



The Vine...

Connecting the Body of Christ one to another

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Essex, 1131 Mace Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21221
(410) 687-5531 www.holytrinityessex.org February 2021



FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

February is the transition month: I will be here for the first half and will hand off to Mother Lisa at mid-month.

This last year has been difficult. We have had to adjust quickly to new realities. For me, as your priest, the hardest effect of COVID has been the necessity to stay distanced. I'm not talking about the 6-foot-away social distancing on those occasions when we've been able to have church services. I mean how much it hurts that I'm not able to be with you and your families in hospitals and nursing homes, at the times when you most need the comforts of the church.

I appreciate the flexibility you have shown, and I appreciate your continued love for and support of Holy Trinity. Despite the

hardships of the present time, Mother Lisa is coming to a church that strives to grow in discipleship and holy living.

Thank you for all your kindnesses in my 18 months here. God bless you in your future together.

Faithfully,

Mother Annette

Dear Holy Trinity,

I am excited to be joining you all on February 16 as your Rector! I am grateful to the holy work of the Search Committee, the Vestry, and Mother Annette to bring us all to this moment of moving forward in ministry together. You all continue to be in my prayers in this transition, which will be different in how we get to know one another due to the pandemic restrictions for everyone's health. Even so, I am looking forward to getting to know each of you over the phone, virtually, and hopefully one day soon, in-person.

Take care, I hope you all remain well, and a blessed Epiphany-tide to you all.

Yours in Christ,
Mother Lisa+



FROM THE DEACON'S BENCH

Greetings All,

Wow, February already! The year seems to be going fast but the time we spend apart seems so much longer! And yet new and exciting things are happening at Holy Trinity!

After 1½ years, we will be welcoming a new rector, The Reverend Lisa Bornt+. I spoke in my sermon several weeks ago about the power of the Holy Spirit, and how it empowers us to move forward in the world! Well, the Holy Spirit is alive and well in our congregation! This is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to explore our own gifts and how those gifts can be best utilized in our church. Things will be different, things will change, but you have an amazing opportunity to be a part of that change.

We are in the middle of a pandemic, and we certainly won't be able to welcome Lisa+ in the typical Holy Trinity fashion but the time will come when we can! In the meantime, perhaps during this pandemic we can do some introspection, look at ourselves and see what gifts God has given us, and envision how they may be of use when we are able to gather together again.

We are so thankful for the work Mother Annette+ has done during this transition, for keeping us on track and getting us ready to welcome a new priest. Transitions are much

more difficult than they appear but Mother Annette made it smooth and easy during an especially difficult time! We thank her for her dedication to our church and for caring for the congregation during this most difficult time.

So now, I ask for your continued prayers for Holy Trinity and please pray to stir up the Holy Spirit within you and allow it to guide you as Holy Trinity moves the gospel forward into the world!

Yours in Christ,
Cindy+



COMMUNION KITS AND ASHES **WILL BE AVAILABLE**

We will be distributing communion kits on Saturday, February 13, from 10 a.m. to noon. These kits can be used on Sunday, February 14, and on Ash Wednesday, February 17. *You can get kits for both days.*

The procedure will be similar to the one used for Christmas communion kits. You will drive into the church parking lot, tell us how many kits you need, stay in your car and the kits will be given to you in a plastic bag along with instructions.

On Ash Wednesday, Mother Lisa will distribute ashes in the parking lot, from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Again, you will drive into the church parking lot, stay in your car, and Mother Lisa will administer the ashes to you through the car window.

We are delighted to be able to have communion available for the Last Sunday in Epiphany and for Ash Wednesday, and to be able to impose ashes on Ash Wednesday.

Church News

STAYING CONNECTED, STAYING CHURCH

(from Mother Annette)

COVID restrictions continue. This is not comfortable, but it is a reality we have to live with.

What can you do in the midst of this uncertainty?

1. Read the email updates that keep you in touch with what's happening at Holy Trinity.
2. Worship regularly, whether in person or on line.
3. Keep up your pledge. Our mailbox is locked, so your mail-in contributions are safe.
4. Stay in touch. Call or email each other. Call or email Mtr. Annette or Dcn. Cindy. Keep each other in prayer.
5. Pray for Holy Trinity, for the Vestry, and for Mother Lisa.

If you have been sending in your pledge regularly, *thank you!*

When sending contributions, please be sure to distinguish between your pledge and any other donations, such as for outreach. Use separate checks. If you send only one check, it will be recorded as pledge.

Again thank you to all who continue to support Holy Trinity. Your pledges and other contributions are essential.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Outreach Ministry Update

Flexibility is the best word to describe how we functioned the past 10 months. Just as in the spring and the summer, we were able to adapt most of our Outreach events at Holy Trinity.

