implications of "laying down one's life for others." My insight was that Jesus did indeed lay down his life on Good Friday and that was one incident, though dramatic, in his life and ministry. Brother Keith Nelson wrote "...love lays down life. This is the love that we see in the Cross. This is a love that is so deep, it's really beyond words – this love that Jesus had for us, enough to lay down his life for us, and an invitation to do the same for one another. So, what does this mean for us? I think that it means that in communities of love to whom we've made faithful commitments, I think that that means practicing vulnerability with each other."

“There’s a brilliant researcher and author, Brené Brown, who defines vulnerability as “risk, uncertainty, and emotional exposure”. We lay down our life when we practice those things in relationship with one another. We lay down our life when we apologize to someone when we know that we’re wrong, even if we don’t want to apologize. We lay down our life by volunteering to do something that we know needs doing; even if we think we might be bad at it, we risk. We lean into the uncertainty *in love* in communities to whom we’ve made those faithful commitments as a way of practicing, so that when we go out into the world, when we *testify* to the love of God in word and action, we’ve had a kind of dress rehearsal for that within the Christian community, within your marriage or partnership, within your family, within your spiritual friendships. We’re made strong in that love by the model of that self-sending love – that ‘let-it-all-go’ kind of love of Jesus – so that we can go out into the world and practice the same kind of love.”

The second helped me to understand the practical implications of testifying, telling others about my life in Christ. Brother Mark Brown spoke of *testimony*: “And that is the nature of Christian testimony that’s rooted and grounded in personal experience, (the) experience of the first disciples, the apostles, the evangelists. And this testimony passes from person to person, from generation to generation. And the Holy Spirit moves in and through our own testimony or other people’s testimony to their own experience.”

“But we give testimony not only in our words, but in our actions as well. And the reason we know about God’s love revealed in Jesus is because people we knew have witnessed to him on his behalf. And those people who knew him in the first century witnessed on his behalf and witnessed to the change that was wrought within them through their contact with Jesus Christ.”

Please take time to think about what Brother Nelson and Brown have to say concerning our growing the Trinity community in number, depth and breadth. Evangelism at its heart is “telling your story,” telling others what value you find in being part of Trinity community. What draws you here and what do you continually find? Those values, draws and discoveries are places of meeting God. Those values, draws and discoveries are opportunities to share the presence and love of God. If you experience that and know its value, offer it to others.

I know God is very much present in the Trinity community. I experience it in our times of prayer, times of fellowship and laughter, times of service to others and the way we take care of one another. Please, go and tell that good news in this season of Easter with all its new life, forgiveness and reconciliation. People are hungry for God’s love and you have the opportunity to share God’s love.

Do go and tell.

***Fr. Ron***



**Trinity Spring Thrift Sale – Saturday April 7, - - 8 am-1 pm**

**Take a flyer from the narthex and tell your friends and neighbors!**

**They are potential shoppers as well as donors of treasures to be offered for sale!**

**Set up is scheduled beginning at 5 pm on Monday, April 2 – please come help.**

**Sorting and pricing all week as your schedule allows.**

**Bake for the ever-popular bake table.**

**Help on the day of the sale.**

**Thank you – with your help, we will make this another Trinity Thrift Sale Success**

**Note: If there are any coats left unsold, Pastor Nancy has asked that we set them aside for Wellspring to take to Worcester Fellowship on Sunday, April 8 when Wellspring will be serving hot soup lunches on the Worcester Common.**

### **TRINITY EVENTS IN APRIL**

**NOW through Friday, April 6, bring the treasures you are donating to be offered for sale at the Thrift Sale on April 7.**

#### **Sunday, April 1 – THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST**

##### **COINS FOR IHN OFFERING**

6:30 am            “Son Rise” Service on Shrewsbury Common, Hosted by Wellspring  
 9:15 am            Fellowship Begins at Trinity  
 9:50 am            Call to Worship and Organ Prelude  
 10 am              Festive Holy Eucharist, Trinity Sanctuary

#### **Monday, April 2**

5 pm                Set up for Thrift Sale  
 Note:              Halls are available beginning 9 am on Monday. No outside groups will be meeting in either the Lower Hall or Lawrence Hall from 9 am on April 2 through Thrift Sale Day

#### **THRIFT SALE SORTING AND PRICING ALL WEEK AS YOUR SCHEDULE ALLOWS**

#### **Tuesday, April 3**

7 pm                Confirmation Class – Lower Classroom  
 7 pm                Wellspring Bible Study, Common Room