We continued to fill 21 weekend food bags for Sandalwood Elementary School. However, due to virtual education and the school closures, Karen Knauer, Guidance Counselor, has been coming to church every week to pick up the bags and take them to the students.

Thanks to all of you who brought in large bags of toiletries, dozens of playing cards, Bibles, and warm hats. Those donations enabled us to pack 20 one-gallon bags for the Seafarer's shoebox Christmas presents.

We continued to support EIO with funding.

Since we could not ask church members to bring in items for our annual Thanksgiving basket giveaway, Arielle purchased 24 grocery gift cards from the outreach budget. The cards helped families from Sandalwood, Eastern Tech and within Holy Trinity.

Likewise, we could not ask parishioners to bring in items for the Maryland SPCA (Angel Tree). We hoped if anyone could help, they would send donations to the shelter. Deacon Cindy sent a donation from Holy Trinity.

In mid-December, we had funds remaining in our budget and purchased Walmart gift cards for ten families from Sandalwood. We hoped they would help the families to get items needed to make the holiday brighter.

Thank you for all your contributions, whether monetary or items brought in before the pandemic closed down just about everything. With your help Holy Trinity was able to again reach out to our neighbors (near and far). We ask that you continue to help us in this work.

We do not know when we will be able to get back to our regular way of functioning. Please pray that it will be soon. If you would like to join us in this ministry, or have any questions, please contact Denise Thatcher (410-780-4150) or wesden@verizon.net



Backpack Ministry

If you would like to help, please do not bring food to Holy Trinity! We can accept donations (cash or check) to purchase items. Due to COVID restrictions, we are not using the parish hall.

Ongoing Programs:

We hope that you have been collecting aluminum pull tabs at home for the **Ronald McDonald House**. Please keep them at home until we are able to collect them again.

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO) is still operating. Please see details below under the "Local Food Pantries" section.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

Eastern Interfaith Outreach (EIO)

Please see new contact information for EIO below!

Contact: 410-406-2288 OR 211

Donations: Make your check payable to "Eastern Interfaith Outreach" and mail it to:
Eastern Interfaith Outreach
P.O. Box 18122
Middle River, MD 21220

Special Monthly Food Distribution:

Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Time: 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m. (or until the food supplies run out!)
Location: 99 Stemmers Run Road (parking lot)

St. Clare Catholic Church Food Pantry

Location: 714 Myrth Avenue in Essex

Hours: Tuesdays from 9 a.m. – 12 noon



Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland offers nutritious, fresh, prepared meals delivered to your home. Eat better with Meals on Wheels!

For those unable to cook or grocery shop for themselves – due to age, disability or illness, look to Meals on Wheels for dependable, friendly service.

To learn more, call 410-558-0923 or apply online at:
mealsonwheelsmd.org/client-application



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Gloria Greason – 2/4
Arlene Hossbach – 2/4
Roberta Krenzer – 2/12
Valerie Mehl – 2/19
Scotty Gerber – 2/20
Florence Hrolenok – 2/22
Mary Anne Quinn – 2/23
Mary Lessner – 2/25



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Wes and Denise Thatcher – 2/22

ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS, SEE LEAH



PRAYER LIST

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with your servants, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that, their health being renewed, they may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary Bogert
Alice Martin
Ellen Wallace
Joan Anderson
Ruth Anthony
Joanne Piper
Margaret Oduor
Gladys Agandi
Valerie Mehl
John Morris
Jeannie Morris
Judy Harle
Bob Metz
Ratajczak family
Jesse Fields (Tim's son)
Deb Pirog
Julianne Salamone (Teresa's granddaughter)
Somo Bishop
Jackie Spence
Maranda Powell
Patty and Rich Rubin (Mary Anne's family)
Crosby family (Lynne Clementoni)
Melissa Tubman (Lynne Clementoni's niece)
Tim Morris (John's brother)
Patti Ballwanz
Wally Hossbach

Dina Munford
Sandy and John O'Donnell (Mary Anne's cousins)
Derek Schavelin (Alice's nephew)
James Rice (Arlene's grandson)
Ginny Floyd
Sharon Goslin
Milan and Linda Sanders (Sam's family)
Larry Eastman
Helen Perry
Brian Perry (Helen's grandson)
Debbie McCall (Helen's daughter)

PLEASE ADVISE LEAH OF ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

PRAY FOR OUR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Please pray for members of our congregation who work in health care settings:

Laura Nielsen, Cindy Christopher+, Pam Gatchell, Denise Thatcher, Josh Rodriguez-Hobbs+, Don Alves, Mary Acly, Tamara Dishon, Jody Leonard, Joey Reichert, Lisa Balderson.



VESTRY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

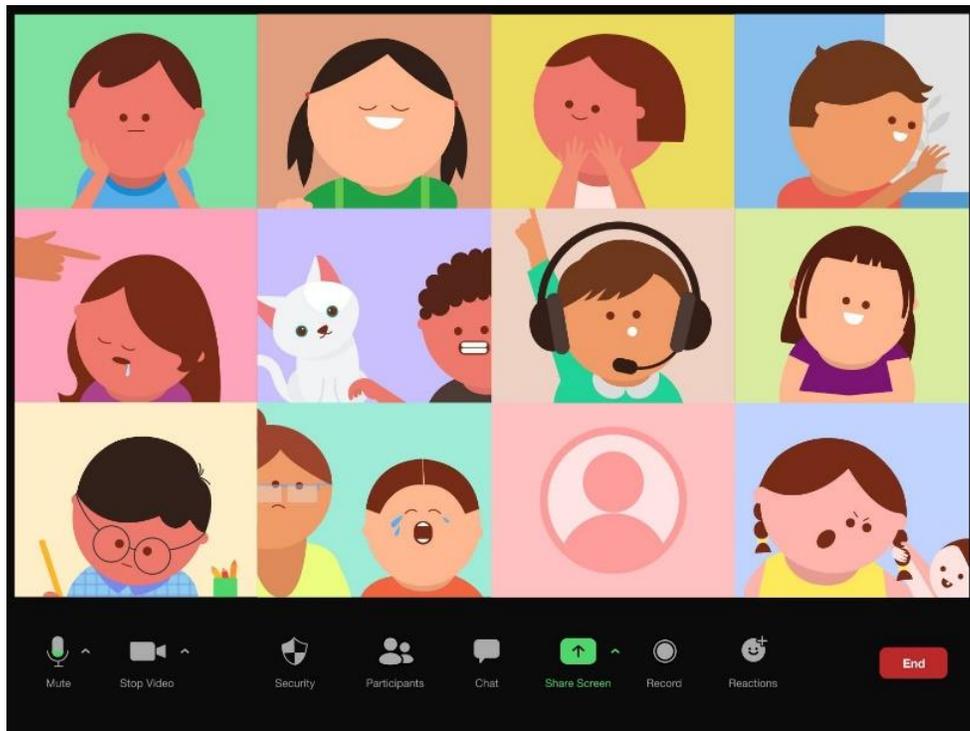
Officers (elected by the vestry for one-year terms; can be re-elected; do not have to be an elected vestry member to be elected as an officer):

Senior Warden – Chris Kinard
Junior Warden – Wes Thatcher
Registrar – Arielle Juberg
Treasurer – Ellen Reilley
Financial Secretary – Jean Bowen

Elected vestry members and date their terms end (initially elected by the congregation; if a position becomes vacant, the vestry elects a replacement to fill the rest of the term):

Chris Kinard	2021
Wes Thatcher	2021
Ariel Juberg	2021
John Morris	2022
Laura Nielsen	2022
Chris Acly	2022
Scott Rodriguez-Hobbs	2023
Theresa Ridgeway	2023
Loretta Gischel	2023

The parish clergy are also ex officio members of the vestry and the rector is the presiding officer.



REGULAR REMINDERS



COFFEE HOUR

There will be no coffee hour so long as we are in Phase Orange. When we are ready to enter Phase Yellow, there will be specific instructions about coffee hour.

PARISH HALL RENTAL

NO HALL RENTALS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



FLOWER MEMORIALS/ THANKSGIVINGS

If you would like to offer flower memorials or thanksgivings, please complete a form with your instructions, along with a check for \$30.00, and return them to Teresa Schutte-Regester in person or mail them to the church address listed on the form.

The 2021 forms are available from Leah in the church office. Memorials are on a per Sunday basis, not per name. More than one person may donate on any given Sunday.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES

Please continue to follow the COVID instructions for sanitizing the pews and the restrooms.

MAILING LIST UPDATES

For changes to your home address or phone number, call the parish office at 410-687-5531 on Tuesday or Thursday between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon.



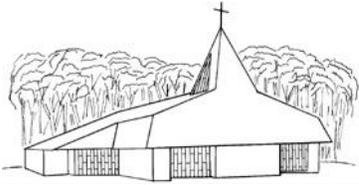
MESSAGES

Anne Knott maintains the primary list of e-mail information. However, if you change your email address and you don't give the change to Anne, it is not possible for her to notify you of situations impacting the parish. Anne can be reached at anneews@verizon.net.



FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Items for the March Newsletter are due by February 15.



February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	3	4 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	5	6
7 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	8	9 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i> 7 pm - Vestry	10	11 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	12	13 10 am – 12 noon Distribution of at-home Communion kits (in parking lot)
14 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	15	16 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i> 7 pm – Vestry Meeting (Zoom meeting)	17 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 11:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook) 12-1 pm & 5-6 pm Distribution of Ashes (in parking lot)	18 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	19	20
21 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)	22	23 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	24	25 <i>10am-12pm Office Staffed</i>	26	27
28 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist (Livestream on Facebook)						