**Saturday, April 7**

8 am-1 pm                    **SPRING THRIFT SALE**

**Sunday, April 8**

9:15 am                    **Fellowship Begins**  
9:50 am                    **Call to Worship and Organ Prelude**  
10am                        **Holy Eucharist**

**Tuesday, April 10**

7 pm                        **Confirmation Class, Lower Hall**  
7 pm                        **Wellspring Bible Study, Common Room**

**Thursday, April 12**

6:30 pm                    **Vestry Meeting, Common Room**

*Note: Vestry meetings are open to any member of Trinity who would like to attend. Suggestions are also welcome: speak with a vestry member or contact the parish office.*

**Sunday, April 15**

9:15 am                    **Fellowship Begins**  
9:50 am                    **Call to Worship and Organ Prelude**  
10 am                        **Holy Eucharist**

**Monday, April 16**– The Parish Office is Closed Today in Observance of Patriots’ Day

**Tuesday, April 17**

10 am                      **Trinity Women, Common Room**  
7 pm                        **Wellspring Bible Study, Common Room**

**Sunday , April 22 – It’s Earth Day! – Spring Clean Up at Trinity**

9:15 am                    **Fellowship Begins**  
9:50 am                    **Call to Worship and Organ Prelude**  
10 am                        **Holy Eucharist - Spring Clean Up following worship**

**Tuesday, April 24**

7 pm                        **Confirmation Class, Lower Hall**

**Wednesday, April 25 – St. Mark the Evangelist**

**Sunday, April 29**

9:15 am                    **Fellowship Begins**  
9:50 am                    **Call to Worship and Organ Prelude**  
10 am                        **Holy Eucharist**



**Warden’s Notes**

I’ve been thinking a lot about my father this month, which usually happens when the weather is crazy. He was a meteorologist by profession. I grew up knowing that there was a 90-95% probability of changes in any plan because of weather events or other circumstances beyond our control. He taught us to just go with the flow but always have a backup plan.

That pretty well sums up March 2018, doesn't it? With 4 Nor'easters, and the accompanying disruption to our plans, we've had a month of practicing patience. Maybe this was the lesson of our Lenten season – learning to wait patiently, recognize that some things are out of our control, admit that changes may need to happen, and give it to God to let it all unfold.

Which brings us to Easter! All of that patience and flexibility (and, yes, resilience) we've practiced in Lent will bring us to the new life of Easter. May God bless you in this new season of rebirth!

Pax –

*Catherine Foster*

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## OUTREACH NEWS

Trinity contributed \$435 in supermarket gift cards to **St. Anne's** for their Easter Dinner initiative this year. A thank you letter from St. Anne's is on the bulletin board in the hallway. Thank you.

**Marie's Mission**, collecting diapers and other essential supplies for babies is ongoing. We are working with St. Michael's in Worcester which is a drop off and sorting site. Fill the basket in the narthex – we deliver!

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual **Walk for the Homeless** to benefit CMHA (Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Inc.) will step off from Elm Park, Worcester, on Sunday May 20. The Kickoff will be held on Thursday, April 5 from 5-7 pm at Coney Island Hot Dogs, 158 Southbridge Street, Worcester. CMHA helps to support several area organizations including the Interfaith Hospitality Network. For more information visit: [www.walkforthehomeless.org](http://www.walkforthehomeless.org) or [www.cmhaonline.org](http://www.cmhaonline.org).

## Trinity Episcopal Church Vestry Corner

### Highlights of the vestry meeting held on March 8, 2018

The Vestry met on March 8, 2018 and present were Catherine Foster, Carolann Tebbetts, Diane Caron, Linda Taylor, Ron Alarie, Judy Gramstorff, Dan Morgado and Father Ronald Crocker

After an opening devotion presented by Diane Caron, the Vestry minutes of February 8<sup>th</sup> were accepted.

Catherine Foster made the following Senior Warden's report:

- Bruce Rockwell from the diocese will visit the office on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to conduct the annual audit and associated review.
- The annual building inspection by the Town's Building Inspector and Fire Departments is still TBD.
- The Parish Leadership Day will be March 17<sup>th</sup>. Attending will be Carolann Tebbetts, Diane Caron, and Judy Gramstorff.
- In regard to the painting proposals being solicited, Ron Alarie is working out the details and he will have a report for the next meeting.
- The request from Wellspring for additional space seems to have resolved itself with no additional inquiry.
- The spring thrift sale will take place on April 7<sup>th</sup> with setup scheduled for some time on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Carolann Tebbetts made the following Junior Warden's report.

- The March 14<sup>th</sup> soup supper will be sponsored by Wellspring. Trinity is responsible for drinks and desserts.
- The Holy Week schedule has been developed and will be presented in the church bulletin.
- This year's Seder will be at St Michael's on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Details will be presented in the church bulletin.

Father Ronald Crocker presented his Priest in Charge report that touched on the following subjects

- The confirmation class has met three times since February 11, with a potential enrollment of five. A regional confirmation celebration will happen at St Michaels on the Heights in Worcester, 10AM, May 5.
- As there has not been any education for adults in Easter last year he inquired on possible topics and potential teachers.
- He reviewed actions being taken as part of the "year in transition" in regard to:
  - Helping Trinity make decisions
  - Facing into the future
  - Pastoral Care
  - Leadership Development
  - Goal setting
  - Developing and/or fostering mutual ministries working with Mount Olivet, Wellspring and the greater Shrewsbury ecumenical community.

Following this report there was general discussion on the matter of working with Wellspring and Mt Olivet not via merger but as a means of a combined mission in the community and a mission of common support and understanding.

Catherine Foster presented the Income and Expense sheets prepared by Jeff Kalb along with a balance sheet listing assets for the period of January 1, 2018 to February 28, 2018. There was nothing remarkable noted in the financial reports.

The Vestry voted to affirm the submission of the Annual Parochial Report.

As a result of discussion at the most recent Vestry retreat, Linda Jackson will be preparing materials to establish the SMART goals discussed. These goals will include, but not be limited to, the transition process for a new Priest in Charge.

Respectfully submitted,

***Daniel Morgado***

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# APRIL CELEBRATIONS

## THIS MONTH – HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Clifton Landry	4/1
Michele Landry	4/3
Deborah Mudway	4/4
Norman Beisaw	4/7
Bart Polhemus	4/7
Jay Nichols	4/8
Suzanne Foley	4/11
Robert Krey	4/18
Tanya Lewis	4/18
Cameron Lewis	4/21
Pam Marshall	4/21
Paula Green	4/22
Doris Doull	4/24
Hope Kasputis	4/25
Adam Kalb	4/27
Hazel Blackett	4/30

## And HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

Steven & Deborah Rozak	4/9/1983
Santana & Tanya Lewis	4/21/1999
Gary & Carolann Tebbetts	4/22/1989



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:

### Good News!:

*John Tyndall*, was recently promoted to Manager of the Floral Department at the Shrewsbury Price Chopper.

*Chris Estrop*, has joined our roster of hard-working counters!

### Necrology

Pray for *Dave Crocker*, Fr. Ron's brother, who died in North Carolina on March 14.

Pray for *Grace Estrop*, Chris Estrop's mother, who died in Perth, Australia on March 28.

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



## Spring Clean Up Announced

Dick Miller has announced the date for our spring clean-up. It is EARTH DAY, Sunday, April 22, following the 10 am service. Come dressed for some fun and good exercise as we prepare the grounds for spring and summer.

If you have a favorite rake, shovel, wheelbarrow, or other garden tools, bring them along.



## *SERVING IN April*

DATE/TIME	Lector(s)	EM	Hospitality	Acolytes	Altar Guild
April 1 Easter Sunday	Linda Taylor Diane Caron	Chris Estrop Leigh O'Connor	Team 1	Sam & Mark O'Connor, Evan Jarrell, Jacob Morin	Linda Taylor, Anne Morse, Sherry Alarie
April 8	Robert Krey Elaine Brouillette	Allyn Taylor	Team 2	TBA	Catherine Foster
April 15	Dina Nichols Judy Pugliese	Allen Jarrell	Team 3	TBA	Sherry Alarie Linda Jackson
April 22	Marianne Tompkins Hal Marshall	Leigh O'Connor	Team 4	TBA	Anne Morse Diane Caron
April 29	Diane Caron Linda Taylor	Ron Alarie	Team 5	TBA	Nancy Goodwin

**Note:** Schedules are distributed quarterly, in advance of serving dates; schedules also appear (without contact information) on the Trinity website - [www.trinityshrewsbury.org](http://www.trinityshrewsbury.org). Schedules month to month, (see above) appear in the **newsletter**. Reminders/updates are sent by e-mail a couple of days prior to every Sunday as part of the weekly Trinity Matters 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 10 am on Sundays – Fellowship begins at 9:15 am***  
***Parish Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30 am-1:30 pm***  
***Fr. Ron's Office Hours: Monday and Thursday 8:30 am-1:30 pm***